

WGS 580 – Feminist Pedagogy in Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

Spring 2021

Instructor: Elizabeth Neiman

WGS 580 is centered by a reading group on feminist and queer pedagogies. The reading group meets once every week for 60 minutes. (Time: TBA) Students can take the reading group for 1 credit or that can add a teaching practicum and earn 3 credits. The teaching practicum involves shadowing Neiman’s WGS 101 section (this section meets MWF 10:00 am - 10:50 am and will be taught as a hybrid course, with both face-to-face and asynchronous online class sessions)

The reading group is designed as follows: students take turns selecting peer-reviewed articles from a wide range of disciplines for class sessions (articles should discuss pedagogical practices from a feminist and/or queer perspective) and are encouraged to apply readings to experiences in the classroom, whether as teacher or student. For example, we might use course readings to raise questions about our own assumptions about what constitutes “good” pedagogy. Graduate students who are currently teaching are encouraged to model new practices in their own classrooms when and if possible. Meetings run once a week for 60 minutes (asynchronous now with a hope that a time/day of week can be determined, depending on availability of the group).

Additionally, we offer those students who take the full 3-credit course the opportunity to apply for our competitive teaching fellowship, offered in fall 2021. Applications will be due on May 1st, 2021. The fellow will teach their own WGS 101 course (if a TA, the fellow would teach WGS 101 instead of their regular teaching load, pending approval of their department chair; if the student is not a TA, they would be paid as if an adjunct).

Permission is needed to enroll. If you are interested in taking either variation of this course, please contact Elizabeth.Neiman@maine.edu.