



WGSS 6301: Feminist Theory and Methodologies

Spring 2016 - Tuesdays 5:30-8:30pm

Course Description

This seminar introduces graduate-level students to feminist theory and methodology from a variety of disciplinary perspectives. The course begins with a broad overview of key literature in women's studies and students examine many of the major contributors, as well as past and present debates. Students learn to interrogate issues of gender, race, class, and heteropatriarchy in particular and to think more effectively about how power and privilege function in the US and globally. We explore how feminist theory, in particular women of color feminism and transnational feminist methodologies, can advance their work.

Each week we will engage in student-led interdisciplinary discussions about groundbreaking articles in women's, gender, and sexuality studies and consider their impact on and relationship to a diverse scope of scholarship today. Students have the opportunity to develop their own research methodology and advance research they are engaged in within their own disciplines. Guest scholars, in and out of the classroom, film and literature round out our engagement with the dynamic field of gender studies.

Students are expected to come to the course open to reading and discussing in depth issues of race, class, gender, sexuality, disability, reproductive justice and more. We will cultivate a diverse intellectual community that is shaped by the interests of everyone in the classroom, putting into practice the type of engagement across difference that feminist theorists have long fought for. This course is required to earn the graduate certificate in Women's Studies.

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