

**Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies**  
**WGST 112 YJC & YJD**  
**Winter Session 2021**  
**(Dec. 28 – Jan. 17)**

**Professor:** Dr. Dawn Campbell  
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**Office hours:** by appointment

**Course Description**

This course is a social science perspective of women in psychological, sociological, historical, anthropological, economic, and political contexts; changing roles, images, and institutions will be examined.

The course is an interdisciplinary overview of women's and gender studies that focuses on historical, cultural, contemporary, and critical perspectives surrounding gender norms, expectations, images, texts, discourses, bodies, politics, and social institutions with an emphasis on social change.

**Learning Outcomes**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Describe the key events in the history of feminist movements in the United States.
2. Identify the ways in which race, class, gender, and sexuality function in our society as systems of oppression and privilege.
3. Develop feminist strategies for creating a more just society.
4. Examine the importance of feminist concepts and analysis.
5. Demonstrate an awareness of the social construction of gender (femininity and masculinity) and its intersection with race, class, and sexuality.
6. Define vocabulary terms in the field of Women's Studies.
7. Apply important theories and concepts in the field of Women's Studies.

**Required Texts/Materials**

- ❖ Shaw, Susan M., and Janet Lee (2020). *Gendered Voices, Feminist Visions, 7th Edition*, McGraw-Hill. Available through online vendors and Russell House bookstore. \*eBook is available.
- ❖ Supplemental readings along with films, videos, and podcasts are included throughout the semester to compliment the lectures and/or to illustrate the themes discussed.

## **Course Content Advisory**

Be advised that this course includes careful analysis of concepts connected to women and gender, some of which may be controversial or offensive to some. Some course materials (including written, photographic, audio, and video content) may contain nudity and/or coarse language. We will discuss sensitive and difficult topics such as (but not limited to) domestic and interpersonal violence, racism, sexism, harassment, sexual assault, and sexuality. As with any serious scholarly endeavor, the point of our inquiry is critical understanding—not advocacy of positions. No one will be expected to reveal or discuss their own personal opinions or experiences or to change their personal beliefs or opinions. I do expect, however, that you will engage with the materials in a thoughtful manner, offering insights, questions, and critiques on these materials. If you do not feel that you are up to this task or do not want to engage with such materials, please reconsider your decision to take this course.

## **Course Expectations**

- This is a fully online, *accelerated* course. Online classes are not easier than lecture classes. To succeed in an online class, you must be extremely motivated and well organized. **Regular Internet access is essential for successful completion of the course.**
- Some materials that are covered may challenge your personal beliefs and may be quite different from what you (or I) believe. Due to the sensitive nature of some of the topics we will cover, it is important that we try to remain objective and that we demonstrate respect towards classmates.
- **Check Blackboard Announcements and email regularly.** I will post information and/or updates about our class there.
- **BE SURE TO CLICK SUBMIT EACH TIME YOU COMPLETE AN ASSIGNMENT; OTHERWISE, BLACKBOARD WILL NOT RECORD YOUR SCORE.**

### **Late Work/Make-Up Policy**

**LATE WORK WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.** Tests/exams must be taken as scheduled on this syllabus. Group Discussions must be submitted by the due date (see course schedule for specifics). \*Blackboard keeps track of when work is submitted. *Exceptions will be made only in extenuating circumstances and at the discretion of the instructor.* \*Be sure to check your grade/points on Blackboard on a regular basis and let me know ASAP if a Test grade or other assessment is not recorded.

### **Academic Honesty**

Plagiarism/Cheating, as defined in the Code of Student Academic Responsibility, will result in failure of this course in addition to the penalty exacted by the appropriate Academic Dean and the University Honor Council to whom all offenses will be reported. Consult *Carolina Community* for

what constitutes plagiarism. You are responsible for reading and abiding by these rules. \*All assignments and assessments should be completed individually. No student should copy anyone else's work. Doing so will result in the student(s) being reported to the Office of Student Conduct and proper sanctions will be administered by the Office of Academic Integrity, Student Conduct, and the Professor.

### **Disability Services**

Students with disabilities who need accommodations are encouraged to contact the Office of Student Disability Services. The contact information is as follows:

1523 Greene Street, LeConte Room 112A, Columbia, SC 29208

Phone: 803-777-6142

Fax: 803-777-6741

Email: sasds@mailbox.sc.edu 3

Web: <http://www.sa.sc.edu/sds/>

### **Accessibility at Blackboard**

[Accessibility at Blackboard \(https://www.blackboard.com/accessibility.html\)](https://www.blackboard.com/accessibility.html)

### **Blackboard Privacy Statement**

[Blackboard Privacy Statement \(https://www.blackboard.com/legal/privacy-policy.html\)](https://www.blackboard.com/legal/privacy-policy.html)

### **Course Communications**

If you need to get in touch with me, the best method is via email. Generally, I will reply to emails within 24 hours.

If you are having trouble with this course or its material, you should contact me via email to discuss the issues.

Announcements will be posted to this course whenever necessary. If there is any other information I think is important, I will send it to your email address you have in Blackboard. If you primarily use another email account, you should make sure that the Blackboard account is linked to that address. It is your responsibility to ensure that your email accounts work properly in order to receive mail.

Please be sure that the email you check regularly is set in Blackboard:

- Click on the My USC tab along the top of the page in Blackboard
- In the Tools module, click on "Personal Information"
- Click on "Edit Personal Information"
- Scroll down to the listing for Email

- In the box will be listed what Blackboard has as your email address. If you wish to change it, delete the email address in the box and type in the email address you want to use.
- Click on the Submit button at the top or bottom of the page.
- All communication on the Discussion Board should be academic in tone. All emails should be professional. Spelling/grammar should be carefully checked. **Text message language is not accepted in emails or discussion board posts.**
- When sending an email, include a detailed subject line. **Additionally, make sure you reference the course – WGST 112 Winter Session - in the message and sign the email with your name.**

## Course Requirements

### **1) Introduction (Discussion Board – worth 10 points)**

Provide an introduction on the Discussion Board. Within your introduction, you should include your major, year, academic ambitions, something interesting about yourself, and please also include whether or not this is your first WGST class.

### **2) Group Discussion Board**

There are a total of **2 group discussion posts** (*worth 20 points each*). I will post prompts/discussion questions for you to use as a guide. **You will be required to provide an initial post Friday of the week it is due, and provide a response to a group member’s post by Sunday of the week it is due.** When posting to the Discussion Board, acceptable posts and responses include your expressed opinion along with *analysis of* and *connections to* readings, PPT lectures, and videos/films. Providing a direct reference/quote may help with your analysis. Unacceptable posts and responses include responses like, “I agree,” or “You are right.” Additional unacceptable responses include not adding to the body of knowledge and not responding. **\*Length: 1-2 fully developed paragraphs for each post.**

**The following rubric will be used when grading discussion board posts:**

<b>Unacceptable 0 Points</b>	<b>Acceptable 10 Points</b>	<b>Excellent 20 Points</b>
The quality of the posted information is of low quality, off topic, or irrelevant to the discussion. No post	The quality of the posted information is of acceptable quality; lacks full development of concept or thought.	The quality of the posted information is of high quality—provides analysis and reflection and responds to a classmate’s post

### **3) Tests**

There will be **2 Tests** (*worth 60 points each*). You can take the tests on your own time, but tests must be completed by the date and time listed on the course schedule. Tests will be timed (45 minutes) and will consist of 20 questions in multiple choice, true/false format. You will have one attempt for each test.

### **4) Final Exam**

The Final Exam will be cumulative (cover information from entire semester). It will consist of multiple choice and true/false questions. **Final exam is worth 100 points.**

### **Submitting Assignments**

Your Introduction will be submitted under Discussion Board Introductions.  
Group Discussions will be submitted under Group Discussions.  
Tests and the Final Exam will be submitted under the Weekly Module links.

**Grades** will be calculated as follows:

Introduction	10 points
Tests (2)	60 points each
Group Discussions (2)	20 points each
Final Exam	100 points

**TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS = 270 POINTS**

**Grading Scale:** A: 90-100; B+: 86-89; B: 80-85; C+: 76-79; C: 70-75; D+: 66-69; D: 60-65; F: below 60

\*To calculate final grades, I take your total points *earned* (from all submitted assignments) and divide by total possible points (270). This will give a number grade which is converted to your (final) letter grade, according to the Grading Scale. Example: If you were to earn 243 out of the total 270 points, your grade would be 90/A.

\*If you have issues related to Blackboard, contact the Division of Information Technology (DoIT):

**CALL:** (803) 777-1800, M-F 8am – 6pm, 2. **EMAIL:** [servicedesk@sc.edu](mailto:servicedesk@sc.edu) (from USC email)

## COURSE SCHEDULE

\*subject to change at professor's discretion\*

\*GVFV is an abbreviation for your textbook, *Gendered Voices Feminist Visions*

DATE	TOPICS	ASSIGNMENTS	ASSESSMENT DUE DATE
<b>Week 1 MODULE</b> <b>Dec 28 – Jan 3</b>	Introduction to the Course	<b>Read</b> “READ THIS FIRST” <b>Read</b> “Meet Dr. Campbell” Review the Syllabus and Schedule	<b>Provide an Introduction (on Discussion Board) no later than 11:59pm Tues, Dec 29</b>
	U.S. Women’s Movement Equal Rights Amendment (ERA)	<b>Readings:</b> GVFV Chapter 1 “How the Suffrage Movement Betrayed Black Women” (Bb) GVFV “A Day Without Feminism” GVFV “Still Needing the F Word” “Coverture: The word you probably don’t know....” (Bb)	<b>Group Discussion 1 initial post due Fri, Jan 1 and response to another student due Sun, Jan 3 (11:59pm)</b>
		<b>Lecture:</b> U.S. Women’s History, Progress, and Resistance	<b>Test 1 due no later than 11:59pm Sun, Jan 3</b>
	Health and Reproductive Justice Abortion	<b>Readings:</b> GVFV Chapter 7 Timeline of abortion laws Women have abortions for many reasons Abortion is not always a red v. blue issue What actually happens when a country bans abortion	

		<p><b>Lecture:</b> Dr. Kathryn Luchok</p> <p><b>Podcast:</b> <i>Fresh Air</i> “SCOTUS and Abortion”</p> <p><b>Film:</b> <i>If These Walls Could Talk</i></p>	
	Systems of Privilege and Inequality	<p><b>Lecture:</b> Privilege, Inequality &amp; Intersectionality</p> <p><b>Reading:</b> <i>GVFV</i> Chapter 2</p>	
<b>Week 2 MODULE Jan 4 - 10</b>	Learning Gender	<p><b>Readings:</b> <i>GVFV</i> Chapter 3 and Readings 18 &amp; 20</p>	<b>Group Discussion 2 initial post due Fri, Jan 8; response post due Sun, Jan 10</b>
		<p><b>Videos:</b> Kimmel’s “Why gender equality is good for everyone” Paula Stone Williams’ “I’ve lived as a man and a woman...”</p>	<b>Test 2 due no later than 11:59pm Sun, Jan 10</b>
	Gender and the Body	<p><b>Readings:</b> <i>GVFV</i> Chapter 4 and Readings 25 &amp; 27 <i>GVFV</i> Chapter 5 and Reading 35 Visual Pleasure and Narrative Cinema (Bb) Not Safe for Work (Bb) Reflections on a Feminist Aesthetic (Bb)</p>	
	Women & Media Culture	<p><b>Lecture:</b> Women, Media &amp; Representation</p>	

		<b>Film:</b> <i>Killing Us Softly 4</i>	
	Sex, Power, and Intimacy	<b>Readings:</b> <i>GVFV</i> Chapter 6 and Readings 37 & 39 Duke University Porn Star (Bb)	
		<b>Podcasts:</b> Orenstein ‘Girls and Sex’ Orenstein ‘Boys and Sex’	
<b>Week 3 MODULE</b> <b>Jan 11 - 17</b>	Harassment, Assault, Coercion, and Consent Terminology, Laws	<b>Video:</b> <i>Rep. Ocasio-Cortez addresses confrontation with Rep. Yoho and misogyny</i> <b>Podcast:</b> <i>Ms.Magazine’s On the Issues: ‘Toxic Masculinity’</i>	
		<b>Readings:</b> The History of Sexual Harassment Law EEOC Legal Definitions of Sexual Harassment RAINN What Consent Looks Like <b>Videos:</b> Anita Hill interviews (1992 and 20 years later) <b>Video:</b> <i>Why hasn’t sexual harassment disappeared?</i>	
	#MeToo	<b>Readings - #MeToo:</b> #MeToo: A timeline of events Silence breakers speaking out against sexual harassment	



	Gray Zone, Gender Norms, Expectations, Coercion, and Consent	<p><b>Readings:</b></p> <p>When saying yes is easier than saying no</p> <p>I went on a date with Aziz Ansari...</p> <p>A Gen Xer and a Millennial discuss Aziz Ansari's #MeToo comeback</p> <p><b>Video:</b> Aziz Ansari and the #MeToo Debate</p>	
		<p><b>Readings</b></p> <p>Power Walking</p> <p>The Anger of the White Male Lie</p> <p><b>Video:</b> TED Talk Laura Bates' <i>Everyday Sexism</i></p>	
		<p><b>Readings:</b></p> <p>GVFV Chapter 10</p> <p>We need to talk about drugging</p> <p><b>Lecture:</b></p> <p>Dr. Swan Drugging</p>	
		<p><b>Ted Talks:</b></p> <p><i>Language and Rape Culture</i></p> <p><i>Violence Against Women: It's a Men's Issue</i></p>	
		<p><b>Video:</b> Challenging Normalization of Sexual Violence Against Women</p> <p>USC Sexual Assault and Violence Intervention &amp; Prevention Video: 'How to Support a Survivor'</p>	
		<p><b>Read:</b> GVFV, Chapters 11 and 13</p>	

		<b>Video:</b> <i>Adichie We should all be feminists</i>	
<b>Final Exam</b>	Final Exam due Sunday, January 17		<b>Final Exam due no later than 11:59pm Sun, Jan 17</b>