ANTHROPOLOGY, GEOGRAPHY, SOCIOLOGY

Women of Color
SOC477.500
Syllabus
Fall 2017

Instructor: Dianne Dentice, Ph.D.
Email: denticede@sfasu.edu
Office: LAN330
Phone: 936-468-2241
Office Hours: M-W: 1:00-2:00; TR 2:00-4:00; Friday-by apt.
Class Meets: ONLINE

Required Texts:


Course Description:

This course adopts an interdisciplinary approach to the exploration of the experiences of women of color in the United States. Readings, discussions, and writing assignments focus on indigenous/feminist/ethnic issues directly related to conflict, racism, personal agency, survival, resistance, intervention, and transformation. Topics are contained in diverse texts that include novels, letters, essays, poetry, and film that include feminist theories, cultures, and biographies of notable women of color.

Program learning outcomes include the following:

1. The student will be able to identify, compare, and contrast contemporary feminist theories dealing with women of color.
2. The student will be able to identify major concepts involved with gender inequality, race and ethnic relations, cultural diversity, and feminist empowerment.
3. The student will recognize implicit assumptions behind claims of knowledge about experiences of women of color.
4. The student will be able to evaluate and distinguish between strong and weak arguments in the literature dealing with gender/race inequality and draw conclusions from a set of premises.
5. The student will be able to read feminist theoretical arguments and identify their major strengths and weaknesses.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLOs</th>
<th>Supported Course Objective SLO # or NA (not applicable)</th>
<th>Skill Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PLO1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLO2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLO3</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLO4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLO5</td>
<td>4,5</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Student learning outcomes for this course include the following:

1. Students will compare and contrast feminist theories associated with women of color in U. S. society.
2. Students will differentiate between biological, social, and cultural constructs of gender.
3. Students will define and discuss gender inequality within the framework of women of color.
4. Students will be able to identify gender stratification within social institutions.
5. Students will identify gender diversity and discuss it within the framework of social hierarchies.
6. Students will identify ways in which gender changes throughout the life course and is impacted by things such as race and ethnicity.

ACCEPTABLE STUDENT BEHAVIOR

Classroom behavior should not interfere with the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to learn from the instructional program (see the Student Conduct Code, policy D-34.1). Unacceptable or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Students who disrupt the learning environment may be asked to leave class and may be subject to judicial, academic or other penalties. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including electronic, classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The instructor shall have full discretion over what behavior is appropriate/inappropriate in the classroom. Students who do not attend class regularly or who perform poorly on class projects/exams may be referred to the Early Alert Program. This program provides students with recommendations for resources or other assistance that is available to help SFA students succeed. The SFA policy for Acceptable Student Behavior can be accessed at the following link: http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/student-code-of-conduct_10.4.pdf

ATTENDANCE POLICY

This is an online class. Because of that you are expected to access D2L consistently and daily. Your Course Calendar is attached to this document and there are copies in GETTING STARTED in D2L. You are responsible for keeping track of the dates for all assignments and assessments. Students who do well in these online classes spend at least one hour per day x 7 days reading the Learning Module material (including watching
videos and pdfs of posted articles). This is in addition to reading your text, which is required. The SFA Attendance Policy can be accessed at the following link: http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/class-attendance-and-excused-absence-6.7.pdf

**ADDING/DROPPING A COURSE**

Click on the following link for directions about how to add or drop a course during the semester: http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/course-add-drop_6.10.pdf

**EXAMS**

You will have a total of four exams in this course. The exams are worth 100 points each. They will all be administered online, including the final. The final exam is cumulative and will be posted online @ 8:00 AM on Date and it will close on Date @ 5:00 PM. Since all these exams are online and there is a window of time to complete them, **there will be no makeups on the first three exams unless you have a documented absence filed with the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities. There will be no makeup for the Final Exam.**

**GROUP DISCUSSIONS**

You will participate in four discussion assignments during this semester. The guidelines include submitting one original discussion prompted by my questions about the material included in each Learning Module. Next you will respond to a classmate’s post of your choice. Your original post must follow these guidelines: (1) respond to each of my questions that deal with the reading of the week; (2) number each of your answers to correspond with my questions; (3) you may cut and paste your answers directly into the discussion thread but do not submit attachments – I do not accept those in your discussion assignments; (4) refer to your course calendar for due dates; (5) use good grammar and watch your spelling in order to get full credit for your posts; (6) post your initial answers to my questions prior to reading other students’ posts. (7) your original post is worth 15 points, the response to a classmate is worth 5 points, the response to my comments is worth another 5 points. If you do everything you are supposed to with your weekly discussions your grade = 25 points total. I dock points for poor grammar and spelling. **There is no makeup for a missed discussion.**

**BOOK REVIEW**

**Book Choices for Review:** You only have to review one book for the semester; however, they are all wonderful and you may want to buy each of them and keep them in your personal library.


All of these books are available (at good prices) on Amazon.com and other online sources. You may also be able to find them at both Steen Library and the Nacogdoches public library if you elect not to purchase.

**BIOGRAPHICAL ESSAY**

Papers for this class should be 5 double-spaced pages in length (no more, no less). Biographical essays are all about an individual’s experiences in life. With this assignment I expect you to select a notable woman of color – either one of the women who was discussed in this course or someone you admire that we did not discuss. You will write a good paper if you follow the tips outlined in a PDF in Getting Started. Remember, do not cut and paste from the Internet. Turnitin will be activated for this assignment in a drop box on D2L and it knows if you are using someone else’s work. Email me when you decide who you want to write about.

**GRADING SCALE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exams x 4 (100 pts each)</td>
<td>400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussions x 4 (25 pts. each)</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Book review</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biographical essay</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL:</strong></td>
<td><strong>700</strong></td>
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Grading Rubric: 630 – 700 = A; 560 – 629 = B; 490 – 559 = C; 420 – 489 = D; F < 420

**Your final grade is based on a total accumulation of points.**

**WITHHELD GRADES POLICY**

_The Grade of WH._ Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor and with the approval of the department chair, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work due to unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average. Note that a grade of WH is given at the discretion of the course instructor and department chair. Both must agree that a WH is
appropriate. Furthermore, only students who have completed almost all of the course work will be considered for a grade of WH.

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

Participants in this course will adhere to the [SFA Academic Integrity Policy (A-9.1)](#).

**DISABILITIES ACCOMMODATIONS**

Check with the Office of Disability Services to determine any necessary course adaptations or accommodations. Please make an appointment with me via email during the first week of class to discuss your needed accommodations. “The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Office of Disability Services, Human Services Building, Room 325, Voice: 936-468-3004, TDD: 936-468-1004; FAX: 936-468-1368 or online at the [Disability Services website](#).”

**DISCLAIMER**

This syllabus represents a “best” plan for the course; but, as with most plans, it is subject to change. Any changes will be announced by email or on your D2L homepage News Alert. The GETTING STARTED Module for the course also contains two versions of the Course Calendar and another copy of this syllabus.

Week of August 28  
Navigate the course and deal with any technical issues you may have

Review Getting Started

September 8  
Discussion 1 is due @ 10:00 PM

September 24  
Exam 1 is due @ 10:00 PM

October 13  
Discussion 2 is due @ 10:00 PM

October 22  
First Book Exam is due @ 10:00 PM

November 5, 2016  
Exam 2 is due @ 10:00 PM
November 12
Discussion 3 is due @ 10:00 PM

November 8, 2016
Second book exam is due @ 10:00 PM

November 16
Book Review due @ 10:00 PM in D2L dropbox

November 30
Biographical essay is due @ 10:00 PM in D2L dropbox

December 11
Final exam opens in D2L @ 8:00 AM

December 14
Final exam is due @ 5:00 PM