Women’s & Gender Studies 1100 YB
Term 2: Contemporary Issues
Wednesdays/Fridays 8:30-10:00 am
Dr. Jan Oakley (Term 2)

Office Hours: Mondays, 3:00-5:00, Bora Laskin Rm. 1027, or by appointment

WELCOME to Women’s & Gender Studies 1100, Winter Term. This term is an interdisciplinary introduction to contemporary issues locally and globally. We will examine how different women and men are shaped by, and work to shape, the world around them from fairy tales to media representations, work and global movements, and beyond. During the term, we will explore categories of gender in relation to difference, transnationalism, the environment, cultural studies and bodies. By the end of the semester, you will have continued to develop an understanding of how systemic oppressions work, and how they affect our lives. You will also develop critical analysis skills and hone academic research and writing skills.

COURSE WEBSITE
We will continue to use WebCT this term for course-related materials and announcements. The website can be accessed via “MyCourseLink” on the LU homepage.

REQUIRED TEXTS (available at the bookstore)


AND

Course pack: Introduction to Women’s & Gender Studies 1100 YB (Term 2)

ASSIGNMENTS & GRADING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library Assignment</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>Due February 1, in class</td>
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<tr>
<td>Academic Paper OR Response Journal</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Due March 14, in class</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Date to be set by Registrar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date will be set by Registrar (do not book flights or vacations until exam dates are released)</td>
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NOTE: Assignments are due in class on the due date. Papers not handed in during class time will be late, and will be penalized 5%. A late penalty of 5% per day will be applied. Papers more than a week late will not be accepted without appropriate documentation. Late papers that are not handed directly to me must be date-stamped by Security. Students are responsible for ensuring that I receive their paper.
Special Needs – If you have special needs regarding the format or the due dates for the assignments, you must inform me. The appropriate form can be obtained from the Learning Assistance Centre.

Keep a printout or photocopy of all your submitted assignments. You are also required to keep the research notes and drafts of your work that produced the assignments. Failure to do so may result in loss of credit for the assignment.

5% PARTICIPATION

The participation marks will be derived from a blend of (a) participation in class AND (b) providing an oral synopsis and response to one of the readings during the term.

(A) Participation: Participation will be evaluated in terms of discussion of reading material, frequency of contributions, communication skill, evidence of considering the topic under discussion, and general evidence of applying reason and considered judgement. See the participation rubric, printed on the course outline for the Fall term, for details on the participation evaluation.

Please Note: All participants have the right to hold, defend, and promote their views. However, this right exists alongside regulations that protect an individual’s right to education without discrimination or harassment on the basis of gender, race, colour, religion, class, sexual orientation, size, ability, age, place of origin, etc. Students are required to respect these social and cultural differences. Intents to insult an individual or group of individuals on the basis of their gender, race, etc. and words or symbols that convey hatred or contempt constitute harassment and will not be tolerated. Respect for differences in political awareness and educational development is essential.

(B) Oral synopsis and response to one reading during the term: Each student will have an opportunity to present a short (approximately 5-minute) presentation on ONE of the readings during the term. For your synopsis and response, you will be asked to:

(1) summarize the main ideas, themes, and/or questions raised in the reading the presentation
(2) provide a critical response to the readings, including insights, arguments, disagreements, questions and further analysis

We will determine the presentation order during the second week of classes (on January 18), and will further discuss expectations of the synposes then.
5% LIBRARY ASSIGNMENT
RESEARCH SEMINAR PARTICIPATION: JANUARY 25
ASSIGNMENT DUE DATE: FEBRUARY 1

This assignment includes mandatory attendance at the Research Seminar, run by a Library Representative on January 25. If you cannot attend the Research Seminar for legitimate reasons, you must provide evidence in the form of a signed note from a librarian that you have gone to the library on your own time and learned from a Reference Librarian how to search for academic sources. If you are both absent from the Seminar, and you do not submit a note to the Instructor from a Reference Librarian, you will receive 0% for this assignment.

Choose one (1) of the following four (4) topics and develop a bibliography of ten (10) applicable citations from a range of academic sources. Use either APA or MLA referencing style. You must also include a title page, in either APA or MLA style, indicating the title of the “paper” that the bibliography would suit.

Third Wave Feminism
 Trafficking in Women and Children
 Feminist Cultural Studies
 Barriers Women Face in the Workplace

Marking rubric for Library Assignment

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Value</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research Seminar Participation is mandatory. Without it, you will receive 0% for the assignment. For exceptional circumstances, see instructions above.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title Page: With a title for the “paper” the bibliography would suit.</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>References: 10 academic references, from a variety of sources, that are appropriate to the topic you choose, correctly cited.</td>
<td>4</td>
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20% ACADEMIC PAPER OR RESPONSE JOURNAL
DUE: MARCH 14

Academic Paper
4-6 pages, not including a title page

This assignment builds on your personal location/oral history paper from Term 1. Take your paper from Term 1, and rewrite it inserting analysis supported by FIVE (or more)
academic sources from this term. In other words, aim to contextualize your personal location (or that of the individual you spoke with for the oral history paper) in relation to the third wave and contemporary issues in feminism. You might consider, for example, which readings/texts have relevance to you and your social location, and how the ideas in the readings/texts inform your understanding.

Please will use formal writing conventions to produce an analytical paper based on your first term social location/oral history paper. You should draw on FIVE or more academic sources to complete the paper.

OR

Response Journal
4-6 pages, not including a title page
(3 journal entries; 1.5-2 pages per journal entry)

The purpose of the response journal is for you to reflect on three weekly course themes. Consider the assigned readings and class discussions, as applicable, in your reflections. For EACH of your responses, you are asked to refer to the ideas represented in TWO of the readings assigned for that week (in other words, you will address six readings in total). You are encouraged to describe your reactions to the readings including insights, agreements/disagreements, and, crucially, how the ideas inform your understanding of contemporary feminism.

Please identify which week you are addressing in each reflection. The journal will be evaluated based on evidence that you are engaging with the readings under consideration and responding to them thoughtfully and authentically.

20% FINAL EXAM (date set by Registrar)

*Do not make travel arrangements until the final exam schedule has been released.

Plagiarism / Academic Dishonesty

Keep a printout or photocopy of all your work. You are also required to keep the research notes and drafts of your work that produced the assignments. Failure to do so may result in loss of credit for the assignment.

“Plagiarism” shall be deemed to include:

1. Plagiarism of ideas as where an idea of an author or speaker is incorporated into the body of an assignment as though it were the writer’s idea, i.e. no credit is given the person through referencing or footnoting or endnoting.
2. Plagiarism of words occurs when phrases, sentences, tables or illustrations of an author or speaker are incorporated into the body of a writer's own, i.e. no quotations or indentations (depending on the format followed) are present but referencing or footnoting or endnoting is given.

3. Plagiarism of ideas and words as where words and an idea(s) of an author or speaker are incorporated into the body of a written assignment as though they were the writer's own words and ideas, i.e. no quotations or indentations (depending on format followed) are present and no referencing or footnoting or endnoting is given.

The following rules shall govern the treatment of candidates who have been found guilty of attempting to obtain academic credit dishonestly.

(a) The minimum penalty for a candidate found guilty of plagiarism, or of cheating on any part of a course will be a zero for the work concerned.

(b) A candidate found guilty of cheating on a formal examination or a test, or of serious or repeated plagiarism, or of unofficially obtaining a copy of an examination paper before the examination is scheduled to be written, will receive zero for the course and may be expelled from the University.

A copy of the “Code of Student Behaviour and Disciplinary Procedures” including sections on plagiarism and other forms of misconduct may be obtained from the Office of the Registrar.

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**Bonus Credits**

**Bonus Credits Optional Assignments – maximum 5 – 1% each**

You can receive up to five bonus marks this term by volunteering at a Women’s or Gender-focused organization, by contributing to a social justice-oriented organization or activity, by attending a talk or special event on women’s or gender issues on campus or in the community or by completing a one page response to the readings for a particular week. You will need to submit a one-page summary describing your participation and the learning outcome for each activity/event. Your summary should include:

- The name and nature of the organization or activity
- The date/s of your activity
- The nature of your involvement
- How the organization or activity or talk is feminist or gender-focused
- Links to the readings and concepts covered in class or class-materials
- What you have learned through your participation/involvement in the activity/organization

Suggested locations for volunteer work as well as notices of upcoming talks and events which you may wish to attend to complete this optional assignment will be announced in class.
If you choose to do the bonus work via responses to the readings, the following guidelines will be useful:

The objective of a response paper is for you to be able to show that you both understand and engage with the readings. In the first half of the response you are to concentrate on discussing the main themes, ideas, questions or concepts that are raised in your choice of readings (a summary of the main points). The second half should be focused on your response and analysis of the themes, ideas, questions and concepts you have raised in the first half of the paper. **Note:** If you are completing a Response Journal for your major assignment of the term, you must use different readings for your response papers.

**Summary:** In order to adequately summarize the readings you must attempt to address the main points of the article to approximately a paragraph. You must do this in your own words and remember to cite appropriately as these ideas are not your own.

**Analysis:** This is an opportunity for you to express your own thoughts on the ideas the author presents. You may use the first person, “I” in this section. I am looking for your response here.

**NOTE:** All materials in support of bonus marks must be submitted on or before March 28, 2012.

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**READINGS BY WEEK**

**Wk. 1 (Jan. 11/13): Introduction to the term; Introduction to the Third Wave**
- Jennifer Baumgardner and Amy Richards, “Manifesta.” (Course pack)
- **optional reading:** Adrienne Shadd, “‘Where Are You Really From?’: Notes of an ‘Immigrant’ from North Buxton, Ontario.” (Course pack)

**Wk. 2 (Jan. 18/20): Masculinities**
- Judith Halberstam, “Macdaddy, Superfly, Rapper: Gender, Race, and Masculinity in the Drag King Scene,” *An Introduction to Women’s Studies*, 286-289.
- Film: *Tough Guise* (excerpts)
Wk. 3 (Jan 25/27) Library presentation and work on library assignment
- no readings this week

Wk. 4 (Feb 1/3) Food and Gender
  **Library Assignment due Wednesday in lecture**
  - Deborah Lupton, “Sugar and Snails: The Gendering of Food and Food Preferences.” In J. Germov and L. Williams (Eds), *The Sociology of Food and Nutrition: Australian Perspectives* (pp. 22-28). Newcastle: Laurijon. Available on WebCT (not in course package)

Wk. 5 (Feb 8/10) Ecofeminism and the Environment
  - Film: *Fury for the Sound*

Wk. 6 (Feb. 15/17) Feminist Cultural Studies - Cultural texts
  - Film: *Mickey Mouse Monopoly*; guest speaker: Dana Walsh

READING WEEK FEB. 20-24: NO CLASSES THIS WEEK

Wk. 7. (Feb 29/March 2) Cyberfeminism
Wk. 8 (March 7/9) Bodies: Sex/Gender/Queer/Trans
- Film: *boy i am*

Wk. 9 (March 14/16) Transnational Work
**Academic Paper or Response Journal due Wednesday in lecture**
- Alexandra Kollantai, “Feminism and the Question of Class,” *An Introduction to Women’s Studies*, 198-199.
- Gillian Ranson, “No Longer One of the Boys,” *Canadian Review of Sociology and Anthropology* 42.2 (2005), 145-166. (Course pack)
- Film: *Avenue Zero*

Wk. 10 (Mar 21/23) Resistance/Change
- Cynthia Enloe, “Beyond the Global Victim,” *An Introduction to Women’s Studies*, 496-497.

Wk. 11 (Mar 28/30) Exam Review