Madison College

20803234 Gender and Women’s History in Global Perspectives

Outline of Instruction

Course Information

Description
This course is an introduction to gender and women's history from the 19th century to the present with a global perspective. Students examine power relations that affect the lives of diverse women in the U.S.--diverse in terms of ethnicity, class, ability, sexuality and other markers of power--and will be asked to contemplate the positions of women from around the world. The class focuses on gender and ethnicity as key social institutions and social change; in particular, the roles of women in inspiring social change. The course explores a broad range of issues in historical and contemporary global gender relations in various themes. Both first wave (19th century to early 20th century) and second wave (1960 to the present) feminisms around the world are examined.

Total Credits 3.00

Course Competencies

1. Examine social constructions of knowledge, gender, sex, race and sexuality.
   Assessment Strategies
   Written product, group presentation
   Criteria
   define feminism and ways in which construction of the female world has changed
   identify assumptions about gender
   describe influences of gender in various aspects of life
   differentiate between gender, sex, race and sexuality
   you include a selection from the original text

2. Analyze how citizenship and politics are gendered and racialized.
   Assessment Strategies
   Written product, group presentation
   Criteria
   clarify rights and responsibilities of citizenship
   compare role of citizenship across gender and race
   identify key stages within first and second wave feminisms
   compare components of black feminism and white feminism
   relate gender and race to traditional notions of citizenship
   describe role of US states in shaping gendered and racialized citizenship status
   compare US-based gender and racial movements to non US-based movements
   relate state policy to value of individuals in US and non-US society
   you include a selection from the original text

3. Interpret how medicine and human reproduction impact gender, race and class relations.
Assessment Strategies
Written product, group presentation

Criteria
define eugenics and Malthusianism
articulate differences in reproductive healthcare within given historical periods and global contexts
describe the history of women’s health movements using US and non-US examples
analyze the impact of power on personal philosophies of reproduction
analyze the relationship of reproductive rights to politics
portray gendercide as a feminist issue
you include a selection from the original text

4. **Examine representations of race and gender in consumer culture and cultural constructions of beauty in a global context.**

Assessment Strategies
Written product, group presentation

Criteria
identify advertising strategies used to reinforce and/or shape notions of femininity, masculinity, race, nation, sexuality and beauty
uncover common race and gender stereotypes used in advertising
identify racial biases in notions of beauty in US and non-US cultures
you include a selection from the original text

5. **Apply feminist inquiry principles to representations of women, race and gender in the 21st century.**

Assessment Strategies
Written product, group presentation

Criteria
investigate how women's views of the world are shaped today
provide cross-cultural, cross-religion examples of women uniting to support cause
you reference experiences of women living in Uganda and Liberia in your work
you include a selection from the original text

6. **Investigate how the global economy impacts women and work, economic policy and migration.**

Assessment Strategies
Written product, group presentation

Criteria
identify challenges that women currently face in the US workforce
describe the role of age, gender and race in global manufacturing, particularly “sweat shops”
identify how class, gender, national privilege and racial privilege impact child care
describe how human trafficking for economic and/or sexual purposes relates to the global economy and human migration
articulate the role of NGOs (non-government organizations) and micro-lending in elevating women’s economic status
demonstrate the role of e-commerce and marketing related to empowering women economically, socially, and politically
you include a selection from the original text

7. **Explain historical patterns within industrialization and women’s work.**

Assessment Strategies
Written product, group presentation

Criteria
identify the changing nature of working conditions from century to century
explain the cycle of women’s work related to industrialization
articulate the positive and negative legacies from industrialization and the role of women
compare work patterns between rural and urban settings
8. **Analyze connections of girls’ education to democracy.**  
   Assessment Strategies  
   Written product, group presentation  
   **Criteria**  
   analysis illustrates effects of education on a girl’s life: self-esteem, goals, contributions to society, marriage and family choices  
   analysis includes the process of citizenship awareness  
   analysis relates girls’ education to a larger, global context  
   analysis identifies negative ramifications of perceived western education vs. indigenous culturally-based education  
   analysis applies historical importance to present day views on girls’ education worldwide  
   you include a selection from the original text

9. **Compare and contrast Western feminisms to other feminisms.**  
   Assessment Strategies  
   Written product, group presentation  
   **Criteria**  
   identify how the feminisms are different in class stratification, religion and sexuality  
   examine how feminism is a uniting force despite differences, especially in light of the present Third Wave of feminism that has been building since the turn of the century  
   you include a selection from the original text