

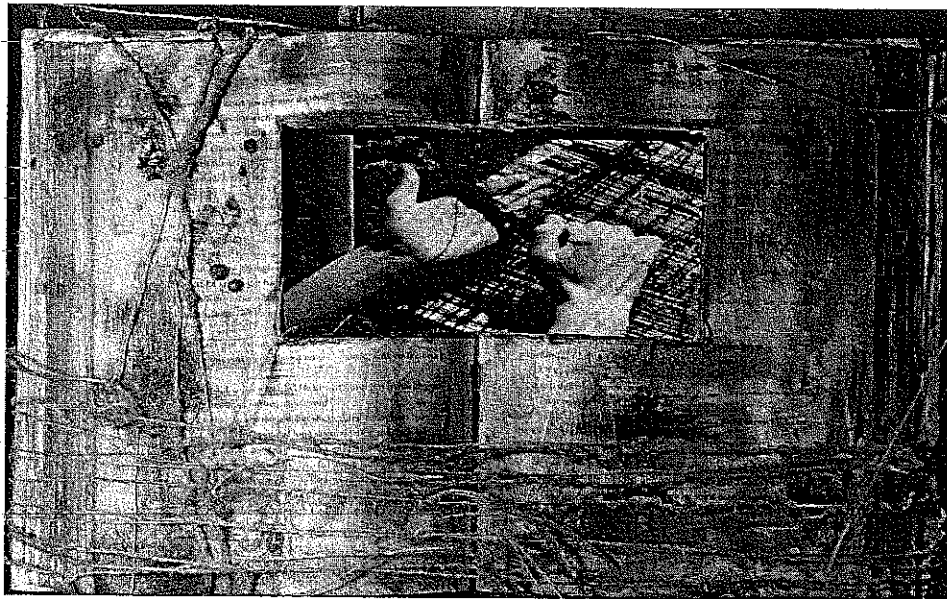
**Cultural Analysis and Theory Department**

**Women's and Gender Studies**

**Core and Graduate Certificate**

**Elective Courses**

**Fall 2014**



*Late Night Readings (2005) Amy Bagshaw*



**Stony Brook  
University**

## WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES CORE COURSES

### WST 601 "Feminist Theory"

Victoria Hesford

This course will explore the emergence of feminist theory as a distinct body of thought. Organized as an archeology, the seminar will trace the appearance of key concepts and debates that have shaped the contested field of feminist theory today. We will begin with recent work on "the ontological turn," the challenge of queer and trans theory, and the historicization of feminist theory, and then move backwards, mapping the post-structuralist, postcolonial, Marxist, and psychoanalytic schools of thought from which feminist theory emerges. In our reading, we will concentrate on how feminism has both utilized and also "spoken back" to these schools of thought. Key thinkers in this archeology will include Gayle Rubin, Combahee River Collective, Gloria Anzaldua, Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak, Joan Scott, Judith Butler, and Luce Irigaray, as well as Karl Marx, Sigmund Freud, and Michel Foucault.

Thursdays

1:00-3:50pm

Humanities 2018

## WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES ELECTIVES

### CST 502.01 Theories in Cultural Studies "Theories in Transnational Feminist Cultural Studies"

Liz Montegary

This seminar introduces students to key authors, theories, methods, and politics in the development of transnational feminist cultural studies. We will ask how transnational feminist scholars have taken up the theoretical and methodological traditions of cultural studies, and we will consider the ways in which an explicit focus on gender and transnationalism has transformed contemporary cultural theory. The primary goal of this class is to provide students with a grounding in the 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, and 21<sup>st</sup> century texts that have provided the theoretical basis for transnational feminist cultural studies research. To trace the emergence of this interdisciplinary field, we will look specifically at how feminist and queer theory informs and is informed by marxism, poststructuralism, and postcolonialism, and we will read several representative examples of transnational feminist cultural studies scholarship published in the last few years. Central to our discussions will be an investigation of how the critical practices of transnational feminist cultural studies advance the field's broader commitment to social change and transformative justice. Students will develop a historically grounded understanding of the theories of transnational feminism and cultural studies, and will have the opportunity to apply these theoretical frameworks to their own areas of interest

Thursdays

4:00-6:50pm

Humanities 2052

**EGL 608.03**

**“Literature, Memory, and the Environment”**

**Jeffrey Santa Ana**

This course focuses on some of the ways in which contemporary literature represents the environmental changes and losses that have already occurred, that are upon us, and those in the future. By reading history and criticism as well as narrative and nonfictional prose, we will examine environmental experience and literary depictions of the environment as features of remembering in the contexts of postcolonialism, diaspora, and globalization.

We will address why and how environmental literature and criticism must consider environmental crisis as an injustice of colonial oppression and imperialism. We will investigate these concerns in relation to questions at the intersections of gender, sexuality, and race as they apply to discourses in eco-politics, environmental activism, and the collective memory of violence and atrocities that occurred under colonialism and imperialism.

Some of the questions we will address are: how do literary representations of environmental crisis and catastrophe help us to recover the suppressed bodies of colonial violence? How do these writings “remember” centuries of Western imperialism as a decolonization critique of environmental degradation--of an environmental crisis caused by global climate change that is largely the consequence of Western colonial powers? Recently the eco-critic Rob Nixon has asked us to consider “slow violence,” but how do we critically assess environmental crises that evade historical contexts in imperialism and span beyond readily imagined temporal periods? In what ways can our grief, memory, and memorialization drive visions and enactments of alternative futures? The course will address these and other questions through four thematic units: 1) Theorizing Memory in Literature and Environmental Criticism; 2) Memory and the Natural World in a Postcolonial Context; 3) Memory and the Natural World in a Queer Studies Context; and 4) The Gender (Masculinity) Politics of Remembering and Environmental Apocalypse.

**Thursdays**

**1:00-3:50pm**

**TBA**

**HAX 664**

**“Conceptual Foundations of Disability Studies 1890s-1990s”**

**Pamela Block**

Disability studies is an area study that focuses on the experiences and representation of disability across multiple realms – including social, environmental, cultural, regional, historical, economic and political. There are clear intersections between the study of disability and other area studies, such as race, gender, social status, and sexuality. This course traces the conceptual foundations of disability studies beginning with 19th and early 20th century theories of degeneration and eugenics as well as scholarship from the same period that countered eugenics. We will use period sources to study 20th century movements to institutionalize, sterilize, and euthanize disabled people. We will refer to theorists from the 1960s and 1970s who influenced the theoretical development of the new field of disability studies. We will then explore foundational disability studies scholarship of the 1980s and 1990s as the field established itself first in the social sciences and then the humanities.

**Mondays**

**11:30-3:30pm**

**RRAMP Lab**

**WST 512.03/SOC 519.03**  
**"Sexuality and Society"**

**Michael Kimmel**

An examination of sexualities both across cultures and across disciplines. The course focuses on the different ways we have come to explain sexual identity and sexual behavior (and the relationship between them) and also the continuing politics of sexuality.

**Mondays**

**2:30-5:30pm**

**SBS N 403**

**WST 610.01/CST 609.01/SPN 612.01**  
**Advanced Topics in Cultural Studies**  
**"Global Women's Cinema"**

**E. Ann Kaplan**  
**Kathleen Vernon**

From its earliest manifestations, cinema was born with global ambitions, but throughout time, films have also served as privileged outlets of expression for specific experiences of locality, gender, ethnicity, class and/or nationality. But in most nations female directors have only belatedly been able to express themselves on film. In this course we will explore the role of women in global cinema as this role has changed over time, and as it takes varied forms in select nations. We will establish a critical, theoretical and historical framework for understanding the limits on women's access to film directing and to exhibition of their work. We will then raise a number of questions to do with themes women address and how these have shifted: the political issues (individual and collective) their films raise, the choice and uses of film genres, and the increasing transnationalism women's films both address and participate in. Topics for organizing the course may include Migration/Arrivals & Departures; Ecology; Trauma; Transnationalism and the role of Film Festivals.

Readings and viewings will reflect a dual focus on the development of feminist film theory and the practices of women filmmakers, and the convergences and divergences between them. While the notion of global women's cinema will be explored as a means of speaking across borders, East/West and North/South, we will also give particular attention to the work of women directors from China and Iran as well a group of women documentary filmmakers. The course has been scheduled to coincide with and complement the international conference and film screenings on Global Women's Cinema sponsored by the Humanities Institute during the Fall semester.

**Tuesdays**

**4:00-6:50 p.m.**

**Melville Library N 3060**

**Spring 2015 Tentative Schedule:**

<b>Course</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Faculty</b>
CST 609/WST 610	Advanced Topics in Cultural Studies: "Space, Place, and Gender"	Nancy Hiemstra
WST 600	Feminist Interdisciplinary Histories and Methods	Kadji Amin
WST 698	Teaching Practicum	Mary Jo Bona
AFS 550/ WST 610	Women of Color in the Modern World: "Dislocation of Culture: Black women immigrants in The US, Europe, and Canada"	Tracey Walters