

THE NEW SCHOOL **GENDER STUDIES PROGRAM**

COURSE BOOKLET Fall 2014

INDEX OF COURSES

Division

Eugene Lang College.....	2
New School for Public Engagement (NSPE)	10
Parsons The New School for Design.....	15
New School for Social Research (NSSR).....	18
University-wide Courses (ULEC, UGLB, etc.).....	19

**You may wish to check the university-wide course catalog
(available here: <http://www.newschool.edu/ucc/courses.aspx>)
and search by keywords.**

**Please send additions and corrections to:
genderstudies@newschool.edu**

**For information about program requirements, please visit our website:
<http://www.newschool.edu/lang/genderstudies><http://www.newschool.edu/lang/genderstudies>
[udies](http://www.newschool.edu/lang/genderstudies)**

<http://www.newschool.edu/lang/genderstudies>

**For other questions, or to join the listserve, please contact
genderstudies@newschool.edu**

**<mailto:genderstudies@newschool.edu><mailto:genderstudies@newschool.edu><mailto:genderstudies@newschool.edu>
[studies@newschool.edu](mailto:genderstudies@newschool.edu)<mailto:genderstudies@newschool.edu>**

Eugene Lang College The New School for Liberal Arts

An Open Book: Hebrew Bible as Literature

Instructor: Fran Snyder

Level: Undergraduate

Division: Eugene Lang College The New School for Liberal Arts

Course Number: LREL 2070 A

Course Format: Seminar

Location: NYC campus

Permission Required: No

Description:

The Hebrew Bible is an anthology of literatures, a historical digest, ethical law collection, and a record of one people's experience of their deity. Class readings emphasize literary genres: the myths of Genesis, narratives of slavery and liberation, the Joseph novella, the political epic of Samuel and Kings, the Book of Ruth as a short story, and Esther as an attempted genocide tempered by farce. Students explore the Bible's methods of characterization and elliptical storytelling techniques. Biblical concepts –monotheism, human failure and redemption, creation– are grounded by scholarship in ancient near eastern history and also examined from contemporary perspectives: the prophet Jeremiah in light of 9/11 and other familiar destructions; and Mother Eve and biblical daughters through feminist and gender analysis. Special consideration is given to the influence of Women's and Gender Studies on biblical scholarship.

Genes, Environment & Behavior

Instructor: Katayoun Chamany

Level: Undergraduate

Division: Eugene Lang College The New School for Liberal Arts

Department: Natural Sciences & Mathematics

Course Number: LSCI 2040

Course Format: Seminar

Location: NYC campus

Permission Required: No

Description:

This course uses a critical pedagogy to challenge the normative assumptions made about the dynamic relationship between our genetic make up and our environments and explore the field of epigenetics. Course sessions and assignments will retrace the experiments that led to the discovery of genes and their inheritance patterns, review molecular analyses to understand the functional products of genes, and reveal how the acquisition and accumulation of mutations and sex lead to diverse human behaviors that can be influenced by environmental factors in changing social environments. Course readings include newspaper articles, secondary scientific literature, and a textbook, while videos and CD-ROMS depicting molecular DNA techniques and their automation will clarify the more technical aspects of the course. Prerequisite for all biology intermediate level

courses, satisfies the Foundation requirement for the Interdisciplinary Science major, satisfies the elective for Psychology, satisfies the elective for the Gender Studies Minor, and is offered every fall.

Milton's Paradise Lost

Instructor: Elaine Savory

Level: Undergraduate

Division: Eugene Lang College The New School for Liberal Arts

Department: Literary Studies

Course Number: LLST 3503

Course Format: Seminar

Location: NYC campus

Permission Required: No

Description:

This great epic is full of action, vividly imagined scenes and of course, excellent poetry. We shall read the whole work aloud, book by book, because Milton was blind when he composed it orally,(those who attended him wrote it down. We shall explore the poem formally and in terms of its ideas and stories. We shall also place it in the context of Milton's life, times and other works, as well as the Bible, and we shall consider some important criticism of the poem. Students familiar with poetry and new to it are both equally welcome.

Course Open to: Majors Only

Restrictions:

Level

Open to Undergraduate students.

Power and Biology: The Global South and the History of Science

Instructor: Laura Palermo

Level: Undergraduate

Division: Eugene Lang College The New School for Liberal Arts

Department: DO NOT USE

Course Number: LHis 2221

Course Format: Seminar

Location: NYC campus

Permission Required: No

Description:

This seminar approaches the history of science from the perspective of the global margins. We will study the contextual connections between biological research, imperialism and postcolonial societies. We will analyze case studies from the history of Eugenics and racism, military research, sexually transmitted diseases and the social and environmental impact of science in the Global South. The course places special emphasis on historical case studies from Latin America and Africa.

Sex, Gender & Sexuality in Society

THIS COURSE COUNTS TOWARDS THE GENDER STUDIES INTRO REQUIREMENT

Instructor: TBA

Level: Undergraduate

Division: Eugene Lang College The New School for Liberal Arts

Department: DO NOT USE

Course Number: LSOC 2053

Course Format: Seminar

Location: NYC campus

Permission Required: Yes

Description:

In this course, we will closely examine the ways in which sociologists and other scholars have conceptualized and studied sex, gender and sexuality in society, while we try to bring conceptual clarity to these terms and to understand the complex relationships among them. Through this broad survey of the field, our goal is to gain a critical perspective on the ways in which gender and sexuality affect many spheres of social life (at work, in the family, in politics, in the production of scientific knowledge, etc.), drawing real or perceived boundaries of difference that shape the opportunities available to, and the day-to-day experiences and interactions of social subjects. As we will see, we cannot study gender and sexuality without thinking about power.

Gender, Politics and History

Instructor: Elaine Abelson

Level: Undergraduate

Division: Eugene Lang College The New School for Liberal Arts

Department: DO NOT USE

Course Number: LHis 4500

Course Format: Seminar

Location: NYC campus

Permission Required: No

Description:

This seminar explores aspects of women's history and the history of gender in the United States over the past two centuries. The course stresses the themes of difference among women and between women and men as a means of examining the social construction of gender and the logic of feminist analysis and activity. Students discuss the major themes in gender history, develop critical and analytical skills, and appreciate current and on-going theoretical (and controversial) debates. The course analyzes key conceptual and methodological frameworks as gender, class, sexuality, power, and race. Thematically organized, readings include both primary and secondary material. Students complete two papers and participate in student-led discussions. Cross-listed with New School for Social Research.

Course Open to: Majors Only

Course Pre/Co-requisites:

Open to juniors and seniors only.

Restrictions:

College

Open to Lang/Jazz BA/BFA students.

Open to Lang/Parsons BA/BFA students.

Open to Eugene Lang College students.

Queering Activism

Instructor: Jasmine Rault

Level: Undergraduate

Division: Eugene Lang College The New School for Liberal Arts

Department: Cultural Studies

Course Number: LCST 4032

Course Format: Seminar

Location: NYC campus

Permission Required: No

Description:

Queering Activism: Making Creative Resistance [Track C] The forms of “activism” that this course explores range from the collective acts, organizing movements, strategies and tactics to individual gestures and accidents, life-sustaining if ephemeral social lives and scenes, to the images, sounds and sometimes words that make up an archive and ongoing repertoire of queer creative resistance. Given this city’s rich history of activism at the intersections of sexual, racial, religious, national and class politics, we will begin by focusing on organizations, events and scenes in New York City and use this background to consider the forms of activism that hold sway in other national and international contexts. Working with the understanding that ‘queer activism’ is not necessarily or most importantly dedicated to sexuality, we will pursue questions such as, What does it mean (and what has it meant) to queer activism? What are the historical and contemporary relationships between ‘queer’ and ‘activism’? How have queer creative cultures contributed to activism? What can we learn about contemporary modes of activism by studying queer traces in archival collections? This course will involve several ‘field trips’ to archives, organizations and events to provide students with an understanding of the broad range of queer activism necessitated by this city (and country) as well as a sense of how and where to grow this understanding through archival research. Finally, students will be expected to develop (collectively or individually) their own forms of queer creative resistance as a component of their final grade. [Track C]

Course Open to: Majors Only

Sex/Gender 2: The Confession - Theory and Practice

Instructor: Pooja Rangan

Level: Undergraduate

Division: Eugene Lang College The New School for Liberal Arts

Department: Cultural Studies

Course Number: LCST 3871

Course Format: Seminar

Location: NYC campus

Permission Required: No

Description:

Michel Foucault's 1980 pronouncement that "Western man has become a confessing animal" would seem prophetically descriptive of 21st century existence, where daily life is thoroughly permeated by testimonial forms (television talk shows, YouTube videos, tweeting, Facebook updates). Indeed, we might say that confession is the preeminent technology of the postmodern self, so much so that our very sense of being seems inseparable from such perpetual declarations of selfhood. This course aims to situate the philosophical and political implications of the confession by engaging its rhetorical form and the genealogies of its contemporary mediated contexts (from religion to justice, medicine, education, family, community, and other intimate socialities). In particular, we will engage the performative structure of the confession, investigating how the confessional speech-act enacts and recalibrates the relationship between visible and invisible, knowledge and uncertainty, self and other, public and private, freedom and control. Readings include: Augustine, Rousseau, Sade, Freud, Foucault, Levinas, Nancy, Paul Rabinow, Sara Ahmed, Saba Mahmood, Didier Fassin. Topics include: human rights/asylum testimonies, reality TV, coming-out narratives, religion and piety, psychoanalysis, criminality and conviction, pornography. [Counts for the C track.]

Course Open to: Majors Only

Course Pre/Co-requisites:

At least two introductory courses (or at least one introductory course and one 2000-level course). One introductory course should be in the relevant Track C.

Restrictions:

Trans(gender) Cult Studies

THIS COURSE COUNTS TOWARDS THE GENDER STUDIES INTRO REQUIREMENT

Instructor: Theresa Cowan

Level: Undergraduate

Division: Eugene Lang College The New School for Liberal Arts

Department: Cultural Studies

Course Number: LCST 3411

Course Format: Seminar

Location: NYC campus

Permission Required: No

Description:

Trans(gender) Cultural Studies: Theory, Activism and Cultural Production [Track C]
Transgender Cultural Studies will provide students with an introduction to the interdisciplinary field of Trans- Studies, through an exploration of key theoretical texts, activist histories and archives and a wide range of expressive cultures including film and video, performance, spoken-word, memoir, blogging and other "new media." This course will consider the ways in which Trans- Studies draws from and builds upon queer and feminist, critical race and anti-colonial theory, but also aims to study the ways that the unique histories and politics of transgender and transsexual people have been obscured

within these broader fields. Furthermore, the course will be framed by a consideration of the ways that we might “critically trans-“ cultural studies: that is, what does Trans-Studies bring to Cultural Studies? Shifting from a focus on identity politics to a practice of assemblage and allied critique, this seminar will take up the work of theorists, cultural producers and activists including Laverne Cox, Janet Mock, Susan Stryker, Kate Bornstein, Jay Prosser, Sandy Stone, Dean Spade, Patrick Califia-Rice, Bobby Noble, Imogen Binnie, Viviane Namaste, Trish Salah, Eli Clare, Justin Vivian Bond, Mira Soleil Ross, the Transformation Cabaret, Mangos with Chili, Viva Ruiz, Emi Koyama, Katastrophe and Nina Arsenault. [Track C]

Course Open to: Majors Only

Race, Gender, Cultural Politics: Reading bell hooks

THIS COURSE COUNTS TOWARDS THE GENDER STUDIES INTRO REQUIREMENT

Instructor: Theresa Cowan

Level: Undergraduate

Division: Eugene Lang College The New School for Liberal Arts

Department: Lang College

Course Number: LNGC 1407

Course Format: Seminar

Location: NYC campus

Permission Required: No

Description:

In this course we will follow the critical interventions of bell hooks and her contributions to women-of-color feminism, and will work towards what hooks calls “education as the practice of freedom.” We will read selections from hooks’ significant body of theory and criticism, and study the cultural texts that she takes up as well as the writing of other scholars and critics who have also responded to these cultural texts. As we look at representational politics through hooks’ interdisciplinary prism, students can expect to encounter a wide range of media including film, music videos, news coverage, and literature. This course offers students the opportunity to engage deeply with foundational texts in critical race studies, feminist theory, education studies, and class-based analysis; and, taking our lead from hooks, the class itself will be a site of inquiry and transformational political action.

Foucault, Bodies, Power

Instructor: Jasmine Rault

Level: Undergraduate

Division: Eugene Lang College The New School for Liberal Arts

Department: Cultural Studies

Course Number: LCST 4029

Course Format: Seminar

Location: NYC campus

Permission Required: No

Description:

Foucault, Bodies, Power [Track C] This course provides a thick introduction to the work of Michel Foucault and the key concepts that have helped to shape the field of cultural studies. We will explore Foucault's theories of discipline, the body, discourse, power, biopolitics and sexuality and how these theories have been used, challenged and redefined within feminist, queer, critical race, crip, post-colonial and decolonial cultural studies. [Track C]

Course Open to: Degree Students with Restrictions

Restrictions:**College**

Open to Eugene Lang College students.

Level

Open to Undergraduate students.

Introduction to Cultural Studies

Instructor: Jasmine Rault

Level: Undergraduate

Division: Eugene Lang College The New School for Liberal Arts

Department: Cultural Studies

Course Number: LCST 2120

Course Format: Lecture

Location: NYC campus

Permission Required: Yes

Description:

Intro to Cultural Studies [Tracks C & M] This course examines the pivotal role of culture in the modern world, including the ideas, values, artifacts, and practices of people in their collective lives. Cultural Studies focuses on the importance of studying the material processes through which culture is constructed. It highlights process over product and rupture over continuity. In particular, it presents culture as a dynamic arena of social struggle and utopian possibility. Students read key thinkers and examine critical frameworks from a historical and a theoretical approach, such as Raymond Williams, Stuart Hall and the Birmingham School; the work on popular culture, identity politics, and postmodernism in America; and the emergence of a 'global cultural studies' in which transnational cultural flows are examined and assessed. Class sessions are set up as dialogic encounters between cultural theory and concrete analysis. [Tracks C & M]

Course Open to: Degree Students

Restrictions:**Level**

Open to Undergraduate students.

Ritual and the Body

Instructor: TBA

Level: Undergraduate

Division: Eugene Lang College The New School for Liberal Arts

Department: Religion

Course Number: LREL 2804

Course Format: Seminar

Location: NYC campus

Permission Required: No

Description:

This course explores one of the central aspects of religion: ritual. We will consider the role of rituals in structuring the lives of individuals and communities, both as a means of expressing beliefs and values and as a means of training the body to develop certain habits and dispositions. We will also see how rituals shape, and are shaped by, local gender roles – how they perform, perpetuate, and transform what it means to be gendered in a variety of communities. Readings include anthropological, sociological, and philosophical accounts of ritual, and will be supplemented by the concrete examples of ritual introduced by site visits and observations, film, and students' own experiences.

“The Girl” as Media Image

Instructor: Kenneth Wark

Level: Undergraduate

Division: Eugene Lang College The New School for Liberal Arts

Department: Cultural Studies

Course Number: LCST 2129

Course Format: Seminar

Location: NYC campus

Permission Required: No

Description:

She is everywhere: selling everything from magazines to real estate. The Girl now mediates our relationship to commodities, and even to each other. Feminist theory has argued that these images are not those of "real women," but has had less to say about how "she" has become a structural necessity for marketing. This course examines both these aspects—gender and commodity. It examines popular culture (Beyonce) and theories of gender, but also writers and artists who have dissented from this figure, from Kathy Acker to Beatriz Preciado. It also considers men who have appropriated and channeled her, from Warhol's transgender superstars to Almodovar's Hollywood drag. This course links theories of the commodity, gender, and sexuality and applies them to contemporary everyday experience. [Tracks M & C]

Course Open to: Majors Only

Writing the Essay I: The Future of Feminist Theory

Instructor: Meredith Kruse

Level: Undergraduate

Division: Eugene Lang College The New School for Liberal Arts

Department: Lang College

Course Number: LFYW 1000 F

Course Format: Seminar

Location: NYC campus

Description:

This writing intensive course will look at how several innovative scholars are envisioning the future of feminist theory. Rather than presume to know what feminist theory entails, we will develop a working definition of the field from our engagement with course texts. As a result, no prior knowledge of feminist theory is required, but students will be expected to demonstrate a willingness to listen to challenging texts and new ideas. Class discussions will explore strategies for transforming current inequities into a more just future, and consider how feminist theory can contribute to this kind of radical social change in the world. Students will have an opportunity to use the ideas, concepts, and practices introduced in course to think through a contemporary topic of their choosing.

This course is only open to Lang students who need to fulfill the Writing the Essay I requirement.

New School for Public Engagement (NSPE)

Foundations of Gender Studies

THIS COURSE COUNTS TOWARDS THE GENDER STUDIES INTRO REQUIREMENT

Instructor: TBA

Level: Undergraduate

Division: The New School for Public Engagement

School: School of Undergraduate Studies

Department: Social Sciences

Course Number: NSOS 3800

Course Format: Lecture

Location: NYC campus

Permission Required: No

Description:

What does it mean to think critically about gender and sexuality in a time of cultural instability? We compare the broad topics and controversies in the social sciences and humanities that historically defined women's studies with those that have contributed to the recent shift to the broader designation of gender studies. Important factors contributing to this shift are the influx of gay, lesbian, and transgender subjects; multicultural feminist thought; the rise of postmodernism and its critique of identity politics; and the emergence of men's studies. In the process, students are introduced to a critical framework within which to think about gender. Central to the course is the examination of personal narratives--memoirs, autobiographies, oral histories, photographs--in relation to gender experiences and identities, politics, and social change.

Course Open to: Degree Students

Music, Women, and Gender

Instructor: Sonya Mason

Level: Undergraduate

Division: The New School for Public Engagement

School: School of Undergraduate Studies

Department: Humanities

Course Number: NMUS 3591

Course Format: Lecture

Location: Online

Permission Required: No

Description:

Rather than adding a list of long-forgotten matriarchs to our historical roster, modern feminist-based musicology has sought to understand the effects of gender and sexuality within a larger cultural and political framework. It seeks not to provide new histories, but to add to the understanding and appreciation of great music through context and the social codes of the language of music. This course traces important female musicians, from the spiritual Hildegard von Bingen in the Middle Ages through the indomitable Cosima Wagner to current leading ladies such as Madonna and Bjork. We examine many of the scholars and critics currently at the forefront of this field of inquiry.

Course Open to: Degree Students

Masculine Identities

THIS COURSE COUNTS TOWARDS THE GENDER STUDIES INTRO REQUIREMENT

Instructor: Herbert Sussman

Level: Undergraduate

Division: The New School for Public Engagement

School: School of Undergraduate Studies

Department: Humanities

Course Number: NLIT 3392

Course Format: Lecture

Location: NYC campus

Permission Required: No

Description:

This course examines the variety of masculine identities, the long history of changing definitions of what it means "to be a man." We trace the warrior ideal from the Homeric epics through Arthurian tales to current antiheroic representations of men at war. We also examine the complex history of same-sex relations from Plato to 19th-century passionate friendships to the varied styles of modern gay identities. Hemingway's writing evokes a powerful masculine ideal as well as its discontents. Since masculinity is shaped by ethnicity, the course considers the construction of masculine identities in African-American, Jewish, and Asian men. We also look at the changing constructions of the male body, examine visual artists such as Robert Mapplethorpe, consider the notion of female masculinity, read current gender theory about masculinities, and discuss such film

genres as the buddy film, the western, and the muscle film. Students present oral reports on styles of contemporary masculinity.

Course Open to: Majors Only

Reading Toni Morrison

Instructor: Tracyann F. Williams

Level: Undergraduate

Division: The New School for Public Engagement

Department: Humanities

Course Number: NLIT 3383

Course Format: Lecture

Location: NYC campus

Permission Required: No

Description:

This course offers an intensive examination of Toni Morrison's work in its own contexts and the critical contexts in which others have read it. Winner of the 1993 Nobel Prize for literature, Toni Morrison is not only a powerful novelist but one of the most important American literary figures of the 20th century, producing incisive scholarship, literary criticism, and analyses of contemporary race relations. We examine her contributions to each of these fields. We also consider the specific historical moments that Morrison reimagines in her fiction, as well as the historical and cultural events that shaped the creation of each novel as she wrote it. The course emphasizes the process of examining an individual authors work in view of the literary, biographical, historical, and cultural influences that shaped it.

Course Open to: Majors Only

Vamps, Virgins, and Goddesses: Gender, Sexuality, and Nationhood in Popular Indian Cinema

Instructor: Rebecca Qidwai

Level: Undergraduate

Division: The New School for Public Engagement

School: School of Media Studies

Department: Communication

Course Number: NFLM 3492

Course Format: Lecture

Location: Online

Permission Required: No

Description:

This course introduces the genre of popular Indian films known as Bollywood, with a focus on constructions of gender, sexuality, and national identity in the film narratives. We begin by exploring the Indian cinema of the period immediately preceding the birth of the Indian nation-state. We analyze articulations of gender and sexuality in the colonial context and then trace them discursively through the decades that follow. We treat

popular cinema as a social text that illuminates changing ideas about gender roles and sexual behavior in modern India. The course is divided into four historical sections: the colonial period (1930s), the era of Nehru nationalism (1950s), the social justice era (1970s), and the commodity fetish period (2000s).

Introduction to Food Studies

Instructor: Bea Banu

Level: Undergraduate

Division: The New School for Public Engagement

School: School of Undergraduate Studies

Department: Food Studies

Course Number: NFDS 2050

Course Format: Lecture

Location: Online

Permission Required: No

Description:

In this course, we explore the connections between food, culture, and society, looking at the role of food in the construction of personal and collective identity in terms of body, race and ethnicity, class, gender, nationality, and social movements. We also examine cultural aspects of food politics, paying particular attention to the United States but also considering globalization and international flows of people, goods, ideas, and technologies. The course introduces analytical approaches and methods that are widely used in the growing research field of food studies.

Course Open to: Degree Students

Hungering for Opportunities: Food and Migrations

Instructor: Brandon Koenig

Level: Undergraduate

Division: The New School for Public Engagement

School: School of Undergraduate Studies

Department: Food Studies

Course Number: NFDS 3410

Course Format: Lecture

Location: NYC campus

Permission Required: No

Description:

In the contemporary world, food sparks debates on power structures, race, ethnicity, and multiculturalism that acquire particular relevance in places where people from around the world live together and interact. In this course, we examine food in relation to migration in New York City and at the national and international levels. We look at how food can become an instrument of communication and cultural exchange but also of exclusion and xenophobia. Through lectures, interviews, and fieldwork in the city, we use food as a

starting point for an analysis of the dynamics of adaptation, appropriation, and diaspora in a global framework. Although the focus is on contemporary society, we also explore historical aspects of the subject.

Course Open to: Degree Students

Feasting Your Eyes: Food and Film

Instructor: Laura Di Bianco

Level: Undergraduate

Division: The New School for Public Engagement

School: School of Undergraduate Studies

Department: Food Studies

Course Number: NFDS 3615

Course Format: Lecture

Location: NYC campus

Permission Required: No

Description:

Why are food and eating so prominent in movies of all genres? Why have movies centered on food become so popular in the past few decades? How have film directors depicted the relationship of food to culture, sex, fantasy, and fear? This course examines food, its production and consumption, and related sociopolitical and emotional issues in relation to film. Narrative, visual, and symbolic uses of food are explored in the context of contemporary popular culture.

Course Open to: Degree Students

Lit Seminar: Girls

Instructor: Tiphany Yanique

Level: Undergraduate

Division: The New School for Public Engagement

School: School of Writing

Department: Writing Program

Course Number: NWRW 3998

Course Format: Seminar

Location: NYC campus

Permission Required: No

Course Open to: Degree Students with Restrictions

Description:

Historically, the girl child in literature has often been a stand in for innocence and or the violent removal of innocence. Modern feminist literature has sought to redefine what the girl might be capable of and what the girl might represent by asking questions such as: Do girls have adventure? Do girls have subjectivity? What voice do girls have in our modern culture? How do male and female writers use the girl's voice to create narrative and character? What are girl's bodies doing in our literature? In this class we will explore these questions but also ask: What are girl up to in your writing? Assignments in

this class will include a creative piece (in prose or poetry) and a scholarly piece based on the course texts. Grading will be based equally on these papers as well as class preparation and participation. Examples of possible texts are: Dorothy Allison's *Bastard of Carolina*, ZZ Packer's *Drinking Coffee Elsewhere*, Arundhati Roy's *The God of Small Things* and Gabriel Garcia Marquez's *Of Love and Other Demons*.

Course Attributes:

Liberal Arts, Open to Non Major w Restrictions

Parsons The New School for Design

Fashion and the Body

THIS COURSE COUNTS TOWARDS THE GENDER STUDIES INTRO REQUIREMENT

Instructor: Rachel Lifter

Level: Undergraduate

Division: Parsons The New School for Design

School: School of Art and Design History and Theory

Department: Art and Design History

Course Number: PLFS 4007

Course Format: Seminar

Location: NYC campus

Permission Required: No

Description:

As Joanne Entwistle explains in *The Fashioned Body*, 'fashion is about bodies: it is produced, promoted and worn by bodies' (2000: 1). Thus, the body serves as a key resource through which to examine fashion. More specifically, scholarly research on the body provides us with theoretical tools and methodological approaches, through which we can explore how fashion is produced within popular cultural texts, reproduced within dress practices, and reconfigured and/or subverted through individual acts of agency and innovation. This course approaches an analysis of fashion and the body through a cultural studies perspective, placing at the center of investigation the following themes: structure, agency, representation, lived practice, identity, and resistance. Among other questions, it asks: How do fashion media images contribute to the racialization of the body? How do our dress practices reproduce gender and class norms? How does plastic surgery reproduce social norms of ideal beauty, and how is it a means through which people can engage in acts of individual self-creation? How can we use queer theory to problematize the regulatory frameworks that control the body? And, how is the abject body a transgressive body?

Course Pre/Co-requisites:

Open to: All university undergraduate degree students. Pre-requisite(s): first-year university writing course and at least two prior history or methods course in art, media, film, or visual culture. One of these courses should be 3000-level.

Fashion Unbound

Level: Undergraduate

Division: Parsons The New School for Design

School: School of Art and Design History and Theory

Department: Art and Design History

Course Number: PLFS 4008

Course Format: Seminar

Location: NYC campus

Permission Required: No

Description:

This seminar examines visual culture at the turn of the millennium, with a particular focus on the work at the juncture between experimental fashion and the visual arts. It explores the ever-increasing challenge posed by practitioners from the art and fashion fields to the “classical” concept of the body and of beauty, which found one of its most successful articulations in the images surrounding twentieth century high fashion. Examining the way artists as well as designers problematize easy demarcations between the inside and outside of the body, the course questions why this period saw an explosion of grotesque imagery—an imagery articulating unsettling ruptures of borders—which had been lurking just beneath the surface throughout the twentieth century. Why is the sealed and “perfect” body, which developed in the Western vocabulary as early as the Renaissance, so forcefully challenged by contemporary designers and artists? We look at a range of media from the video and performance work of Leigh Bowery and Georgina Starr, to the experimental fashion shows staged by Alexander McQueen and Hussein Chalayan, to the more recent phenomenon of Lady Gaga. We also examine textiles' relation to the body as a second skin, a surface on which bodily borders are negotiated. The seminar will combine theories and methodologies from critical theory, gender studies, art history, performance and science studies in its exploration of the topic.

Course Open to: Degree Students

Course Pre/Co-requisites:

Open to: All university undergraduate degree students. Pre-requisite(s): first-year university writing course and at least two prior history or methods course in art, media, film, or visual culture. One of these courses should be 3000-level.

Picturing Sexuality

Instructor: George Pitts

Level: Undergraduate

Division: Parsons The New School for Design

School: School of Art, Media and Technology

Department: Photography

Course Number: PUPH 4079

Course Format: Seminar

Location: NYC campus

Permission Required: No

Description:

This course examines the photographic representation of the female and male body from the 19th century to our present epoch. The course is a passionate, irreverent, analytical, and rigorous study of how the body has been depicted, perceived, and manipulated in the many and diverse periods of photography. Photography examined in the class will include examples from the following genres: anthropology; fine art photography: Victorian, Modernist, and Contemporary; fashion: Surrealist, avant-garde and editorial; amateur: historical erotic snapshots by anonymous photographers; Magazine photography; as well as footage and cinematography from films that overlap historically with the photography the class will study. Many artists will be studied including: Lady Hawarden, Bellocq, Stieglitz, Man Ray, Bunuel and Dali, Hans Bellmer, Bettie Page, Avedon, Pierre Molinier, Jan Saudek, Helmut Newton, Guy Bourdin, Grace Jones, Francesca Woodman, Mapplethorpe, Cindy Sherman, Madonna, Sally Mann, Nobuyoshi Araki, David Lynch, Bettina Rheims, Steven Meisel, Juergen Teller, and Katy Grannan. Students will be expected to contribute original photographic work in conjunction with the specific periods explored in the class. Work will culminate in the development of original project work unique to each student that explores the body or sexuality in a personal or commercial style to be established by each student.

Course Open to: Degree Students with Restrictions

Course Pre/Co-requisites:

Open to: Bachelors degree in Photography majors, juniors & seniors only; others by permission of Photography program. Pre-requisite(s): PUPH 1010 Freshman Seminar 1 and PUPH 1011 Freshman Seminar 2 or PSAM 1050 Photo 1 and PSAM 1051 Photo 2

Restrictions:

Major

Open to Integrated Design Curriculum students.

Open to Photography students.

Theorizing Luxury

Instructor: David Brody

Level: Graduate

Division: Parsons The New School for Design

Department: Art and Design History

Course Number: PGHT 5660

Course Format: Lecture

Location: NYC campus

Permission Required: No

Description:

This class assesses luxury design from multiple perspectives. Issues pertaining to consumerism, economics, and labor will be addressed. Specifically, we will look at examples of luxury design and examine these spaces and products in relation to a variety of authors, including, but not limited to, Walter Benjamin, Henri Lebevre, Karl Marx,

and Rachel Sherman. Additionally, we will take field trips to sites that our contemporary culture constructs as luxurious. These tours will investigate both the overt presentation of luxury and the labor that creates these deluxe experiences. By the end of the semester, students will be expected to formulate their own critique of luxury in a research project that will utilize both primary sources and the theoretical perspectives we have explored.

Course Open to: Degree Students

Course Pre/Co-requisites:

Open to: All university graduate degree students.

Restrictions:

Level

Not open to Undergraduate students.

New School for Social Research (NSSR)

Foucault: Genealogies of Desire

Instructor: TBA

Level: Undergraduate, Graduate

Division: The New School for Social Research

Department: Philosophy

Course Number: GPHI 6137

Course Format: Lecture

Location: NYC campus

Permission Required: No

Topics:

Social SciencesPhilosophyLiberal Arts

Description:

The aim of the course is to show that it's by interrogating desire that we can learn who we are. The task, in that context, is to provide a genealogy and critique of the subject of desire, that is, to identify the specific regimes of desire that govern us today, the conditions under which those regimes emerged, and the manner in which they relate to one another. By drawing on key analyses that Foucault developed in the 1970s, I will attempt to draw the contours of the contemporary subject, and arrive at what Foucault himself called an "ontology of the present." The genealogy in question will follow four distinct lines: sexual, economic, epistemological, and moral. The claim, in other words, is that the modern subject of desire is constituted in relation to the dispositifs of sexuality, self-interest, truth, and the Law.

Affective States: On the Politics and Histories of Sentiment

Instructor: Ann Stoler

Level: Graduate

Division: The New School for Social Research

Department: Anthropology

Course Number: GANT 6280

Course Format: Seminar

Location: NYC campus

Permission Required: No

Topics:

Social Sciences Anthropology

Description:

This course starts from two premises: (1) that sentiments articulate the personal and the political in historically specific ways; and (2) that sentiments are historically located social phenomena with specific genealogies. In this course, we draw on a range of varied literatures in anthropology, history, philosophy, political science, and literary criticism to explore the changing ways in which thought and feeling, rationality and passion, reason and sentiment have been understood. The focus is on sentiment as an index of relations of power and as a tracer of them. Seminar themes include attention to social inequality and sentiment, state formation and affect, the politics of compassion, imperial sympathy, "structures of feeling" and sentiment as a marker of political and social location. Course requirements include weekly commentaries on the readings, a short review essay and a research paper. Readings include: Albert Hirschman, *The Passions and the Interests*, William Reddy, *The Navigation of Feeling*, Carolyn Steedman, *Landscape for a Good Woman*, and selections from Adam Smith, David Hume, Didier Fassin, Amelie Rorty, William James, Raymond Williams, among others.

Course Open to: Majors Only

University-wide Courses (ULEC, UGLB, etc.)

Global Gender and Sexuality

THIS COURSE COUNTS TOWARDS THE GENDER STUDIES INTRO REQUIREMENT

Instructor: TBA

Level: Undergraduate

Division: University-wide Programs

Department: Global Studies

Course Number: UGLB 3314

Course Format: Seminar

Location: NYC campus

Permission Required: No

Description:

This course explores issues of gender and sexuality in comparative and transnational perspective. Incorporating readings from political science, anthropology, sociology, history, theory, and journalism, we pay special attention to the ways in which global flows of labor and discourse determine or limit the ways in which gender roles and sexual hierarchies are produced, reinforced, and challenged. We will explore the tension between universal claims about gender and sexuality and local understandings across regions and cultures, with a particular focus on South and Southeast Asia, and the Americas. Specific topics covered will include the impacts of globalization, migration, and colonialism on gender and sexuality; how gender and norms structure interventions into development and the management of conflict; sex work and questions of autonomy

and agency; transgender politics in different cultural contexts; women and domestic or reproductive labor; constructs of masculinity; sexuality, migration and tourism; and the use of scientific discourses to enforce the gender binary.

Course Open to: Majors Only

Introduction to Feminist Thought & Action

THIS COURSE COUNTS TOWARDS THE GENDER STUDIES INTRO REQUIREMENT

Instructor: Ann Snitow

Level: Undergraduate

Division: University-wide Programs

Department: University Lecture Program

Course Number: ULEC 2510

Course Format: Lecture

Location: NYC campus

Permission Required: No

Description:

Feminism is not a single-voiced, coherent body of doctrine but rather a proliferation of thinking and actions in response to what seems to be the near-universal fact of women's subordination, past and present, in societies which arrange gender relations in a wide variety of ways. Feminism's lack of unity as a movement has been a strength and a weakness, and organized resistance to sexism has come and gone. Right now, in both the United States and internationally, we are living in a time of renewed critical self-consciousness about gender. This course is a sampler of key debates and actions to give a sense of the variety of feminisms that have evolved in the last 40 years. It will track both the growth of feminist movements and their confrontations with backlash. We will discuss readings on reproduction, the gendering of work, theoretical takes on "the death of feminism," the variety of feminisms in different parts of the world, the meaning (and strengths and weaknesses) of the "identity politics" of race and gender, recent discussions of "the body," including discussions of queer theory and trans experience. Visiting speakers and films.

Students must register for both the lecture and discussion section of this course.

Restrictions:

Level

Open to Undergraduate students.