

Critical Gender Studies

POSC 260/WOST 260, Spring 2012

Wednesday 1:05 – 3:00 p.m.

PPHAC 338

Let's think about *how we think* about gender.

Objectives

Knowledge of both classic and new critical gender theories and studies

Ability to differentiate among a variety of concepts of gender

Critical reading, discussion, and writing skills

Exposure to spatial and phenomenological approaches to gender

Texts

Judith Butler, *Gender Trouble: Feminism and the Subversion of Identity*

Judith Butler, *Undoing Gender*

Anne Cranny-Francis, *Gender Studies: Terms and Debates*

Michel Foucault, *The History of Sexuality*, Vol. 1

Peggy Orenstein, *Cinderella Ate My Daughter: Dispatches from the Front Lines of the New Girlie-Girl Culture*

Todd Reeser, *Masculinities in Theory: An Introduction*

Esther Rothblum and Sondra Solovay, editors, *The Fat Studies Reader*

Other texts may be made available online or on reserve at Reeves Library.

Please support a culture of critical inquiry, intellectual exchange, and personal respect.

1) Wednesday, January 18	INTRODUCTION Judith Butler: Philosophical Encounters of the Third Kind (film, 2007) Paragraph 175 (film, 2000)
2) Wednesday, January 25	Michel Foucault, <i>The History of Sexuality</i> , Vol. 1, pp. 1-50 (Abigail Kaintz) Anne Cranny-Francis, <i>Gender Studies</i> , chapter 1: “Ways of talking”
3) Wednesday, February 1	<i>The History of Sexuality</i> , pp. 75-132 (Lily Roblin)
4) Wednesday, February 8	Judith Butler, <i>Gender Trouble</i>
5) Wednesday, February 15	<i>Gender Trouble</i> <i>Gender Studies</i> , chapter 2: “Ways of thinking”
6) Wednesday, February 22	Butler, <i>Undoing Gender</i> (Julia Zinni)
7) Wednesday, February 29	Peggy Orenstein, <i>Cinderella Ate My Daughter</i> , chapters 1-4 (Casey Hilferty) <i>Gender Studies</i> , chapter 3: “Ways of Reading”
	SPRING RECESS
8) Wednesday, March 14	<i>Cinderella Ate My Daughter</i> , chapters 7-10 (Katelyn Cohen)
9) Wednesday, March 21	Todd Reeser, <i>Masculinities in Theory</i> , Introduction and chapters 1- 4 (Chris Demchak)
10) Wednesday, March 28	<i>Masculinities in Theory</i> , each student chooses two chapters from the second part of the book <i>The History of Sexuality</i> , pp. 133-160 (Kimberly Mirro)

	EASTER RECESS
11) Wednesday, April 11	Esther Rothblum and Sondra Solvay, <i>Fat Studies Reader</i> , chapters <i>Gender Studies</i> , chapter 4: “Ways of Seeing” (Samantha Sheridan)
12) Wednesday, April 18	<i>Fat Studies Reader</i> , chapters (Arielle Brent)
13) Wednesday, April 25	Course evaluations

Student	Email
1) Katelyn Cohen	stkcc02@moravian.edu , 610-573-7776
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3) Casey Hilferty	stclh08@moravian.edu
4) Kimberly Mirro	
5) Lily Roblin	stlkr02@moravian.edu , 484-866-0846
6) Samantha Sheridan	stsr05@moravian.edu
7) Julia Zinni	stjgz01@moravian.edu
8) Abigail Kaintz	stafk01@moravian.edu
9) Arielle Brent	stajb14@moravian.edu

Requirements and Evaluation

Requirements	% final grade	Date
Presentation	10	To be scheduled
Reading notes	10	Due at the start of each class meeting
Engagement	30	Ongoing
Butler paper	10	Friday, February 24, 4 p.m., Comenius 206
Research paper proposal	10	Monday, April 2, 4 p.m., Comenius 206
Draft	NG	Monday, April 16, 4 p.m., Comenius 206
Final research paper	30	Monday, April 30, 4 p.m., Comenius 206

Reading Notes

As you study our texts, please select three passages and formulate three questions based on those passages. You should bring one copy for you and one for me to class. I will collect reading notes at the start of each class. Reading notes should be fully identified in terms of course title/number, date, and text title.

Discussion question instructions

Please submit three questions and passages for your scheduled reading to me via e-mail the day before class no later than 3:30 p.m. You should prepare a formal handout with the questions and passages to be distributed to the rest of the group. We will determine the number of copies needed on the first day of class based on the actual enrollment. You should also prepare a short presentation on the author in question so that we know who is writing about what where and when. Each student will give a presentation on an author and text once in the course of the semester. Presentations will be scheduled the first week of class.

General Course Information

- 1) I invite you to visit my office hours. It is my pleasure to help you improve your enjoyment of and performance in this course.
- 2) Be diligent in your studies and attend class. Undocumented absences beyond the first will harm your engagement grade at the rate of 5% of your total course grade (per absence).
- 3) This is an academic setting in which the goal is thoughtful discourse. Neither food consumption, nor mobile phone noise, nor phone activity (texting or searching) of any kind is permitted. Students who disturb the contemplative and discursive atmosphere of learning will be asked to leave the room for the rest of class.
- 4) Expect to work six hours on average outside of class per week. The workload varies, and the texts can be challenging. Give yourself plenty of time to read, review, and take notes on texts. Our interest is in deep readings and in gaining a solid toolkit of political theory questions, concepts, and arguments.
- 5) In order to pass this course, you must submit all assignments.
- 6) We will discuss written assignments two weeks in advance. I will offer instructions on how to prepare for examinations in the class preceding the examination date.
- 7) I strongly discourage late assignments, except in appropriately documented emergency situations. For the sake of equity, please do not ask for special treatment. Late work is penalized by subtracting one point on the four point grading system. sFor example, a late A paper will be registered as a B.
- 8) Plagiarism will result in failure of the assignment in this class. Please see Moravian College Student Handbook for an account of academic honesty. See <http://www.moravian.edu/studentlife/handbook/academic2.htm>
- 9) Students who wish to request accommodations in this class for a learning disability should contact Mr. Joe Kempfer, Assistant Director of Learning Services for Disability Support, 1307 Main Street (extension 1510). Accommodations cannot be provided until authorization is received from the office of Learning Services.
- 10) Please also note that this syllabus is subject to change.