

UMaine Women's Studies Courses - Fall 2011

Interdisciplinary Core Courses in Women's Studies

WST 101 Introduction to Women's Studies

An introduction to Women's Studies, to its perspectives, and to its interdisciplinary nature. Using several disciplines, the class will examine women's positions in Western culture and will explore the genesis, the development, and the impact of our culture's assumptions about women's nature and women's roles. General Education = Ethics, Social Contexts & Institutions, and Cultural Diversity & International Perspectives. (001, Mazie Hough, TuTh. 9:30-10:45, #2809; 002, Nancy Lewis, TuTh, 11:00-12:15, #3779; 500, Rhea Côté Robbins, TuTh, 2:00-3:15, #3753; 501, Audrey Minutolo-Le, TuTh, 3:30-4:45, #3752; 990, Mary Okin, Web-based, #4132)

WST 103 (001) Intro to LGBT Studies (Julie Loppacher, Monday, 5:00-7:45, #13714)

The class will cover a wide range of topics including the 19th century roots of gay liberation, lesbian feminism, political issues from Stonewall to the present, queer theory, the social construction of homosexuality, homophobia, anti-gay harassment in schools, LGBT family issues, the biology of sexual orientation, cultural diversity and cross-cultural research, and postmodern challenges to identity politics. This class is open to anyone interested in social change and contemporary intellectual movements. No previous knowledge of LGBT issues is required, and the prerequisite of WST 101 can be waived. General Education = Social Contexts & Institutions and Cultural Diversity & International Perspectives.

WST 201 (990) Maine Women (Jennifer Pickard, Web-based, #7362)

This course will explore women's experiences in Maine, both historical and current, through a multidisciplinary approach including history, literature, political science, and economics. Through readings and discussions, we will analyze Maine women individually and collectively in such roles as industrial workers, reformers, writers, politicians and mothers. As we study Maine women, we will keep in mind several major questions. How have Maine's particular environment, culture, economy, and history shaped women's experiences in the state? How have national movements (for example abolitionism, temperance, suffrage, the ERA, welfare reform) shaped women's lives in Maine? How have women responded to these issues and events? And how have issues of class, gender, and race/ethnicity played out in Maine? This can also be taken at the graduate level as WST 501 (990) #7363. WST 101 or permission.

WST 201 (991) Women in the Ancient World

= **CLA 201 (990)** (Kristina Passman, Web-based, WST 201 #7367; CLA 201 #7592)

This course investigates the social and literary context of the lives of women in several ancient Mediterranean cultures; Near East, Hebrew, North Africa, Greece, and Rome.

WST 230 (990) Women, Health, and the Environment (Sandra Haggard, Web-based, #4129)

This course will examine the roles of women in shaping current practices and policies of the Western healthcare system and related environmental issues. It will draw on the work of environmentalists such as Rachel Carson and modern women healers of the body and the ecosystem. Students will be encouraged to be involved in transformational work at the local, personal, or more global level. General Education = Population & the Environment and Ethics. WST 101 or permission.

WST 235 (990) Franco-American Women's Experience = FAS 230 (990)

(Rhea Côté Robbins) (Web-based, WST 235 #7364; FAS 230 #7248)

This course will examine the immigration experience and subsequent lifestyles of the present-day Franco-American woman and her cultural ancestors. Studying their immigration from France to New France, Canada, and across the border into the U. S., class participants will learn about the historical and cultural implications of immigration for these women and the definition they imparted to the culture. These women braved the new worlds of the wilderness, farmlands, and industrial settings to help establish the French culture, as we know it today in North America. In addition to the readings and discussion, this course will use films, slide presentations, guest lecturers, and music to examine the artifacts, crafts, rituals, folklore, and more of the daily lives of the women. This can also be taken at the graduate level as WST 501 (991) #7365. General Education = Cultural Diversity & International Perspectives. Prerequisites: FAS 101, WST 101 or permission.

WST 250 Women and Music (860) (Laura Artesani, Wednesday, 5:30-8:00, #2812)

Women have a rich and varied tradition as composers and performers. Although this tradition has been ignored in the past, it has recently become the focus of much research and scholarship throughout the world. This course will examine the lives and works of notable women composers and performers throughout history, from Hildegard von Bingen (12th century) to the present. Class sessions will include listening to a wide variety of music, both recorded and live. General Education = Artistic & Creative Expression and Cultural Diversity & International Perspectives. WST 101 or permission.

WST 270 (001) Native American Women = NAS 270 (001)

(Maureen Smith, MWF, 9:00-9:50, WST 270 #7728; NAS 270 #3783)

This course is an exploration of the American Indian woman's lifestyles and social roles from a variety of tribal cultures. It will focus on the traditional and contemporary values and roles of American Indian women. A constant theme of this course will be the relevance of the past to the contemporary lives of Native women. Additionally, the course will focus on the importance of the impact of Europeans on the life, customs, and function of traditional societies and women's roles. WST 101 or permission. General Education = Social Contexts & Institutions and Cultural Diversity & International Perspectives.

WST 298 Directed Study in Women's Studies (Section 001, #2813)

(Permission from the program director required. Call 581-1228 for an information sheet.)

WST 401 (990) Advanced Topics in Women's Studies: Women Activists: Warriors for Peace and Justice - PAX 401 (990) (Yvonne Thibodeau, Web-based, WST 401 #4156; PAX 401 #4145)

This course will examine the lives of a diverse group of women who were committed activists attempting to create change. We will examine the historical, social, and political circumstances that motivated these women to actively seek social transformation. Finally, we will look at what some of the current generation of feminists have to say about activism. The contributions of the following women (among others) will be discussed: Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Ida B. Wells, Tillie Olsen, Theresa Malkiel, Rachel Carson, Angela Davis, Wilma Mankiller, Rigoberta Menchu, and Meena.

WST 401 (991) Advanced Topics in Women's Studies: Amazons: A Multicultural Perspective - MLC 490 (990) & LIB 500 (990)

(Kristina Passman, Web-based, WST 401 #7378; MLC 490 #8864; LIB 500 #8865)

The question of women and war, including the question of women warriors, has engaged people for centuries. Beginning with the mythology and mythic history of Amazons in ancient Greece, this course traces the tradition of the woman warrior in Western literature and culture, investigating Penthesilea, Boudicca, Joan of Arc, and the female warrior traditions of Europe. After the foundation of the tradition has been laid, we will look at non-European cultural traditions of women warriors, as well as at the testimony of women who have fought in resistance movements and war in the modern period. We will thus incorporate contemporary attitudes and experiences of women both within and outside of the military. Depiction of "Amazons" in contemporary fantasy and film comprises an additional component of the course. This is a web-based course and requires access to the internet. All work will be posted online. This course fulfills requirements for a core seminar in the Master's in Liberal Studies program; it also serves as an elective in the Women's Studies Graduate Specialization.

WST 410 Feminist Theory (001) (Heather Lakey, TuTh, 2:00-3:15, #2814)

An advanced, interdisciplinary, multicultural introduction to the main traditions of feminist theory. General Education = Ethics. Prerequisites: 6 hours of Women's Studies, including WST 101, or permission.

WST 480 (001) Senior Seminar in Women's Studies: Women and Education

(Ann Schonberger, TuTh, 9:30-10:45, #2815) (If you need to take this course in the fall but have a conflict at this time, please contact the instructor.)

The topic will be broadly interpreted to include the diversity of experience of women and girls as teachers and students, now and in the past. Beyond the common core of the course, specific emphasis will depend on the interests of the students. General Education = Social Contexts & Institutions, Cultural Diversity & International Perspectives, Writing Intensive, and Capstone Experience. Prerequisites: WST 101, WST 410, and senior standing or permission.

WST 498 Directed Study in Women's Studies (Section 001, #2816) (Jr./Sr. standing and permission from the program director required. Call 581-1228 for an information sheet.)

WST 520 Research Methodologies in Women's Studies (001)

(Renate Klein & Mazie Hough, Wednesday, 3:10-5:00, #7366)

An interdisciplinary course that focuses on the visions and methods that feminist scholars use to study women and gender. Introduces students to pioneering critiques of various methodologies as well as recent developments in the field.

WST 580 Feminist Pedagogy and Women's Studies Practicum (001) (Mazie Hough, TBA, #4304)

This course will provide a history of Women's Studies as an interdisciplinary, a survey of feminist teaching strategies, and an examination of the philosophies of education on which those strategies are based. A practicum applying the course material in a WST class, in a departmental course, or possibly in a K - 12 school or other workplace will be included. Permission required.

WST 698 Independent Projects in Women's Studies (001)

(Ann Schonberger, TBA, #2817) Permission required.

If you have any questions about the WST courses, check the fall schedule of classes or call 581-1228. To request an accommodation, contact Ann Smith, Coordinator of Services for Students with Disabilities at 581-2319.

Departmental Electives in Women's Studies

ANT 245	Sex and Gender in Cross-Cultural Perspective Lisa Neuman, Section 001, TuTh, 11:00-12:15, #7261
CHF 404	Topics in Family Studies: Conflict and Violence in Intimate Relationships Renate Klein, Section 990, Web-based, #4110
CHF 451	Family Relationships Robert Milardo, Section 001, TuTh, 9:30-10:45, #1415
CHF 452	Violence in the Family Robert Milardo, Section 001, TuTh, 11:00-12:15, #3221
ENG 549	Studies in Gender and Literature: 19 th Century Women Writers Naomi Jacobs, Section 001, Monday, 3:10-5:40, #2831
HTY 332	Womanhood in America - Mazie Hough Section 001, MWF, 10:00-10:50, #1993
POS 385	Women and Politics Amy Fried, Section 001, MWF, 11:00-11:50, #7374
SOC 329	Sociology of Gender Amy Blackstone, Section 990, Web-based, #7291