

WST 6003: Feminist Scholarship and Pedagogy

Mondays, 5:30—8:15 PM (CRN 87156) with Kim Golombisky, Ph.D.

This class is a “two-fer” covering how to be a feminist teacher and a feminist scholar to advance your own interests and career. The strategy is to introduce you to the theories and practices of feminist pedagogy by studying the scholarship of feminist pedagogy. Coursework includes a lot of active teaching and learning to build confidence and skills—and have some fun. You also will learn tips and tricks for reading academic writing, which also will improve your writing. By the end of the semester, you will be able to employ the values and practices of feminist pedagogy. You will be encouraged to pursue you own scholarly, professional, disciplinary, and research agendas with the classroom community.

To request a permit to register for this course, visit <https://bit.ly/f20gradpermit>.

WST 6560: Advanced Feminist Theory

Thursdays, 3:30—6 PM (CRN 86014) with David Rubin, Ph.D.

This course will explore both classics and innovative recent contributions to the interdisciplinary field of feminist theory. We will examine in detail how feminist theories challenge and reconfigure received understandings of ontology (being), epistemology (knowledge), embodiment (bodies), identity and difference (intersectionality, intersubjectivity, indigeneity), affect (feelings, emotions, moods), freedom (agency and constraint), ethics (moral principles and debates), and politics (power relations, resource distribution, discipline, the governance of communities), as well as the relationships between them. Students will leave the course with a strong critical understanding of key concepts and debates in feminist theory, and will also develop their own research projects using a writing workshop format. Along the way, we will read texts that productively blur the boundaries between disciplines and between feminist theory and a range of adjacent fields, including black studies, postcolonial studies, indigenous studies, queer theory, transgender studies, disability studies, media and cultural studies, science and technology studies, and others.

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WST 6562: Body Politics

Tuesdays, 3:30—6 PM (CRN 86014) with Diane Price Herndl, Ph.D.

“Corporeal feminism” has had a profound impact on many disciplines, from the arts and humanities, through the social and bio-medical sciences. This course will be an in-depth and interdisciplinary feminist exploration of how the body is produced, inscribed, replicated, and often disciplined as a result of various powers at work. We will begin the semester with some “real world” meditations on bodies in our culture, followed by a careful consideration of Foucault’s work and feminist responses, revisions, and uses of Foucault; we will follow that with discussing how Butler’s performativity and new feminist materialisms build on and challenge the so-called “linguistic turn” of postmodern theory. We will, along the way, investigate several specific sites for the analysis of gendered, raced, classed, and differently configured bodies. Topics for this course include: the posthuman; technologized bodies; feminist critiques of weight and size in the context of food justice; medicalization; reproductive justice; disability studies.

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