Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

Faculty and students in the Department of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies use an interdisciplinary approach to examine the construction of women, gender, and sexuality throughout the world. The interdisciplinary research and training in our department position our students to be thought leaders and agents in addressing inequality in all of its forms. Our graduates have gone on to work in fields such as business, entertainment, law, medicine, and social work. This community of scholars and activists is committed to doing the critical work of reimagining and producing a more inclusive future.

Among the first of its kind in the nation (est. 1972), the Department of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at Washington University has emphasized the importance of gender and sexuality to such disciplines and interdisciplinary programs as philosophy, psychology, history, education, law, architecture, art history and archaeology, anthropology, political science, international studies, American culture studies, and studies in culture and languages.

Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies students are often leaders in campus organizations that deal with issues concerning women, gender relations, sexuality, and health.

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Faculty

Chair

Rebecca Wanzo (https://wgss.wustl.edu/people/rebecca-wanzo/)  
Professor, Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies  
PhD, Duke University  
(Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies)

Core Faculty

Barbara Baumgartner (https://wgss.wustl.edu/people/barbara-baumgartner/)  
Director of Undergraduate Studies and Teaching Professor  
PhD, Northwestern University  
(Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies; English)

Heather Berg (https://wgss.wustl.edu/people/heather-berg/)  
Assistant Professor  
PhD, University of California, Santa Barbara  
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PhD, The Graduate Center, City University of New York  
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Professor Emerita

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Additional Program Faculty

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Majors
The Major in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

A Bachelor of Arts degree with a major or second major in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (WGSS) requires a total of 27 credits, 21 of which must be taken in courses numbered 300 or higher. At least 18 of the 21 upper-level credits required for the major may only count for the WGSS major and may not be double-counted toward another major. Courses that count for the major should be registered as WGSS courses (i.e., with the WGSS designation, L77). All courses taken for the major must be taken for a grade, and students must earn a grade of C- or higher.

The following six requirements must be fulfilled through WGSS home-based or cross-listed courses taken at Washington University, unless otherwise indicated. The theory and methods/service learning requirements must be completed at Washington University. Students requesting an exception and who wish to transfer credits in the theory or methods/service learning category must petition the department chair or the director of undergraduate education, who will consider the request.

Only one course may fulfill two requirements (i.e., one class may double count for two of the six required areas). Students on approved study abroad programs may petition for one course to count toward one of these six requirements.

1. 3 credits of an introductory-level course: WGSS 100B Introduction to Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. Students must file a copy of a paper from this course with the WGSS office (McMillan Hall, Room 210).

2. 3 credits of a theory course

3. 3 credits of a feminist research methods course or a service learning course. Note: Students who write an honors thesis must take WGSS 417W Feminist Research Methodologies and enroll in WGSS 499 Honors Thesis: Research and Writing to fulfill this requirement. Students who take L77 417W must submit a copy of their final paper from this course to the WGSS office (McMillan Hall, Room 210).

4. 6 credits at the 400 level (courses taken in any of the above categories will satisfy this requirement) or an honors thesis. One of the 3-credit courses must be a home-based WGSS course; the second may be either home-based or cross-listed. Students should consult with their WGSS advisers for approval of their chosen courses and to ensure that one of the courses is home-based.

5. 3 credits of a historical context course. This is a course that is home-based or cross-listed in WGSS that examines gender in a historical context. Note: A course that satisfies one of the previous four requirement areas in this list may also fulfill this requirement.

6. 3 credits of an ethnic/global/racial context course. This is a course that is home-based or cross-listed in WGSS that examines gender in an ethnic, global, or racial context. Note: A course that satisfies one of the first four requirement areas in this list may also fulfill this requirement.

Optional WGSS Major Tracks

A student majoring in WGSS may choose one of the following two tracks within the major if the student’s interests lie within these areas. With the exception of the capstone course, which must be taken by anyone who does not write an honors thesis, the tracks do not require additional course work; rather, the courses outlined in each track fulfill the WGSS requirements through a concentration of courses in one of the two tracks.

Politics Track

Introduction (3 credits); required for all majors:
- WGSS 100B Introduction to Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

Research Methods (3 credits); choose one of the following:
- WGSS 3171 Service Learning: Women and Prison
- WGSS 3942 Service Learning: Projects in Domestic Violence
- WGSS 417W Feminist Research Methodologies

Race/ethnicity/Politics (3 credits); choose one of the following (these courses can also be electives):
- WGSS 383A Topics in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies
- WGSS 39SC Imperialism and Sexuality: India, South Asia, and the World: Writing-Intensive Seminar
- WGSS 421 From Mammy to the Welfare Queen: African-American Women Theorize Identity
- WGSS 3002 Feminist Fire!: Radical Black Women in the 20th Century

Sexuality and Politics (3 credits); choose one of the following (these courses can also be electives):
- WGSS 323A Sex Trafficking
- WGSS 3103 Sex and Money: Economies of Desire
- WGSS 3014 Queering Citizenship
- WGSS 3172 Queer Histories
- WGSS 3141 The Racial and Sexual Politics of Public Health
- WGSS 3211 American Religion, Gender, and Sexuality
- WGSS 206 Sexuality and the State: Introduction to Sexuality Studies
Non-U.S. Course (3 credits); choose one of the following:
- WGSS 39SC Imperialism and Sexuality: India, South Asia, and the World: Writing-Intensive Seminar
- WGSS 49SC Incredible India
- WGSS 437 Transnational Feminisms
- WGSS 362A Islam, Gender, Sexuality
- WGSS 3548 Gender, Sexuality & Communism in 20th-Century Europe
- WGSS 312 Globalization and Gender

Theory (3 credits); choose one of the following:
- WGSS 3203 Bodies Out of Bounds: Feminist and Queer Disability Studies
- WGSS 421 From Mammy to the Welfare Queen: African-American Women Theorize Identity
- WGSS 371 Confronting Capitalism: Feminism, Work and Solidarity
- WGSS 429 Feminist Political Theory
- WGSS 437 Transnational Feminisms
- WGSS 4102 Everyday Unruliness: Feminist and Queer Resistance

History (3 credits):
Choose from the WGSS course offerings in this area.

Elective (3 credits); open, but one of the courses listed below is encouraged:
- WGSS 3211 American Religion, Gender, and Sexuality
- WGSS 396 Gender and Social Class
- WGSS 3203 Bodies Out of Bounds: Feminist and Queer Disability Studies
- WGSS 348 Revolutionize It!: Second-Wave Feminism and the Struggle for a Radical Movement
- WGSS 3012 Gender and Politics
- WGSS 3410 Gender in Society
- WGSS 3561 Law, Gender, & Justice
- WGSS 393 Gender Violence (If a student wants to take WGSS 3942 Service Learning: Projects in Domestic Violence, this course must be taken first.)
- WGSS 4363 Sex, Gender, and Power

Capstone Project or Honors Thesis (3 credits):
Students will either complete an honors thesis or take Sex and Gender in Public, a 1.5-unit course that meets once a week during both semesters of the senior year and that will result in a capstone project exploring gender and/or sexuality and politics broadly conceived.

Please note that 6 credits must be taken at the 400 level.

Health Track

Introduction (3 credits); required for all majors:
- WGSS 100B Introduction to Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

Theory (3 credits); required for all majors:
- WGSS 3203 Bodies Out of Bounds: Feminist and Queer Disability Studies

History (3 credits); choose one of the following:
- WGSS 3041 Making Sex and Gender: Understanding the History of the Body
- WGSS 310 From Hysteria to Hysterectomy: Women’s Health Care in America
- WGSS 4990 History of the Body
- WGSS 414 Gender, Religion, Medicine and Science

Race or Non-U.S. Course (3 credits); choose one of the following:
- WGSS 3141 The Racial and Sexual Politics of Public Health
- WGSS 3201 Gender, Culture, and Madness
- WGSS 389 The Global History of HIV/AIDS
- WGSS 4134 The AIDS Epidemic: Inequalities, Ethnography, and Ethics
- WGSS 402 Transnational Reproductive Health Issues: Meanings, Technologies, Practices

Elective (3 credits); choose one of the following:
- WGSS 316 Contemporary Women’s Health
- WGSS 360 Trans* Studies
- WGSS 393 Gender Violence

Research Methods (3 credits):
Choose from the WGSS course offerings in this area.

Other Electives (6 credits):
Choose any two WGSS home-based or cross-listed courses.

Capstone Project or Honors Thesis (3 credits):
Students will either complete an honors thesis or take Sex and Gender in Public, a 1.5-unit course that meets once a week during both semesters of the senior year and that will result in a capstone project exploring gender and/or sexuality and politics broadly conceived.

Please note that 6 credits must be taken at the 400 level.

Additional Information
We strongly encourage and support students who wish to study abroad and will accept up to 9 credits from approved programs. Please contact Barbara Baumgartner, WGSS Study Abroad Supervisor (bbaumgar@wustl.edu), about this option.
Current students who wish to take courses at other universities during the summer may transfer up to 6 credit units. However, these credits cannot be used to fulfill the introductory, theory, or methods/service learning requirements.

Students transferring to Washington University who wish to complete a major in WGSS may transfer no more than 9 credits of WGSS course work taken elsewhere.

**Minors**

**The Minor in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies**

**Units required:** 18 units, 12 of which must be taken in courses numbered 300 or higher. All minor courses must be home-based or cross-listed in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (WGSS). All courses taken for the minor must be taken for a grade, and students must earn a grade of C- or higher.

We strongly encourage and support students who wish to study abroad and will accept up to 6 credits from approved programs. Please contact Barbara Baumgartner, WGSS Study Abroad Supervisor (bbbaumgar@wustl.edu), about this option.

**Required Courses**

Individual programs are designed in consultation with an adviser in light of each student's interests and abilities, major course of study, and plans for the future. All courses must be home-based or cross-listed in WGSS.

**Courses**


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L77 WGSS 100B Introduction to Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

This course will provide an introduction to the major and concepts in the interdisciplinary field of women, gender and sexuality studies. We will examine the meanings attached to terms such as "man," "woman," "gay," and "sex." Topics discussed may include the history of feminist movements, masculinity, biological frameworks for understanding gender, intimate violence, sexual identities, and intersectionality. In each section, five seats are reserved for first-year students and sophomores, four seats are for juniors, and five seats are for seniors. Note: Section 1 is reserved for first-year and sophomore students only. Attendance on the first day of class is mandatory to reserve class enrollment.

Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, SC, SD Arch: HUM Art: HUM BU: BA, HUM EN: H

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L77 WGSS 102 Women in Science: An Introduction

Throughout the centuries, women were interested and involved in the sciences. Their scientific contributions, however, have often been overlooked and their abilities questioned. The 2005 proposition by Harvard's President Larry Summers that women's innate differences explain why fewer women succeed in math and science suggests that women continue to face assumptions about their scientific competence. In addition to examining the history of women's participation in science, this class explores the continuing cultural and economic barriers to women interested in science. Starting with a historical overview of women in science, we look at the contributions of women scientists. We review the numbers of women in various fields with good representation, such as biology, and those with few women, such as physics and computer science. Like the prestigious journal Science, we also explore whether women do science differently. This course is restricted to Women in Science Ampersand Program participants.

Credit 1 unit. Art: HUM EN: H

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L77 WGSS 103 First-Year Seminar: Sex & Gender in the Gutter: An Introduction to Gender and Sexuality Studies Through Comics

This freshman seminar serves as an introduction to some of the history and concepts important in the field of gender and sexuality studies through graphic storytelling. Topics include the history of feminism in the United States, violence against girls and women, queer theory, intersectionality, and transnational feminism. Please be advised that while we will read comics — most of these texts are not for kids. We discuss traumatic issues and will look at some disturbing images. Please spend some looking at descriptions of the required texts and think about whether or not this class is for you.

Credit 3 units. A&S: FYS A&S IQ: HUM, SD Arch: HUM Art: HUM BU: BA EN: H

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L77 WGSS 1135 First-Year Seminar: The World of Cleopatra

Cleopatra, the last queen of ancient Egypt, captivated her contemporaries and has fascinated the Western world ever since her famous suicide by asp in 31 BCE. She was a woman of contrasts: Pharaoh of Egypt and Greco-Macedonian queen; seductive woman and shrewd political strategist; a ruthless monarch using every means available to consolidate her position in the face of the encroaching power of the Roman Empire. Through texts and material culture, the seminar seeks to understand Cleopatra in the context both of her native Egypt and of the wider Mediterranean world. We thus examine the traditions of Pharaonic Egypt; the historical events that brought Egypt under the control of the Macedonian Ptolemy (Cleopatra's dynasty); the wider stage of East-West tension and conquest in which Cleopatra struggled to maintain her power; her relationships (political and personal) with famous men of her day (Caesar, Herod, Mark Antony); her capital city of Alexandria, the largest metropolis of its day; Cleopatra's brilliant court and its luxury arts; and finally the many Cleopatras that have populated art and literature of later times. We emerge with a sense of Cleopatra, both as a unique individual and as a product of her time.

Same as L08 Classics 1135

Credit 3 units. A&S: FYS A&S IQ: HUM, LCD Art: CPSC BU: IS EN: H

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L77 WGSS 2001 Doctors and Terrorists: The Fictions of South Asian America

South Asians have always played an integral role in the culture, history and politics of the United States. However, for complex reasons, their presence has either been concealed, or dismissed through dangerous stereotypes, or just as inaccurately, excessively celebrated for proving the generosity of American
liberalism and multiculturalism. Racially misrecognized, this large and heterogeneous group has nonetheless shaped American categories of race, sexuality, and citizenship in intriguing and powerful ways. South Asian Americans have reached to fiction, music and popular culture to craft deeply intimate and original assessments of mainstream desires. In doing so they have sought to resist the dictates of whiteness, to question US imperialism, to garner acceptance and mobility, to build solidarity with other US minorities. In this course we learn about the complex history and cultural productions of South Asians in America. How did “South Asia” become a category of identification, and who benefitted from that designation? What role have South Asians played in the economic, cultural and global ascendance of the United States? How do South Asians connect with, and control, their countries of origin? Why do discourses of sex and intimacy rise to the surface in this history, and what is the significance of story-telling in building the archive and questioning the fiction of South Asian America? Course enrollment is limited to first-year and sophomore students. 

Same as L46 AAS 200
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, LCD, SC Arch: HUM Art: HUM BU: BA, HUM, IS EN: H

L77 WGSS 205 Introduction to Queer Studies
This course offers an introduction to the topics, questions, and approaches that characterize the rapidly growing field of lesbian/gay/bisexual/trans/queer studies. Using an interdisciplinary approach, we will explore such topics as the relation between gender and sexual identity, the history of same-sex relations, homophobia and heterosexism, queer cultures, and LGBTQ politics, particularly in the United States. Our focus will be on asking whether and how “LGBTQ” functions as a coherent category of analysis or identity, and we will pay particular attention to differences (of race, age, gender, sexual practice, class, national origin, temperament, and so on) that are contained within and that often disrupt that category. This course is not open to students who have taken L77 203 or L77 3031.

Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, SC, SD Art: HUM BU: BA EN: H

L77 WGSS 206 Sexuality and the State: Introduction to Sexuality Studies
Taking Michel Foucault's idea of biopolitics as a starting point, this course examines the ways in which sexuality has been produced and regulated by the state. Drawing on history, theory, and literature, we will look at contemporary examples of the relationship between the state and sexuality. What assumptions lie behind our ideas of sexuality? How are bodies linked by the prevailing logic of sexuality? How does sexuality inform the way that we see bodies as gendered, raced, or able-bodied? In addition to looking at the relationship between sexuality and capitalism, religion, and nation, this course asks how these ideas are embodied in particular raced and gendered ideologies.

Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, SC, SD Arch: HUM Art: HUM BU: BA EN: H

L77 WGSS 207 Constructions of Black Womanhood and Manhood in the Black Community
This course introduces students to everyday and representational experiences of Black women and men. We will explore different understandings of Black gender through engaging scholarly work and creative texts/performances/visual representations. How is the construction of gender informed by race and other categories of difference (e.g., sexuality, class)?
Same as L36 Ital 280
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, LCD

L77 WGSS 299 Independent Study: Internships
This course number is to be used for internships only.
Credit variable, maximum 3 units.

L77 WGSS 2991 Undergraduate Teaching Assistant
In this course an advanced undergraduate can assist a faculty member in the teaching of an introductory-level Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies course. Students can enroll in one course only after having obtained permission from a faculty member who is willing to supervise. Students do not engage in any grading but may serve in a variety of other capacities — as discussion leaders, in providing logistical support, or in otherwise assisting with the transmission of course material.
Credit variable, maximum 3 units.

L77 WGSS 3002 Feminist Fire!: Radical Black Women in the 20th Century
Black women have been at the forefront of the Black radical tradition since its inception. Often marginalized in both the scholarship and popular memory, there exist a long unbroken chain of women who have organized around the principles of anti-sexism, anti-racism, and anti-capitalism. Frequently critical of heterosexist projects as well, these women have been the primary force driving the segment of the Black radical tradition that is commonly referred to as Black Feminism. Remaining cognizant of the fact that Black Feminist thought has also flourished as an academic enterprise-complete with its own theoretical interventions (ie. standpoint theory, intersectionality, dissemblance, etc.) and competing scholarly agendas-this course will think through the project of Black Feminism as a social movement driven by activism and vigorous political action for social change. Focusing on grassroots efforts at organizing, movement building, consciousness raising, policy reform, and political mobilization, Feminist Fire will center Black Feminists who explicitly embraced a critical posture towards capitalism as an untenable social order. We will prioritize the life and thought of 20th century women like Claudia Jones, Queen Mother Audley Moore, Frances Beal, Barbara Smith, Audre Lorde, Angela Davis and organizations like the Combahee River Collective, Chicago's Black Women's Committee, and the Third World Women’s Alliance. At its core, the course aims to bring the social movement history back into the discourse around Black Feminism.
Same as L90 AFAS 3002
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, SC, SD Arch: HUM Art: HUM BU: BA EN: H

L77 WGSS 3003 Writing Intensive in Ancient Studies:
Golden Ages, Nostalgia, and the Idealized Past
This is a Writing Intensive Course. Study of selected topics in Classics. Recent topics include: FL21 The Banquet in Antiquity; SP21 The Art of Reading and Writing an Ancient Greek Vase; and SP19 Golden Ages, Nostalgia, and the Idealized Past.
Same as L08 Classics 3003
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, LCD, WI Arch: HUM Art: HUM EN: H

L77 WGSS 3012 Gender and Politics
This course surveys central topics in the study of gender and politics, covering such issues as women’s participation in political parties and social movements, women as voters and candidates in political elections, feminism and the state, and gender and international politics. It will draw on examples from various world regions and time periods to analyze similarities and differences across cases around the globe.
Same as L32 Pol Sci 3010
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC Arch: SSC Art: SSC BU: BA EN: S

L77 WGSS 3013 On Love and Intimacy: Theorizing Kinship in the Multiple
Love and intimacy are terms that have a lot of cultural cache. In this course, we analyze the ways in which intimacy has been embedded within certain discourses of privacy, rights and individuality. In addition to the couple form, we examine friendship, celibacy, therapy and relationships people form with pets and with objects to flesh out intimacy’s multiplicities to see how these forces impact these affective tides. This course brings together history, critical theory and film to think through various expressions of intimacy and what it means to relate to the other. Prerequisites: any 100- or 200-level Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies course or permission from the instructor.
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, SC, SD Art: HUM BU: BA, ETH EN: H

L77 WGSS 3014 Queering Citizenship
"Queering Citizenship" explores the fundamental question: is queer citizenship possible? The contestation of citizenship in the U.S. and transnationally makes this question unavoidable for queer and feminist scholars. Provincializing European political history and Western liberal democracy, students will use queer theory to consider the costs of exclusion from, as well as inclusion in, citizenship. We will consider how 'queerness' as a concept and queer theory as a method of analysis can inform our understanding of nationalism, democratic formations, citizenship, transnational labor flows, colonialism and capitalism. Students will also get at questions of the cultural specificity of queer’s anti-normative critique. Topics of discussion include the ways gender and sexuality constitute the role of the citizen; the relationship between citizenship and labor; how citizenship is "performed"; grassroots organizing through alternative citizenships; the politics of transgender recognition; homonationalism; and queer complicity in settler colonial state violence and the ascendency of global whiteness. We will also examine case studies of queer politics to compare different constructions of gender/sexuality/race across citizenship regimes. By the end of the course, students will be able to evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of citizenship regimes on multiple continents and identify political alternatives to existing, state-centric solutions to violence and marginalization. Pre-Requisite: L77 100B or consent of instructor.
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: LCD, SSC, SD Arch: SSC Art: SSC BU: BA EN: S

L77 WGSS 303 Gender and Education
An examination, through the lens of gender, of educational practices at the preprimary, primary, secondary, and higher education levels. A sociological and historical approach links gender discrimination in education to other forms of
discrimination as well as social forces. Students' own gender-related educational experiences are analyzed in the context of the literature used in the course. Prerequisite: sophomore standing, or permission of instructor.
Same as L12 Educ 303
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC, SD Art: SSC BU: BA EN: S

L77 WGSS 3031 Queer Theory
This course provides students with an interdisciplinary examination of the history, politics, and cultural expressions of gay and lesbian communities in American culture. It explores the ways lesbians, gay men, and bisexual and transgender people construct, participate in, and resist various constructions of gender and sexuality. We question desire and social/cultural power, the nature and power of social change, and so on. Particular attention is paid to examining the roots and effects of heterosexism and homophobia, the call for hate crime legislation, the ethics of "outing" and "passing," the impact of AIDS, partnership recognition, and domestic violence in LGBT communities. Throughout the course, students are encouraged to examine the intersections of gender, race, ethnicity, and social class with sexual orientation.
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, SD Arch: HUM Art: HUM BU: BA EN: H

L77 WGSS 3041 Making Sex and Gender: Understanding the History of the Body
This course provides an overview of the history of the body from antiquity to modern times using an interdisciplinary approach. By exploring selections from medical texts, literature, fashion, art, accounts of "new world" exploration, legal records, self-help books and contemporary media representations of human bodies, we consider the changing historical perception of the body. The intersection of gender, race and class factor significantly in our discussions of how the body has been construed historically and how it is currently being constructed in contemporary American culture. This course also provides an introduction to feminist/gender methodologies that apply to understanding the history of the body. This course is not open to students who have taken WGSS 204. Prerequisite: any 100- or 200-level WGSS course or permission of instructor.
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, SD Arch: HUM Art: HUM BU: BA EN: H

L77 WGSS 305A Literature and Consent
Same as L14 E Lit 305
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, SC, SD Arch: HUM Art: HUM BU: BA EN: H

L77 WGSS 308 Masculinities
This course critically examines the subject of masculinity through a number of themes including history, society, politics, race, gender, sexuality, art and popular culture. Interdisciplinary readings are drawn from the fields of sociology, anthropology, literature, history, art history and cultural studies. We will examine the challenges presented to "masculinity" (and a variety of responses) by the late 20th-century emergency of gender studies. Our goal is to come to a working definition of masculinity/ies and gain an understanding of some past, current and possible future masculine behaviors, mythologies, ideologies, experiences and identities. Previous course work in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies strongly recommended but not required. Attendance mandatory first day in order to reserve your class enrollment.
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC, SD Arch: SSC Art: SSC BU: BA EN: S

L77 WGSS 310 From Hysteria to Hysterectomy: Women's Health Care in America
This course examines issues surrounding women's health care in America. While the scope is broad, the major emphasis will be on the 19th and 20th centuries. Through an examination of popular writing, scientific/medical writing, letters, diaries and fiction, we will look at the changing perceptions and conceptions of women's bodies and health in America.
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC Arch: SSC Art: SSC BU: BA EN: S

L77 WGSS 3101 An Intellectual History of Sex and Gender
When did sexuality begin? Is it safe to assume that gender constructions are universal and timeless? In this course, we will engage with a broad range of readings that serve as primary texts in the history of sexuality and gender. Our aims are threefold: (1) to analyze the literary evidence we have for sexuality and gender identity in Western culture; (2) to survey modern scholarly approaches to those same texts; and (3) to consider the ways in which these modern theoretical frameworks have become the most recent set of primary texts on sexuality and gender.
Same as L93 IPH 310
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, LCD, SC, SD Arch: HUM Art: HUM BU: BA EN: H

L77 WGSS 3103 Sex and Money: Economies of Desire
This interdisciplinary course explores the connections between sexuality and money. First, we investigate the role of money in sexual life that appears to exist outside of the market. How does heterosexuality reproduce capitalism, and are there sexual formations that escape capitalism's reach? Can there be meaningful consent so long as there is rent to pay? How do economics, race, and colonialism shape desire? What is the role of money in dating and marriage, and should these be understood as forms of legalized prostitution, as Marxist feminists and sex workers have long suggested? Next, we turn to sex work to explore how explicit economic exchange shapes sexuality. What power dynamics does money engender, and how do sex workers navigate and subvert them? Is sex work merely an extension of the "work we do as women," as sex worker activists wrote in a 1977 manifesto? Finally, we close with the question of whether women have better sex under socialism. What economic systems make way for sexual liberation, and how might projects for economic justice center demands for better sexual futures?
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC, SC Arch: SSC, SSP Art: SSC BU: BA EN: S

L77 WGSS 3121 Topics in American Literature: Girls' Fiction
Topic varies. Writing intensive.
Same as L14 E Lit 318W
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, WI Arch: HUM Art: HUM BU: HUM EN: H
L77 WGSS 312W Topics in American and English Literature: 30 Years of Queer
Same as L14 E Lit 312W
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, WI Arch: HUM Art: HUM BU: HUM EN: H

L77 WGSS 3130 Sexuality in Early Christianity
What did Jesus of Nazareth and his early followers teach about sexuality in terms of marriage, adultery, divorce, the virtues of procreation and celibacy, same-sex relationships, and erotic desire? How and why did ancient Christians take different stances on these issues, and how do these traditions continue to inform sexual ethics and gender roles today? In this course, we will study these questions by examining key passages from the teachings of Jesus in the Gospels, Paul’s letters, writings of early church leaders, martyr propaganda, monastic literature, and apocryphal books deemed heretical. We will also consider the interpretations of contemporary historians of religion informed by recent trends in sexuality and gender theories.
Same as L23 Re St 3130
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, LDC, SC, SD Arch: HUM Art: HUM BU: BA, ETH EN: H

L77 WGSS 3132 Service Learning: Girls’ Studies
2012 marks the 100th anniversary of Girl Scouts of America, an organization that has played a significant role in defining what it means to be a girl in American culture. This class will look back at girlhood over the last hundred years to today by exploring topics that include literature for girls, the education of girls, sports and girlhood, marketing to girls, girls’ health and sexuality, and, of course, the history of organizations for girls in the U.S. and abroad. This course introduces students to the emerging field of Girls Studies within the field of Feminist/ Gender Studies research. Because the course builds upon basic knowledge of women’s movements in the United States and builds upon an understanding of core women and gender studies readings, students must take Introduction to Women and Gender Studies or Introduction to Sexuality Studies before enrolling in this course. This course includes a field work component in addition to regular course meetings. Prerequisite: Any 100 level Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies course.
Credit 4 units. A&S IQ: HUM, SC, SD BU: BA EN: H

L77 WGSS 3133 Service Learning: Feminist and Queer Youth Studies
Categorizing life experience into childhood and adolescence is a relatively new construct. The first part of the course will examine how the categories of early childhood and adolescent development in social and medical discourses. The remainder of the course encourages students to draw connections between Feminist and Queer theoretical scholarship on children, and the practice of designing and implementing programming for children. Students will examine the relationship between the course readings and their experience working with various agencies in St. Louis. Important Note: This is a service-learning class, which means it combines classroom learning with outside work at a community organization. In addition to regular class time, there is a service requirement, which will necessitate an additional 4-5 hours a week. Before beginning community service, students must complete required training and submit material for a background check. Prerequisite: Introduction to Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (L77 100B); CET (https://gephardtinstitute.wustl.edu/or-faculty-and-staff/community-engaged-teaching/) course.

L77 WGSS 313A Topics in English Literature: Asian American Fictions: Space, Place, & the Makings of Asian America
Called the “Age of Revolution,” the Romantic Age of British literature, 1770-1830, witnessed the birth of new lyric forms, the effacement of traditional strictures on style and taste, and produced through poetic voice (and its quaverings and multiplications) what might be called, oversimply, the modern subject. Within a developing discourse of human rights and personal freedom, this growing assertion through poetry of individual expressivity allowed William Blake to construct in a single work a visual and verbal “Jerusalem.” It encouraged William Wordsworth to write a pathbreaking investigation of the sources of his own creativity that challenged conventional restraints on what topics can, and cannot, be confessed in poetry. Beginning with these two poets, we consider the historical contexts, and the sometimes competing histories of ideas, that shaped the five major British Romantic poets: Blake, Wordsworth, Samuel Taylor Coleridge, Lord Byron, and John Keats. We follow an anthology for much of the poetry, including the poems and prose of influential contemporaries (female as well as male) who included the political philosopher Edmund Burke and Mary Wollstonecraft. Texts assigned also include Mary Shelley’s Frankenstein and Byron’s Don Juan.
Same as L14 E Lit 313
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM Arch: HUM Art: HUM BU: HUM EN: H

L77 WGSS 3141 The Racial and Sexual Politics of Public Health
Race and sexuality have long been concerns of public health. From hygienic campaigns against Mexican immigrants in early-1900s California to the 1991 quarantine of Haitian refugees with HIV at Guantanamo Bay, race and sexuality have proven crucial to how society identifies health and, by extension, determines who is fit to be a citizen. This interdisciplinary course interrogates the intersections of race, sexuality, and medicine, discussing how each domain has been constitutive of the other in the American context. Via feminist and queer theorizing, we will examine the political and economic factors under which diseases, illnesses, and health campaigns have impacted racial and sexual minorities over the last two centuries. An orienting question for the course is the following: How has the state wielded public health as a regulatory site to legitimize perceived racial differences and to regulate ostensible sexual deviations? Through primary and secondary sources, we will likewise explore the various forms of “health activism” undertaken by these very same targeted populations. Themes to be addressed will include the medicalization of racial and sexual difference; activism both in and against health institutions; and the roles of race, class, gender, sexuality, and disability in contemporary health issues. Case studies include the Tuskegee syphilis experiment; the sterilization of black, Mexican, Puerto Rican, and Native American women; the medicalization of homosexuality during the Cold War; and the role of mass incarceration in the diffusion of HIV. At a moment in time when access to health continues to be shaped by categories of social difference, understanding the role of public health in the normalization and subversion of racial and sexual hierarchies in the West is more pertinent than ever.
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC, SC, BU: BA EN: S
L77 WGSS 3152 Sex and Gender in Greco-Roman Antiquity
Ideas about sex and gender have not remained stable over time. The ancient Greeks and Romans had their own ideas — ideas that strike us today as both deeply alien and strikingly familiar. This course will consider questions such as: What constituted “normal” sex for the Greeks and for the Romans? What sex acts did they consider to be problematic or illicit, and why? What traits did the Greeks and Romans associate with masculinity? With femininity? How did society treat those who did not quite fit into those categories? How did peoples of the ancient world respond to same-sex and other-sex relationships, and was there an ancient concept of “sexuality”? How did issues of class, ethnicity and age interact with and shape these concepts? How does an understanding of these issues change the way we think about sex and gender today? We will read an array of ancient texts in translation, consider various theoretical viewpoints, and move toward an understanding of what sex and gender meant in the ancient world.
Same as L08 Classics 3152
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, LCD, SC, SD Art: HUM BU: BA EN: H

L77 WGSS 3153 The Women of Greek Tragedy
This course examines the role of women in Athenian drama. Students will read English translations of the works of the three major tragedians — Aeschylus, Sophocles, and Euripides — and their near contemporary, the comedian Aristophanes. Direct engagement with ancient texts will encourage students to develop their own interpretations of and written responses to the political, social, and ethical manipulation that these mythical women were compelled to endure and the subtle ways in which they appear to exercise power themselves. Selected scholarly articles and book chapters will help students to contextualize these ancient dramas in their culture of origin. Because such issues continue to preoccupy both sexes today, students will see how Greek tragedy addresses perennial historical and cultural concerns through the examination of adaptations of Greek tragedies ranging from Seneca in ancient Rome to Spike Lee’s “Chi-Raq” and Luis Alfaro’s “Mojada: A Medea in Los Angeles.” The final research paper will encourage students to consider how a specific female character from antiquity is transformed for a “modern” dramatic audience.
Same as L08 Classics 3153
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, WI Arch: HUM Art: HUM BU: HUM EN: H

L77 WGSS 316 Contemporary Women’s Health
We identify and study a broad range of health issues that are either unique to women or of special importance to women. The roles that women play as both providers and consumers of health care in the United States will be examined. The interface of gender, race, and class and their impact on an individual’s access to and experience in the health care system will be central concerns. Topics are wide-ranging and include discussions of breast cancer, mental health, cardiovascular disease in women, women and eating (from anorexia to obesity), reproductive issues (from menstruation to fertility to menopause), as well as the politics of women’s health, gender differences in health status, the effect of employment on health, the history of women’s health research.
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC, SC, SD Arch: SSC Art: SSC BU: BA EN: S

L77 WGSS 3171 Service Learning: Women and Prison
Since President Reagan declared the war on drugs in the 1980s, the numbers of women in prison have increased dramatically. Due to mandatory minimum sentencing requirements and increasingly harsh sentences for nonviolent offenses, the U.S. prison population has swelled to unprecedented numbers over the last few decades. While women are the fastest growing population in prison, men still make up the vast majority of prisoners, and the system is largely geared toward men and their needs. In this course, we will explore the historical treatment of and contemporary issues for women and girls who get caught up in the criminal justice system. Through readings, films, reflective writings, and facility tours, we will explore the impact of incarceration on women and their families. While our scope will be national, we will focus on the corrections system in Missouri. Note: This is a service-learning class, which means it combines classroom learning with outside work at a community organization. In addition to regular class time, there is a service requirement that will necessitate an additional four to five hours per week. There are several organizations with which we are partnering, and students will be assigned to one of these groups to work with for the entire semester. Moreover, there is a required all-day field trip to visit the women’s prison in Vandalia, Mo., and the men’s prison in Bowling Green, Mo. If students cannot commit to these out-of-class obligations, which are required to pass the course, they should not register for the class. Prerequisite: Intro to Women and Gender Studies or Intro to Sexuality Studies. Juniors and seniors only.
Credit 4 units. A&S IQ: SSC, SC, SD Arch: SSC Art: SSC BU: BA EN: S

L77 WGSS 3172 Queer Histories
Queer history is a profoundly political project. Scholars and activists use queer histories to assert theories of identity formation, build communities and advance a vision of the meanings of sexuality in modern life and the place of queer people in national communities. This history of alternative sexual identities is narrated in a variety of settings — the internet as well as the academy, art and film as well as the streets — and draws upon numerous disciplines, including anthropology, geography, sociology, oral history, fiction and memoir, as well as history. This discussion-based course examines the sites and genres of queer history, with particular attention to moments of contestation and debate about its contours and meanings.
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, SC, SD BU: BA EN: H

L77 WGSS 3173 Service Learning: Documenting the Queer Past in St. Louis
Around the U.S. and the world, grassroots LGBTQ history projects investigate the queer past as a means of honoring the courage of those who have come before, creating a sense of community today, and understanding the exclusions and divisions that shaped their communities and continue to limit them. In this course, we participate in this national project of history-making by helping to excavate the queer past in the greater St. Louis region. Course readings will focus on the ways that sexual identities and communities in the United States have been shaped by urban settings since the late 19th century, with particular attention to the ways that race, class and gender have structured queer spaces and communities. In their community service project, students will work with local LGBTQ groups, including the St. Louis LGBT History Project, to research St. Louis’s queer past. Each student will also conduct an oral history interview with an LGBTQ community member.
Important Note: This is a service-learning class, which means it
combines classroom learning with outside work at a community organization. In addition to regular class time, there is a service requirement, which necessitates an additional 3-5 hours a week. Before beginning community service, students must complete required training. Prerequisite: Introduction to Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies or Introduction to Queer Studies, or permission of instructor. CET (https://gephardtinstitute.wustl.edu/for-faculty-and-staff/community-engaged-teaching/) course.
Credit: 4 units. A&S IQ: HUM, SC, SD Arch: HUM Art: HUM BU: BA EN: H

L77 WGSS 3181 Gender, Sexuality and Power in Brazil
This course examines the nexus of gender, sexuality, and power in Brazil through an interdisciplinary lens. We will aim to understand how varying understandings of gender and sexuality have impacted the development of Brazilian society in history and continue to shape contemporary society and politics. We will pay special attention to the ways in which the intersections of race, gender, sexuality, class, ethnicity, and so on impact people's lived experiences and how heteronormativity and homophobia shape current politics. We will take an intersectional feminist approach to analyze topics such as slavery in colonial Brazil, national aspirations to modernity, authoritarian repression and "moral panics," domestic labor, motherhood, sex tourism, Brazilian feminisms, and LGBTQ+ activism. Scholarly work from various fields of study — with an emphasis on gender studies, history, and anthropology — will be supplemented by documentaries, film, podcasts, and other media. This is a Writing Intensive and a Social Contrasts class in the IQ curriculum.
Prerequisite: L45 165D, or two courses on Latin American or Women and Gender Studies, or permission of instructor.
Same as L45 LatAm 319
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, LCD, SC, WI Arch: HUM Art: HUM BU: BA, IS

L77 WGSS 318A Topics in American Literature
Same as L14 E Lit 318
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM Art: HUM BU: HUM EN: H

L77 WGSS 3191 Contemporary American Women Poets
An introduction to the work of contemporary American poets who are women; extensive reading of both poetry and prose. Readings include the work of poets such as Bishop, Rich, Plath, Sexton, Clampitt, Gluck, Moss, Graham, Howe, Dove, Oliver, Forche, Lauterbach.
Same as L14 E Lit 3191
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM Art: HUM BU: HUM

L77 WGSS 319A The Body in Brazil: Race, Representation, Ontologies
This course is an introduction to various ways of understanding, representing, and performing the body in Brazil. Course materials will draw on insights from anthropology, the medical humanities, and science and technology studies in order to approach the body not just as biological material but also in its social, cultural, and spiritual dimensions. We will cover topics such as the importance of race and ethnicity since the time of colonization, sexualized media representations of gendered bodies, how some bodies are cast as disposable or "out of place" in contexts of social inequality, indigenous ways of viewing the body in relation to the natural and spiritual world, the politics of disability and access, and constructions of the "body politic" in the formation of national identity through ideas such as "antropofagia" (cultural cannibalism). Throughout, we will pay particular attention to how race, gender, sexuality, and disability shape the lived experiences of Brazilians. Topics will include the impact of slavery in the construction of the body in Brazil, the role played by race in the construction of discourses of corporeality, and the development of beauty stereotypes and practices such as the medical industry of plastic surgery, among others. Students will analyze visual materials, ethnographies, historical texts, and internet sources in dialogue with critical theories from the social sciences and humanities, assessing how the body "matters" in a variety of ways that reflect Brazil's cultural diversity while also starkly highlighting its persistent racialized and gendered social inequalities. These materials will form the basis of our class discussions and written assignments. The course will be taught in English.
Prerequisite: L45 165D, L45 304, or another course on Latin America suggested.
Same as L45 LatAm 319
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, LCD, SC BU: HUM, IS

L77 WGSS 3203 Bodies Out of Bounds: Feminist and Queer Disability Studies
For many, "disability" seems like a concept with a relatively stable definition and a fairly straightforward relationship to questions of health and well-being. But in the past few decades, scholars and activists have begun to challenge the notion that disability is a tragedy to be medically prevented or inspirationally "overcome." These scholars have instead focused their attention on the social aspects of disability; how it came to be constructed as a category of identity, the physical and institutional barriers that have excluded disabled people from public life, and the distortion of disabled lives within the mainstream representation. More recently, writers have turned their attention to the way disability has been defined through norms of race, gender, and sexuality. These intersections will be the focus of this course. From the diagnoses of hysteria to debates over selective abortion and the recent proliferation of breast cancer memoirs, we will consider how the politics of disability has both complemented and complicated the usual goals of feminism.
We will also explore some of the ways that disability studies as a discipline has redefined and in turn been shaped by the fields of queer theory, masculinity studies, and critical race theory. We will consider how deviant genders have been the target of medicalization, the relationship between "corrective surgery" and compulsory gendering, the desexualization and hypersexualization of disabled bodies, and the role that medicine has played in justifying colonial conquest and perpetuating racial inequalities. Prerequisite: any 100- or 200-level Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies course.
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM Art: HUM BU: BA EN: H

L77 WGSS 3206 Global Gender Issues
This course compares the life experiences of women and men in societies throughout the world. We discuss the evidence regarding the universal subordination of women, and examine explanations that propose to situate women's and men's personality attributes, roles and responsibilities in the biological or cultural domains. In general, through readings, films and lectures, the class provides a cross-cultural perspective on ideas regarding gender and how gendered meanings, practices, performances serve to structure principles in society.
Same as L48 Anthro 3206
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: LCD, SSC Art: SSC BU: BA, IS EN: S
L77 WGSS 3211 American Religion, Gender, and Sexuality
Religious beliefs about gender and sexuality have long played a vital role in American politics, vividly evident in debates over such issues as birth control, pornography, funding for AIDS research, abstinence-only sex education, sexual harassment, same-sex marriage, abortion, and more. Educated citizens need to understand the impact of these religiously inflected debates on our political culture. This course explores the centrality of sex to religion and politics in the U.S., emphasizing Christianity (both Protestant and Catholic forms) and its weighty social and political role regulating the behavior of adults and children as well as its uses in legal and judicial decisions. Alongside scholarly readings in gender and sexuality, we will discuss popular devotional texts on gender and sexuality with a political bent. Students will leave the course able to analyze how religious beliefs about sex shape specific gender norms central to U.S. politics and the law.
Same as L57 ReilPol 321
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, SC, SD Arch: HUM Art: HUM BU: ETH EN: H

L77 WGSS 3221 Girls’ Media and Popular Culture
This course will analyze girls as cultural consumers, mediated representations, cultural producers, and subjects of social anxiety. Readings will cover a range of media that have historically been associated with girlhood, including not only film, television, and digital media but also dolls, magazines, literature, and music. We will explore what role these media texts and technologies have had in the socialization of girls, the construction of their gendered identities, and the attempts at regulation of their behavior, sexuality, and appearance. Although the course will focus on girlhood media since the 1940s, we will consider how constructions of girlhood identity have changed over time and interrogate how girlhood identity intersects with race, sexuality, and class. The course will examine important debates and tensions arising in relation to girls’ media. We will evaluate concerns and moral panics about girls and their relationship to or perceived overinvestment in media and compare and contrast this with accounts of girls as active media consumers and producers. We will critically analyze how girls have been understood to negotiate agency in relation to commercialized culture — how they have been represented as wielders of "girl power," as passive or active consumers, as fans, and as media producers themselves. We will also analyze attempts to intervene in girls' media and popular culture and consider how these interventions have attempted to empower, inspire, or regulate girls or how they have worked to reinforce or challenge gendered understandings of childhood.
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC, SC, SD Arch: SSC Art: SSC BU: BA EN: S

L77 WGSS 323 Selected American Writers: James Baldwin Now
Intensive study of one or more American writers. Consult course listings for offerings in any given semester.
Same as L14 E Lit 323
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM Arch: HUM Art: HUM BU: HUM EN: H

L77 WGSS 323A Sex Trafficking
Sex trafficking is a complex social problem with multiple contributing factors that are largely rooted in intersecting inequities. Both in the United States and on a global level, interrelated inequalities in gender, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, power, class, opportunity, education, culture, politics, and race are among the social phenomena that contribute to sex trafficking/CSE victimization. In this course, we will examine the dynamics of sex trafficking on a local and global level from various feminist and political perspectives, with particular attention given to the sexed and gendered social and structural conditions that affect sex trafficking. This course will cover the extent and nature of the problem as well as current debates in the field, including demand, prevalence, experiences of survivors, types of sex trafficking, methods of traffickers, the role of weak social institutions, cultural dynamics, and global power dynamics. The course will also examine international, federal, and state legislation as well as organizational and grassroots efforts to prevent and respond to sex trafficking victimization. The aim of this course is to provide students with a holistic understanding of sex trafficking that is drawn from interdisciplinary sources and a variety of perspectives.
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC, SC, SD Arch: SSC Art: SSC BU: BA EN: S UCoII: CD

L77 WGSS 328 Sexuality in Africa
An examination of various themes of African sexuality, including courtship, marriage, circumcision, STDs and AIDS, polygamy, homosexuality, child marriages, and the status of women.
Course materials include ethnographic and historical material, African novels and films, and U.S. mass media productions. Using sexuality as a window of analysis, students are exposed to a broad range of social science perspectives such as functionalist, historical, feminist, social constructionist, Marxist and postmodern.
Same as L90 AFAS 3282
Credit 3 units. Art: SSC BU: BA

L77 WGSS 330 German Literature II: Words & Works of Women
Credit 3 units.

L77 WGSS 330A Native American/Euro-American Encounters: Confrontations of Bodies and Beliefs
This course surveys the history and historiography of how Native Americans, Europeans and Euro-Americans reacted and adapted to one another's presence in North America from the 1600s to the mid-1800s, focusing on themes of religion and gender. We will examine the cultural and social implications of encounters between Native peoples, missionaries and other European and Euro-American Protestants and Catholics. We will pay particular attention to how bodies were a venue for encounter — through sexual contact, through the policing of gendered social and economic behaviors, and through religiously-based understandings of women's and men's duties and functions. We will also study how historians know what they know about these encounters, and what materials enable them to answer their historical questions.
Same as L57 ReilPol 330
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, LCD, SC, SD Arch: HUM Art: HUM EN: H

L77 WGSS 330S Topics in Gender and American Culture
This topics course introduces students to gender as a category of analysis. Students investigate why and how gender becomes infused with cultural meanings. Through various methodological approaches, they explore how these socially constructed meanings shape Americans’ everyday lives and societal dynamics more broadly. The topic varies by semester; common
focal points include the intersection of gender with race and ethnicity, social class, health care, education, and politics. This course fulfills the Social Differential requirement. Please see the course listings for a description of the current offering.
Same as L98 AMCS 330S
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, SD Arch: HUM Art; HUM BU: BA

L77 WGSS 3312 Topics in Politics
Credit 3 units.

L77 WGSS 3313 Topics in Gender & Religion
This course examines the ways in which issues pertaining to gender are salient in U.S. politics. The course is divided into four parts. First, we will examine theoretical approaches to the study of gender and politics, including the use of gender as an analytical category, and the relationship between gender, race, ethnicity and power. Second, we will study gender-based social movements, including the suffrage and women's rights movements, women's participation in the civil rights movement, the contemporary feminist and anti-feminist movements, the gay rights/queer movement and the women's peace movement. Third, we will examine the role of gender in the electoral arena, in terms of how it affects voting, running for office and being in office. Finally, we will examine contemporary debates about public policy issues, including the integration of women and gays in the military, sexual harassment, pornography and equal rights.
Same as L32 Pol Sci 331B
Credit 3 units. BU: BA; ETH

L77 WGSS 335 Feminist Theory
This course begins by examining the 19th- and early 20th-century historical context out of which contemporary feminist theory emerged. We then turn to the 1960s and the emergence of the "Second Wave" of feminism. We focus on some of the major theories that developed during the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s and the conflicts and internal problems these theories generated. We then examine some of the ways these problems were resolved in feminist theory of the 1990s. The last part of the course focuses on topics of concern to contemporary feminists — such as the family, sexuality and globalism — and the contributions feminist theory brings to these topics. Open to graduate students by enrolling in L77 WS 500; contact the Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies office for details.
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, SC, SD Art; HUM BU: BA EN: H

L77 WGSS 337 Women's Literature: Before Thelma and Louise: American Women’s Adventure Stories
American literature is filled with adventurers and adventure stories. Some of the most exciting tales were written by women. Their adventures include Mary Rowlandson’s autobiography of her capture by and life with the Indians, E.D.E.N. Southworth’s story of a 19th-century heroine who rescues imprisoned maidens and fights duels, and Octavia Butler’s science fiction account of a 20th-century black woman who is transported back through time to an antebellum plantation. Until recently, American women authors and their stories were largely dismissed because they were perceived to focus on domestic concerns, which were seen as narrow and trivial. But the works of many women authors are far different from sentimental domestic fiction. In addition to looking closely at the historical and cultural conditions in which the narratives were written, we examine the ways in which these writers conform to and rebel against cultural prescriptions about femininity. Finally, we read some contemporary and current criticism about these works and American women's writing and discuss the politics of canon formation. Tentative Reading List: Mary Rowlandson, The Captivity and Restoration in Mrs. Mary Rowlandson (1822); The Journal of Madam Knight (1704); Catharine Maria Sedgwick, Hope Leslie (1827); E.D.E.N. Southworth, The Hidden Hand (1858); Zora Neale Hurston, Their Eyes Were Watching God (1937); Octavia Butler, Kindred (1979); Paule Marshall, Praisesong for the Widow (1983).
Writing-intensive.
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, SD, WI Art: HUM BU: HUM EN: H

L77 WGSS 338 Women and Technology
Examination of the effect of technology on women's lives and the power of technology from a feminist perspective. Focuses primarily on three areas: the effects of technology on women's experience in domestic and occupational settings, (e.g., housework technologies, the feminization of office work); the effects of reproductive technology on women, including artificial insemination, in-vitro fertilization, surrogate "motherhood," and fetal sex selection; the effects of current and future technologies on the concepts of gender, sex, and relationships, including sex change/gender reassignment operations and prosthetics.
Prerequisite: one course in women's studies, social thought and analysis, or philosophy, or permission of instructor.
Credit 3 units.

L77 WGSS 340 Israeli Women Writers
Study of selected novels and shorter fiction by women. Attention to the texts as women’s writing and as products of Israeli literature. No knowledge of Hebrew necessary; all readings in English translation.
Same as L74 HBRW 340
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, LCD, SC, SD, WI Arch: HUM, HUM Art: HUM BU: HUM BU: HUM EN: H

L77 WGSS 3401 Performing Gender
This course investigates an array of contemporary performances to explore manifestations of and challenges to gender norms in American culture. An initial reading of crucial performance theorists, such as Judith Butler, Jill Dolan and others help set the stage for our examination of a diverse collection of contemporary texts, including plays, solo performances, stand-up comedy and pop culture phenomenon. We raise questions about feminist performance strategies, butch/femme performance, camp, cross-dressing, feminist spectatorship, multimedia performances and the representation of lesbian desire. Prerequisite: any 100-level WGSS course.
Same as L15 Drama 3301
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, SD BU: BA EN: H

L77 WGSS 341 Constructing Masculinities
The course will demonstrate the social construction of masculinities and men’s lives in specific social and historical circumstances in Europe and America. Attention to various disciplines’ contributions to the study of masculinities. Prerequisite: either WS100B or WS208B or permission of instructor.
Credit 3 units. BU: BA

L77 WGSS 3410 Gender in Society
This course acts as an introduction to the sociological study of gender. The primary focus of the course will be on U.S. society, but we will also discuss gender in an international context. From the moment of birth, boys and girls are treated
differently. Gender structures the experiences of people in all major social institutions, including the family, the workplace, and schools. Students will explore how gender impacts lives and life chances. The central themes of the course are historical changes in gender beliefs and practices; socialization practices that reproduce gender identities; how race/ethnicity, class, and sexuality shape the experience of gender; and the relationship between gender, power, and social inequality. Prerequisite: successful completion of an introductory Sociology course or consent of the instructor.

Same as L40 SOC 3410
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC, SC, SD Arch: SSC Art: SSC BU: BA EN: S

L77 WGSS 3416 War, Genocide and Gender in Modern Europe
This course explores the way in which gender and gender relations shaped and were shaped by war and genocide in 20th-century Europe. The course approaches the subject from various vantage points, including economic, social and cultural history, and draws on comparisons between different regions. Topics covered will include: new wartime tasks for women; soldiers' treatment of civilians under occupation, including sexual violence; how combatants dealt with fear, injury and the loss of comrades; masculine attributes of soldiers and officers of different nations and in different wartime roles; survival strategies and the relation to expectations with regard to people’s (perceived) gender identity; the meanings of patriotism for women and men during war; and gender specific experiences of genocide.

Same as L22 History 3416
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, LCD, SC, SD Arch: HUM Art: HUM BU: HUM, IS EN: H

L77 WGSS 343 Understanding the Evidence: Provocative Topics of Contemporary Women's Health and Reproduction
Contemporary topics of women's health and reproduction are used as vehicles to introduce the student to the world of evidence-based data acquisition. Selected topics span and cross a multitude of contemporary boundaries. Issues evoke moral, ethical, religious, cultural, political and medical foundations of thought. The student is provided introductory detail to each topic and subsequently embark on an independent critical review of current data and opinion to formulate their own said notions. Examples of targeted topics for the upcoming semester include, but are not limited to: Abortion, Human Cloning, Genetics, Elective Cesarean Section, Fetal Surgery, Hormone Replacement, Refusal of Medical Care, Medical Reimbursement, Liability Crisis and Gender Bias of Medical Care.

Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC Arch: SSC Art: SSC BU: ETH EN: S

L77 WGSS 345A Sexual Politics in Film Noir and Hardboiled Literature
Emerging in American films most forcefully during the 1940s, film noir is a cycle of films associated with a distinctive visual style and a cynical worldview. In this course, we explore the sexual politics of film noir as a distinctive vision of American sexual relations every bit as identifiable as the form's stylized lighting and circuitous storytelling. We explore how and why sexual paranoia and perversion seem to animate this genre and why these movies continue to influence "neo-noir" filmmaking into the 21st century, even as film noir's representation of gender and sexuality is inseparable from its literary antecedents, most notably, the so-called "hard-boiled" school of writing. We read examples from this literature by Dashiell Hammett, James Cain, Raymond Chandler and Cornell Woolrich, and discuss these novels and short stories in the context of other artistic and cultural influences on gendered power relations and film noir. We also explore the relationship of these films to censorship and to changing post-World War II cultural values. Films screened in complete prints or in excerpts likely include many of the following: The Maltese Falcon, Double Indemnity, Murder My Sweet, Phantom Lady, Strangers on a Train, The Big Sleep, The Killers, Mildred Pierce, The High Wall, Sudden Fear, The Big Combo, Laura, The Glass Key, The Big Heat, Kiss Me Deadly, The Criterion Kimono, Touch of Evil, Alphaville, Chinatown, Taxi Driver, Devil in a Blue Dress, The Bad Lieutenant and Memento. Required screenings.

Same as L53 Film 346
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, SC, SD Arch: HUM Art: HUM BU: BA EN: H

L77 WGSS 347 Gender and Citizenship: Writing-Intensive Seminar
In this writing-intensive course we examine how ideas about gender have shaped the ways Americans understand what it means to be a citizen. We focus on a variety of cases in the past and present to explore the means by which women and men have claimed the rights and responsibilities of citizenship. The types of questions that we ask include: What rights or duties devolve from the status of citizen? Who qualifies for citizenship and what qualifies them? What distinct models of citizenship have been available to Americans? How have individuals used notions of gender identity to make claims to political subjectivity? And finally, how do gendered claims to citizenship intersect or conflict with claims based on race, class, ethnicity or humanity? Prerequisite: previous course work in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies or permission of the instructor. Not open to students who have taken WGSS 210.

Credit 3 units. BU: BA EN: H

L77 WGSS 348 Revolutionize It!: Second-Wave Feminism and the Struggle for a Radical Movement
In this discussion-based course, we explore the complex, contradictory and profoundly multiracial history of the so-called "second wave" of the feminist movement (1960s-1980s). We will focus on those activists who understood themselves to be radicals and revolutionaries — women's liberationists, women of color (or third-world) feminists, and lesbian-feminists — as they collaborated and collided with each other. Among the questions we will ask are the following: What happens to our understanding of the second wave when we center the activism of African-American, Latinx, indigenous and anti-capitalist feminists? What were the promises and the pitfalls of a politics of "sisterhood"? How did sexual desire and sexual conflict shape both notions of identity and the movement on the ground? We will also consider the legacy of second-wave feminism for the politics of our time, including #MeToo, reproductive freedom, and the struggle for trans liberation. Prerequisite: L77 100B or permission of instructor.

Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, SD Arch: HUM Art: HUM BU: BA EN: H
L77 WGSS 350B Topics: Global Italy: Race, Gender, Migration and Citizenship
Traditionally represented as a land of emigrants and exiles from the south, 21st-century Italy has become the destination of many immigrants and a place of encounter of different cultures and races. In “Cara Italia” [Dear Italy], a rap hymn by the famous artist Ghali, Italy is both a dear and a contested space of belonging where many children of migrants feel both at home and out of place. Exploring the cultural and historical roots of this feeling, the course asks the following: What does it mean to culturally belong? Why are certain people denied the status of Italian citizens? What does it mean to be Black in Italy? How are interracial younger generations reshaping Italy and Italian-ness? This course is an introduction to cultural productions at the intersection of migration, race, gender, and citizenship in contemporary Italy. In the course, students will critically engage a variety of issues such as the relation between Italian colonialism and recent migration, border politics and civic mobilization, gender struggles and networking, xenophobia and racism, and social protests and activism. Although African migration and Italians of Afro-descent are at the core of the course, students will also explore representations by/of other migrant communities such as the Asian and the Albanian ones. The course will be conducted in English, and screenings will be in the original language with English subtitles.
Same as L36 Ital 350
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, LCD, SC Arch: HUM Art: HUM BU: HUM, IS EN: H

L77 WGSS 3522 Topics in Literature: Drama Queens: Cleopatra in Elizabethan England
Topics course which varies by semester.
Same as L14 E Lit 3522
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM Arch: HUM Art: HUM BU: IS EN: H

L77 WGSS 3523 Topics in Literature: Queer Studies and Literature
Credit 3 units. EN: H

L77 WGSS 354 No Boys Allowed: Girlhood and Programming for Girls in 19th and 20th Centuries, United States
If boys and girls go to school together, why do we find so much sex-segregated extracurricular programming in the United States? Are there benefits? This course seeks to answer these questions by exploring the history of girlhood and girls’ programming in the United States in the 19th and 20th centuries. We will explore the movement of girls’ organizations from developing out of girls’ exclusion from boys’ clubs to a gradual emphasis on “empowering” girls. A critical examination of gender, sexuality, race and class will inform course discussions.
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC, SC Arch: SSC Art: SSC BU: BA EN: S

L77 WGSS 3548 Gender, Sexuality & Communism in 20th-Century Europe
This upper-division course examines the role of gender and sexuality for the establishment of communist societies in Europe in 20th century. We will explore to what extent societies built on the communist model succeeded with the achievement of gender equality and allowed for sexual relations liberated from religious or economic constraints. Class materials examine how state socialism shaped gender roles and women’s and men’s lives differently as well as how gays and lesbians struggled against social taboo and state repression. Students analyze the impact of modernization, industrialization, war and other conflicts on concepts of femininity and masculinity as well as on the regulation of sexuality and family relations in several Eastern European countries. We will place these dynamics within the context of broader political and cultural developments, ending with an analysis of the breakdown of socialism in the early 1990s and its impact on gender relations and the freedom of expression. The course provides students with a basic knowledge of the history of Eastern Europe and of left-wing movements active in the area, emphasizing the effects of communist ideas on women, gender equality, and non-normative sexual orientations.
Same as L22 History 3548
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, LCD, SD BU: HUM, IS EN: H

L77 WGSS 355 Marxist Feminist Theory
From early single-issue approaches through current multicultural studies. For students with no background in literary theory the course introduces some major issues (e.g., discourse, identity, historicity); it focuses, however, on the difficult relations between constructions of class and of gender. Readings from Olive Schreiner, Sojourner Truth, Marx, and Engels to Chantal Mouffe, Ernesto Laclau, Susan Willis, and Catherine MacKinnon, including “nontheoretical” texts (fiction, verse, street murals, etc.) for relief and counterpoint.
Credit 3 units.

L77 WGSS 355A Topics in Korean Literature and Culture: Topics course on Korean literature and culture. Subject matter varies by semester; consult current semester listings for topic.
Same as L51 Korean 355
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, LCD, SD Arch: HUM Art: HUM BU: BA EN: H UColl: CD

L77 WGSS 3560 Black Women Writers
When someone says “black woman writer,” you may well think of Nobel Prize winner Toni Morrison. But not long ago, to be a black woman writer meant to be considered an aberration. When Thomas Jefferson wrote that Phillis Wheatley’s poems were “beneath the dignity of criticism,” he could hardly have imagined entire Modern Language Association sessions built around her verse, but such is now the case. In this class we survey the range of Anglophone African-American women authors. Writers likely to be covered include Phillis Wheatley, Harriet Wilson, Nella Larsen, Lorraine Hansberry, Octavia Butler and Rita Dove, among others. Be prepared to read, explore, discuss and debate the specific impact of race and gender on American literature.
Same as L90 AFAS 3651
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, SD Arch: HUM Art: HUM BU: HUM EN: H

L77 WGSS 3561 Law, Gender, & Justice
This course (formerly called “Women and the Law”) explores how social constructions of gender, race, class and sexuality have shaped traditional legal reasoning and American legal concepts, including women’s legal rights. We will begin by placing our current legal framework, and its gender, race, sexuality, and other societal assumptions, in an historical and Constitutional context. We will then examine many of the questions raised by feminist theory, feminist jurisprudence, and other critical perspectives. For example, is the legal subject
gendered male, and, if so, how can advocates (for women and men) use the law to gain greater equality? What paradoxes have emerged in areas such as employment discrimination, family law, or reproductive rights, as women and others have sought liberal equality? What is the equality/difference debate about and why is it important for feminists? How do intersectionality and various schools of feminist thought affect our concepts of discrimination, equality and justice? The course is thematic, but we will spend time on key cases that have influenced law and policy, examining how they affect the everyday lives of women. Over the years, this course has attracted WGSS students and pre-law students. This course is taught by law students under the supervision of a member of the School of Law faculty. Students who have taken L77 3561 Women and the Law cannot take this class.

Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC, SC, SD Arch: SSC Art: SSC BU: BA EN: S UColl: ML, SSC

L77 WGSS 358 Scribbling Women: 19th-Century American Women Writers

In 1855, Nathaniel Hawthorne wrote to his publisher, William Tichnor, that “America is now wholly given over to a damned mob of scribbling women, and I should have no chance of success while the public taste is occupied with their trash.” In this class, we examine works of those scribbling women of the 19th century. We read one of the best-selling novels of the century, one that created a scandal and ruined the author’s literary reputation, along with others that have garnered more attention in our time than their own. In addition to focusing on these women writers, we also explore questions about the canon of American literature: What makes literature “good”? What constitutes American literature? How does an author get in the canon and stay there? Finally, in this writing-intensive course, there are frequent writing assignments and a strong emphasis on the essential writing process of drafting and revising.

Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, WI Arch: HUM Art: HUM BU: HUM EN: H

L77 WGSS 359 Topics in European History: Modern European Women

This course examines the radical transformation in the position and perspective of European women since the 18th century. The primary geographical focus is on Britain, France and Germany. Topics include: changing relations between the sexes; the emergence of mass feminist movements; the rise of the "new woman"; women and war; and the cultural construction and social organization of gender. We will look at the lives of women as nurses, prostitutes, artists, mothers, hysterics, political activists, consumers and factory hands. Same as L22 History 359

Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, LCD, SC, SD Arch: HUM Art: HUM BU: HUM IS: EN: H

L77 WGSS 360 Trans* Studies

Trans* Studies is an interdisciplinary course that was previously named Transgender Studies. The new course title represents the development of the field and the identity in U.S. culture. In this course students engage with the following questions: When and why did the category gender emerge? What is the relationship between sex, sexuality and gender? How have the fields of medicine and psychology dealt with gender? How have approaches to "gender dysphoria" changed over time? Why is LGBT grouped together as a social movement? What are the advantages and disadvantages of this grouping? What are the legal obstacles faced by people who resist normative gender categories? What legal obstacles are faced by people who transition from one sex to another? To what extent do U.S. citizens have autonomy over defining their gender or sex? How are trans people represented in fiction? What does it mean to apply transgender theory to interpret fictional accounts of trans? Any of the following are suitable (but not required) courses to take before enrolling in this class: WGSS 100B, WGSS 105, WGSS 205 or WGSS 3091.

Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, SC, SD Arch: HUM Art: HUM BU: BA EN: H

L77 WGSS 361 Women and Social Movements: Gender and Sexuality in U.S. Social Movements

This course examines the history of grassroots activism and political engagement of women in the United States. Looking at social movements organized by women or around issues of gender and sexuality, class texts interrogate women’s participation in, and exclusion from, political life. Key movements organizing the course units include, among others: the Temperance Movement, Abolitionist Movements, the Women’s Suffrage Movements, Women’s Labor Movements, Women’s Global Peace Movements, and Recent Immigration Movements. Readings and discussion will pay particular attention to the movements of women of color, as well as the critiques of women of color of dominant women’s movements. Course materials will analyze how methods of organizing reflect traditional forms of “doing politics,” and we will also examine strategies and tactics for defining problems and posing solutions particular to women. Prerequisites: any 100- or 200-level Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies course or permission from the instructor.

Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, SC, SD BU: BA EN: H

L77 WGSS 362 Queer Latinx Studies

Queer theory has staked its intervention in the promise to disrupt the binary categories of heterosexuality and homosexuality, male and female, among others. Meanwhile, the impossibility of Latinx to be confined to either category of race or ethnicity — from Afro-Latinx interventions to Chicanx indigeneity — has also disrupted the logic of the race/ethnic binary. Latinx, in many ways, queers ethnicity and race. But how do we reconcile the two intellectual projects? What can Latinx studies gain from queer theory, and how do we queer Latinx studies? In this course, we will examine the emergence of the interdisciplinary field of Queer Latinx Studies as a product of debates and criticisms in Latin American & Latino/a Studies, Feminist Studies, and Queer Theory, as well as the shortcomings of the mainstream LGBT movement to meaningfully address questions of racial difference and class. We will study how scholars have attempted to answer these problems through numerous disciplinary methods and approaches: ethnography, history, politics, literature, and media. Studying figures from Selena to Ricky Martin and cultural productions like “Paris is Burning” and “Pose,” we will explore how queer Latinxs construct intersectional identities by borrowing from, modifying, and undermining dominant understandings of gender, race, citizenship, language, and sexuality.

Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC Arch: SSC Art: SSC BU: BA EN: S

L77 WGSS 362A Islam, Gender, Sexuality

The return of white nationalism and misogyny to the public sphere since the 2016 election has reinvigorated the trope of the subjugated Muslim woman as backwards and subservient to her male counterparts. Rather than devote our time to
dispel stereotypes, in this course, we address the extent to which Western theories of feminism are useful to account for Muslim women’s experiences across historical period and geographical region. By examining discourses of gender and sexuality, the ideals of the feminine and masculine in Islamic scriptures and jurisprudence, and subsequent encounters with Western imperialism, we investigate how gender informs social, political, religious, and family life in Islamic cultures. We employ a chronological approach to these topics, from considering the status of women in seventh-century Arabia to the period of Islamic expansion across Asia, North Africa, and the Iberian Peninsula and then to the colonial period and ending with the contemporary post-9/11 and post-2016 U.S. contexts, wherein debates over the status of Muslim women in society emerged with renewed vigor.

Same as L57 RelPol 362
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, LCD Arch: HUM Art: HUM BU: BA, HUM, IS EN: H

L77 WGSS 363 Neither Man Nor Woman: Transgender Ethnographies in Global Context
This seminar examines transgenderism and gender variance more broadly in a global context that includes, but does not privilege, Western analytical frameworks. We will read ethnographic accounts of gender diversity that complicate Western notions of sex, gender, and sexuality. In particular, we will interrogate the idea of transgenderism as a crossing from one gender to an opposite one (i.e. male to female or female to male), investigate the relationship between gender identity and sexuality, and examine the particularities of local gender forms in cultural context. Any of the following are suitable (but not required) courses to take before enrolling in this class: L77 100B, L77 105, L77 205 or L77 3091
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: LCD, SSC, SD EN: S

L77 WGSS 3666 Women and Film
The aim of this course is primarily to familiarize students with the work of prominent women directors over the course of the 20th century, from commercial blockbusters to the radical avant-garde. Approaching the films in chronological order, we consider the specific historical and cultural context of each filmmaker’s work. In addition we discuss the films in relation to specific gender and feminist issues such as the status of women’s film genres, representations of men and women on screen, and the gender politics of film production. Required screenings.

Same as L53 Film 366
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, SD BU: HUM EN: H

L77 WGSS 369A Reading Sex in Premodern England
This course introduces students to the literary representation of gender and sexuality in England from the medieval period to the 18th century. To understand a tradition that addressed the intractable problem of human sexuality in terms very different from ours, we ask: how does premodern culture imagine gendered identities, sexual difference, and erotic desire? How do various contexts — medical, religious, social, private, public — inform the literary representation of gender and sexuality? What are the anatomies and economies of the body, the circuits of physical pleasure, and the disciplines of the self that characterize human sexuality? Students have the opportunity to study romances, saints’ lives, mystical writings, diaries, plays, sex guides, novels and scientific treatises. By learning how to “read sex” in premodern literature, students acquire a broad cultural and historical understanding of English sexualities before the descent of modern sensibilities.

Same as L14 E Lit 369
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, SD BU: HUM EN: H

L77 WGSS 371 Confronting Capitalism: Feminism, Work and Solidarity
This course explores the relationship between gender, the ideological construction of work and workers, and feminist mobilizations against labor exploitation. To interrogate how conceptions of the “ideal worker” are gendered, sexualized and racialized, we will engage scholarship on affective and emotional labor; domestic and reproductive labor; migrant domestic work; neoliberalism and service economies; feminism and racial capitalism; sex work; disability justice; and feminist anti-work politics. Additionally, we will ask what is “new about neoliberal capitalism, and how the relationship between citizenship, the state and the “ideal worker” has morphed in distinctly gendered and racialized ways over time. As part of this effort, we will engage feminist political theory that interrogates the relationship between radical democracy, justice and the market, drawing from Marxist feminist, liberal feminist, radical feminist, decolonial feminist and Black feminist thought. In the latter part of the semester we will examine how these various feminist approaches to work have addressed issues such as solidarity and organizing; legalization of sex work; the wages for housework campaign; internationalism; anti-racism and anti-capitalism; labor outsourcing; alternative economies; and U.S. imperialism...
Prerequisite: L77 100B.
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, SC BU: BA EN: H

L77 WGSS 3725 Topics in Renaissance Literature
Same as L14 E Lit 3725
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM Arch: HUM Art: HUM BU: HUM EN: H

L77 WGSS 3735 Topics in Women’s History
Credit 3 units.

L77 WGSS 3731 Topics in Women’s History: Women, Gender and Sexuality in Postwar America
We explore the history of the United States since 1945 by focusing on the ways that gender and sexuality have shaped the lives of Americans, particularly the diverse group of women who make up more than half the nation’s population. Topics include: domesticity and the culture of the 1950s; gendering the cold war; the gender politics of racial liberation; the sexual revolution; second-wave feminism and the transformation of American culture; the new right’s gender politics; and the impact of new conceptions of sexual and gender identity at century’s end. Course texts include scholarly literature, memoirs, novels and film.

Same as L22 History 3751
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, SC, SD Art: HUM BU: BA EN: H

L77 WGSS 379 Gender, Religion and Secularism
This course considers how gender is constructed in the processes of distinguishing between religion and secularism. Students will be exposed to a variety of case studies that examine the specific dynamics of producing an oppositional difference between religion and secularism through attitudes...
toward gender roles, values, and commitments. This course is designed to help students examine how the assumptions about secularism as necessarily more freeing and equalizing for women become normative and make many religious women's claims to freedom, equality, and agency illegible. Same as L23 Re St 379
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, LCD, SC Arch: HUM Art: HUM EN: H

L77 WGSS 383 Topics in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies: Spectacular Blackness, Race, Gender, & Visual Culture
Topic varies. Consult semester course listings for current offering.
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, SC, SD Art: AH, GFAH BU: BA EN: H

L77 WGSS 384 Gender & Consumer Culture in U.S. Fiction of the Late 19th and Early 20th Century
The decades between the end of the Civil War and the 1930s saw the rise of a mass consumer culture that would dramatically reshape America. The fiction writers of this period, keen to capture the spirit of the age, helped to create the enduring idea that consumerism and an orientation toward material acquisition are at the heart of gendered concepts of American identity. Their stories documented, and sometimes celebrated, the emergence of recognizable "types" of American womanhood and manhood — such as self-made millionaires, ambitious "working girls," bargain-hunting middle-class housewives, and the commercially minded women and men of the social and intellectual elite. At the same time, their stories articulated anxieties about U.S. consumer culture and its impact on the world. Students in this course will read, discuss and write about novels and short stories by writers such as Henry James, Mary Wilkins Freeman, Kate Chopin, Theodore Dreiser, Edith Wharton, Nella Larsen, Langston Hughes, and F. Scott Fitzgerald. Students in the course will also examine primary materials such as magazine advertisements, and will read and respond to relevant scholarship on the period. Writing intensive course.
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, SC, SD, WI Arch: HUM Art: HUM BU: BA EN: H

L77 WGSS 385A Topics in Jewish Studies:
Consult Course Listings for current topics. Please note: L75 585A is intended for graduate students only. Same as L75 JIMES 385
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM Arch: HUM Art: HUM BU: IS EN: H

L77 WGSS 3844 Regulating Reproduction: Morality, Politics and (In)justice
This course centers on the burgeoning corpus of anthropological scholarship on reproduction, with special attention to the regulation of reproductive behaviors and population management in cross-cultural perspective. Anthropologists and feminist scholars have shown how reproduction — which links individual bodies to the body politic — is a privileged site for processes of governance. Scholars have also shown how seemingly personal reproductive choices made in the micro units of families are always bound up with broader, if obscured, economic, national and political projects. In this course, we will cover how diverse entities, including the state, the Church, NGOs and feminist groups, seek to manage reproductive behaviors and politics across the world. We will discuss population control campaigns (such as China’s notorious one-child policy) and pronatalist population policies (like those seen in Israel) in order to underscore how the management of fertility becomes a crucial site for nationalist and state-building projects. In this course we examine processes of "reproductive governance" around topics including pregnancy and birth, family planning, abortion and adoption. We also examine how the global proliferation of Assisted Reproductive Technologies (such as in vitro, sonogram, abortifacient pills, amniocentesis) intersects with efforts to govern reproduction. Crucially, we take class and race as key axes through which reproduction is experienced and stratified in diverse contexts. At the end of this course students should have a solid grasp of key topics and themes in the anthropology of reproductive governance, as well as more in-depth knowledge of a particular controversial reproductive issue that they choose to focus on for their final research paper.
Same as L48 Anthro 3884
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC, SC, EN: S

L77 WGSS 389 The Global History of HIV/AIDS
Most (if not all) of us have never known a world without HIV/AIDS. The potential risk of seroconversion has been integrated into sexual health education and popular media for more than three decades. At the same time, HIV has often been portrayed as either an issue of a minority (e.g., gay men, intravenous drug users, sex workers) or as existing "over there" in the Global South, overlooking the major crisis within the United States. This course tackles the history of HIV/AIDS as a global history of gender and sexuality between the Global North and the Global South. Throughout the course, we will consider major ethical questions regarding disease and control. Who gets to be a victim, and who is labeled a culprit? What actions should be pursued in the midst of an epidemic? Who controls the narrative about disease? We will look at international biopolitical practices by tracing the downward flow of researchers and specialists from the Global North to the Global South and the upward flow of scientific knowledge and capital. In this way, we will see how the Global South has played a crucial role in the perceptions, treatment, and profiting of HIV/AIDS in the United States and the Global North through the recent breakthrough in pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP), sold on the market as Truvada/Descovy. The course has three thematic sections: Discovery and Reaction, Politics and Activism, and Research and Health.
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: LCD, SSC, SC Arch: SSC Art: SSC BU: BA, IS

L77 WGSS 389A Furies and Die-Hards: Women in Rebellion and War
Furies and Die-Hards: Women in Rebellion and War juxtaposes contemporary social science perspectives on women and war with the history and testimonies of Irish women during the Irish revolutionary period (1898-1922), the Irish Civil War (1922-1923), and the Free State. Under English rule from the 12th-century Norman invasions to the establishment of the Irish Free State and the partition of Northern Ireland in 1922, Ireland presents a compelling historical laboratory to deliberate on the relationship between gender and political conflict. Intentionally transdisciplinary, the course draws from across disciplinary...
discourses and highlights perspectives across race, gender, class, ethnicity, religion, and sexuality. Topics include political organizing, nationalism, rebellion, radicalization, militarism, terrorism, pacifism, and peacebuilding. Rooted in Cynthia Enloe’s enduring question of “Where are the women?” and drawing on sociologist Louise Ryan’s landmark essay by the same name, we inquire how and why Irish nationalist women, who were integral to building the revolutionary movement, became “Furies” and “Die-hards” in the eyes of their compatriots when the Free State was established (Bishop Doorley, 1925; President Cosgrave, 1923). Taking advantage of the plethora of archival resources now available through the Irish Decade of Centenaries program, the course incorporates the voices of Irish women through their diaries, military records, letters, interviews, speeches, newspapers, and memoirs. Same as L77 GS (IAS) 389 Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, LCD, SC BU: BA, IS

L77 WGSS 393 Gender Violence
This course explores the issue of violence against women within families, by strangers in the workplace, and within the context of international and domestic political activity. In each area, issues of race, class, culture and sexuality are examined as well as legal, medical and sociological responses. Readings cover current statistical data, research and theory as well as information on the history of the battered women's movement, the rape crisis center movement, violent repression of women's political expressions internationally, and the effect of violence on immigrant and indigenous women in the United States and abroad. Not open to students who have taken U92 (UCollege) WGSS 363.
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC, SC, SD Arch: SSC Art: SSC BU: BA EN: S

L77 WGSS 3942 Service Learning: Projects in Domestic Violence
In this course, we explore the links between the theories and practices of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies through a combination of research and direct community engagement. Course readings focus on the ways that poverty and violence, along with race and gender expectations, shape the lives of women. A required community service project for this course asks students to examine the relationship between the course readings and the lives of actual women in St. Louis. Over the course of the semester, students design and execute programming for women at a local community agency. This is a writing-intensive course. Students must contact instructor for permission to enroll. CET (https://gephardtinstitute.wustl.edu/for-faculty-and-staff/community-engaged-teaching/) course.
Credit 4 units. A&S IQ: SSC, SC, SD, WI EN: S

L77 WGSS 3943 Violence Against Women Court Project
The seminar explores the links between the theories and practices of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies through a combination of readings, discussion and direct community engagement. Readings focus on the legal system and the ways domestic violence is confronted and how criminal justice interventions have responded to new theories and research about the nature of intimate partner violence. Particular attention is directed to the ways that issues of race, poverty, parenthood and sexual orientation influence the criminal justice response and shape the lives of abused women. Students participate in a court advocacy program to investigate the important discrepancies between theory and practice in the field. Students are required to take L77 WGSS 393 or have taken L77 WGSS 393 to enroll in the seminar.
Credit 1 unit. A&S IQ: SSC BU: BA EN: S

L77 WGSS 397 History of Sexuality in the United States
Class will survey major themes in the history of sexuality in the U.S., from colonial era to present. Themes include conquest and sexuality; the relationship between sexual ideologies and practices; racial hierarchy and sexuality; the construction of sexual identities and communities; and sexual politics at the end of the century. Prerequisite: none. Previous course work in U.S. history or women's studies helpful. Enrollment limited to 35.
Credit 3 units. BU: BA

L77 WGSS 3981 Undergrad Seminar in Gender & Literature: Junior Honors Seminar: Becoming Emily Dickinson
Credit 3 units.

L77 WGSS 399 Undergraduate Work in Women's Studies
Credit variable, maximum 3 units.

L77 WGSS 3991 Undergraduate Teaching Assistant
In this course, an advanced undergraduate can assist a faculty member in the teaching of an introductory-level WGSS course.
Credit variable, maximum 3 units.

L77 WGSS 39F8 Gender and Sexuality in 1950s America: Writing-Intensive Seminar
Historians have recently begun to reconsider the dominant view of the 1950s as an era characterized by complacency and conformity. In this writing intensive seminar we will use the prism of gender history to gain a more complex understanding of the intricate relationship between conformity and crisis, domestically and dissident that characterized the 1950s for both women and men.
Same as L22 History 39F8
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, SD, WI Arch: HUM Art: HUM BU: BA EN: H

L77 WGSS 39SC Imperialism and Sexuality: India, South Asia, and the World: Writing-Intensive Seminar
What is the connection between the appropriation of other people's resources and the obsession with sex? Why is "race" essential to the sexual imperatives of imperialism? How has the nexus between "race," sexuality, and imperial entitlement reproduced itself despite the end of formal colonialism? By studying a variety of colonial documents, memoirs produced by colonized subjects, novels, films and scholarship on imperialism, we will seek to understand the history of imperialism's sexual desires and its continuation in our world today.
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, LCD, WI Arch: HUM Art: HUM BU: HUM, IS EN: H

L77 WGSS 4013 Queer of Color Critique: Sense and Sexuality
That sensation produces surplus, often uncontainable knowledge, is something that is beginning to be explored in various arenas of queer theory as an important component of queer of color critique. This seminar will explore different
sensational arenas, the different possible critiques that they produce, and what this means for thinking about sexuality, gender, and queer theory. Throughout the course of the semester, we will explore sensation in multiple ways 1) as a diagnostic tool for understanding some of the different ways that race, gender, and sexuality intersect 2) as a way to trouble the dichotomy between interiority and exteriority to understand the ways in which orders of knowledge become imprinted on the body 3) as a mode of producing alternate forms of knowledge about gender, race, and sexuality. In addition to reading about different sensations and their relationships to politics and sexuality, this course will require students to think creatively as they attempt to write about sensation, sexuality, and politics. Ultimately, the purpose of this class is to examine sexuality and sensation as collections of embodied and politicized experiences. Prerequisite: Introduction to Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (L77 100B) or permission of instructor.

Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, SC, SD Arch: HUM Art: HUM: EN: H

L77 WGSS 4014 Feminist and Queer Media Studies
This seminar serves both as an introduction to some of the foundational texts in feminist and queer media studies and a snapshot of recent scholarship in the field.

Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM Arch: HUM Art: HUM BU: BA EN: H

L77 WGSS 402 Transnational Reproductive Health Issues: Meanings, Technologies, Practices
This course covers recent scholarship on gender and reproductive health, including such issues as reproduction and the disciplinary power of the state, contested reproductive relations within families and communities, and the implications of global flows of biotechnology, population and information for reproductive strategies at the local level. We also explore how transnational migration and globalization have shaped reproductive health, the diverse meanings associated with reproductive processes, and decisions concerning reproduction. Reproduction serves as a focus to illuminate the cultural politics of gender, power and sexuality.

Same as L48 Anthro 4022
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: LCD, SSC, SC, SD Arch: SSC Art: SSC BU: BA EN: S

L77 WGSS 403 Race, Sex and Sexuality: Concepts of Identity
This course examines changes in the meanings of three concepts of identity — race, sex and sexuality — from the early modern period to the present. The course begins by looking at early modern constructions of these concepts in Western Europe. We then focus on changes occurring during the course of the 18th and 19th centuries in Europe and the United States and at how such changes were similar and different among these three concepts. We then examine 20th-century challenges to 19th-century constructions. The course concludes by studying the relationship between these challenges and 20th-century identity political movements organized around these concepts.

Prerequisite: completion of at least one WGSS course or permission of the instructor.

Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC, SD Art: SSC BU: BA

L77 WGSS 406 Queering Theory: Collaborating, Solidarity, and Working Together
This class aims to use theory to destabilize the concepts of race, sexuality, gender, disability, and academic methodology. This class will submerge you in some of the most influential texts in queer theory. The selected readings range across many disciplines, including biology, philosophy, anthropology, sociology, history, and cultural studies. The core premise of this class is that to queer something is to destabilize it. Therefore, not all of the readings will specifically be about gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgender people. However, these readings will help any scholar in their future work in queer theory.

Prerequisite: any 300-level WGSS class or equivalent or permission from instructor.

Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC, SC, SD, WI Arch: SSC Art: SSC BU: BA EN: S

L77 WGSS 408A Nuns
Nuns — women vowed to a shared life of poverty, chastity and obedience in a cloistered community — were central figures in medieval and early modern religion and society. This course explores life in the convent, with the distinctive culture that developed among communities of women, and the complex relations between the world of the cloister and the world outside the cloister. We look at how female celibacy served social and political, as well as religious, interests. We read works by nuns: both willing and unwilling; and works about nuns: nuns behaving well, and nuns behaving scandalously badly; nuns embracing their heavenly spouse, and nuns putting on plays; nuns possessed by the devil, and nuns managing their possessions; nuns as enraptured visionaries, and nuns grappling with the mundane realities of life in a cloistered community.

Same as L23 Re St 408
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, LCD, SC, SD Arch: HUM Art: HUM BU: BA EN: H

L77 WGSS 409 Gender, Sexuality and Change in Africa
This course considers histories and social constructions of gender and sexuality in sub-Saharan Africa during the colonial and contemporary periods. We will examine gender and sexuality both as sets of identities and practices and as part of wider questions of work, domesticity, social control, resistance and meaning. Course materials include ethnographic and historical materials and African novels and films. Prerequisite: graduate students or undergraduates with previous AFAS or upper-level anthropology course.

Same as L90 AFAS 409
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC, SC, SD, WI Arch: SSC Art: SSC BU: BA EN: S

L77 WGSS 410 Studies in Gender
Credit 3 units.

L77 WGSS 4101 Medieval English Literature: Medieval Women’s Writing
Topics course in Medieval English literature.

Same as L14 E Lit 4101
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM Arch: HUM Art: HUM EN: H
L77 WGSS 4102 Everyday Unruliness: Feminist and Queer Resistance
This course is interested in the ways ordinary people break rules, flout norms, and make trouble. We know that resistance manifests in social movements, militant activism, and direct confrontation, but it also comes through quieter acts of unruliness and noncompliance. Looking at power “from below,” readings focus on everyday interventions in systems of control. Garment workers threaten “good pay or bum work,” queers "f*ck" at reproductive heterosexuality, and shiftless people steal moments of leisure from a system that wants us either productive or dead. These acts may not be obviously political, but because people at the margins have so often been left outside (and also opt out) of formal politics, subtle resistance is particularly interesting for feminist and queer scholars. Everyday acts do threaten the status quo — otherwise, why would they be so rigidly policed? But questions remain. Throughout the semester, we will ask the following: What counts as resistance? What are its ethics? When is a bad attitude an act of rebellion, and does it matter if that rebellion is conscious? Does survival constitute resistance for those not meant to survive? On the other hand, for those subjects whose active engagement sustains the status quo, is withdrawal the more radical choice? Does the refusal of sociality constitute a form of resistance? Or are there ways to forge communities of mutual care that erode the status quo rather than reproduce it? Prerequisite: L77 110B (Intro to Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies) or permission of instructor.
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC, SC Arch; SSC Art; SSC EN: S

L77 WGSS 4106 Studies in Gender
Investigation of the constructions of gender in literary and other texts and their sociohistorical contexts. Particular attention to the gendered conditions of writing and reading, engendering of the subject, and indicators of gender. Topics and periods vary from semester to semester and include gender and genre, education, religion, politics, cultural and state institutions, science, sexuality, and human reproduction. Discussion, readings, and papers in German; some theoretical readings in English. May be repeated with different content. Prerequisite: German 302D and German 340C/340D OR German 341/341D OR Ger 342/342D
Same as L21 German 4106
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, LCD, SD, WI EN: H

L77 WGSS 4112 Body and Flesh: Theorizing Embodiment
This seminar explores a wide range of readings on “the body” as a site of theoretical analysis in social scientific and humanistic inquiry. Issues include: How do we think about the body as simultaneously material (flesh and bone) and constructed in and through social and political discourse? How do we think about the relationship between these contingent bodies and subjective experiences of “self” in various contexts? The course focuses upon the different ways in which these questions have been posed and engaged, and the implications of these formulations for the theorizing of human experience. Prerequisite: Anthro 3201 or permission of instructor.
Same as L48 Anthro 4112
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC Art; SSC EN: S

L77 WGSS 4134 The AIDS Epidemic: Inequalities, Ethnicity, and Ethics
In the year 2000, HIV became the world’s leading infectious cause of adult death, and in the next ten years, AIDS will kill more people than all wars of the twentieth century combined. As the global epidemic rages on, our greatest enemy in combating HIV/AIDS is not knowledge or resources, but global inequalities and the conceptual frameworks with which we understand health, human interaction, and sexuality. This course emphasizes the ethnographic approach for cultural analysis of responses to HIV/AIDS. Students will explore the relationship between local communities and wider historical and economic processes, and theoretical approaches to disease, the body, ethnicity/race, gender, sexuality, risk, addiction, power, and culture. Other topics covered include the cultural construction of AIDS and risk, government responses to HIV/AIDS, origin and transmission debates, ethics and responsibilities, drug testing and marketing, the making of the AIDS industry and “risk” categories, prevention and education strategies, interaction between bio-medicine and alternative healing systems, and medical advances and hopes.
Same as L48 Anthro 4134
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: LCD, SSC, SD, SC Arch; SSC Art; SSC BU: IS EN: S

L77 WGSS 4144 Gender, Religion, Medicine and Science
Until recently the histories of science, medicine and religion were written by men and for men. These fields did not critically analyze gender or sexuality. Neither masculinity nor femininity were topics of interest in the studies of great scientists or famous theologians. Sexuality in scientific writing and religious thought barely received more than a sentence or two in the writings of historians. What changed? Feminist/Queer theory made us rethink the way we learn about the history of medicine, science and religion. Despite these great strides, we are only beginning to explore the interplay between these fields from a feminist/queer perspective. In other words, while feminist/queer scholars have deepened our understandings of both science and religion, they have only recently begun to examine the relationship between these two fields. This course explores how feminist research has broadened our understanding of the interplay between the authority of religion, science and medicine in historical and contemporary studies. Some of the topics we explore include: conception and gestation, birth control, birthing, sexuality and aging. Prerequisites: Introduction to Women and Gender Studies and at least one 300-level WGSS course that addresses feminist and/or queer theory such as: Masculinities, Making Sex and Gender, Transgender Studies.
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, SD EN: H

L77 WGSS 4140 Topics in Feminist Philosophy: Feminist Epistemology and Philosophy of Science

L77 WGSS 417W Feminist Research Methodologies
Research is the foundation of academic knowledge and of much knowledge produced outside of the academy in think tanks, nonprofit organizations, social service agencies, corporations, and many other venues of economic and social activity. Informed by theory, and shaped by specific methods, research can and does help to frame problems, contribute to policymaking, and evaluate the effectiveness of policies and programs. Research is employed in a variety of ways in the different disciplines within the academy and within different practices outside of the academy. This course examines the different ways in
which research is conducted and examines the reasons for these differences and the ways in which they contribute to or hamper feminist goals. The course also explores the ways in which some research methods are privileged over others in hegemonic understandings of what counts as "research" and of what counts as "knowledge." The course examines how gender theory and feminist politics shape the kinds of research questions researchers ask, the types of materials and other information researchers use, and the ways researchers define our relationships with our sources of data, evidence and other information. Students are expected to reflect on and engage with feminist approaches to research in this course in order to develop and complete a detailed research proposal. Prerequisite: At least two courses in WGSS, including Introduction to WGSS or Sexuality Studies at the 100 or 200 levels and one 300-level WGSS course, preferably in feminist or queer theory. This class is a writing-intensive course. Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SC, SD, WI

L77 WGSS 418C Sexuality and Gender in East Asian Religions
In this course we will explore the role of women in the religious traditions of China, Japan and Korea, with a focus on Buddhism, Daoism, Shamanism, Shinto and the so-called "New Religions." We will begin by considering the images of women (whether mythical or historical) in traditional religious scriptures and historical or literary texts. We will then focus on what we know of the actual experience and practice of various types of religious women — nuns and abbesses, shamanas and mediums, hermits and recluses, and ordinary laywomen — both historically and in more recent times. Class materials will include literary and religious texts, historical and ethnological studies, biographies and memoirs, and occasional videos and films. Prerequisites: This class will be conducted as a seminar, with minimal lectures, substantial reading and writing, and lots of class discussion. For this reason, students who are not either upper-level undergraduates or graduate students, or who have little or no background in East Asian religion or culture, will need to obtain the instructor's permission before enrolling.

Same as L23 Re St 418
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, LCD, SC, SD Arch: HUM Art: HUM EN: H

L77 WGSS 419 Feminist Literary and Cultural Theory
This course provides a historical overview of feminist literary and cultural theories since the 1960s and 70s, acquainting students with a diversity of voices within contemporary feminism and gender studies. Readings will include works of French feminism, Foucault's History of Sexuality, feminist responses to Foucault, queer (LGBTQ+) theory, postcolonial and decolonial feminism, feminist disability theory, and writings by US feminists of color (African-American, Asian-American, Latina, Native-American). The reading list will be updated each year to reflect new developments in the discipline. We will approach these readings from an intersectional and interdisciplinary perspective, considering their dialogue with broader sociopolitical, cultural, and philosophical currents. By the end of the course, students are expected to have gained a basic knowledge of the major debates in feminist literary and cultural studies in the last 50 years, as well as the ability to draw on the repertoire of readings to identify and frame research questions in their areas of specialization. The class will be largely interactive, requiring active participation and collaborative effort on the part of the students. Students will be encouraged to make relevant connections between the class readings, everyday social and political issues, and their own research interests. NOTE: This course is in the core curriculum for the Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies graduate certificate. Prerequisite: advanced course work in WGSS or in literary theory (300 level and above) or permission of the instructor.

Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, SC, SD Arch: HUM Art: HUM EN: H

L77 WGSS 4201 The Novel in the Feminine (Le Roman au Feminin)
Informed through feminist criticism (Beauvoir, Cixous, Kristeva), this course examines the deconstruction of the novel as a traditional genre by 20th-century women writers such as Colette, Nathalie Sarraute, Marguerite Duras, Marguerite Yourcenar, Annie Ernaux and Mariama Bâ. We place special emphasis on the representation of the writing woman in the text itself and on the issue of "écriture féminine" in its sociocultural context. Prerequisites: French 325 and French 326 or one of these courses and the equivalent Washington University transfer literature course from Toulouse or Paris. One-hour preceptorial for undergraduates.

Same as L34 French 4201
Credit 3 units. Art: HUM

L77 WGSS 421 From Mammy to the Welfare Queen: African-American Women Theorize Identity
How do representations of identity affect how we see ourselves and the world sees us? African-American women have been particularly concerned with this question, as the stories and pictures circulated about black female identity have had a profound impact on their understandings of themselves and political discourse. In this course we look at how black feminist theorists from a variety of intellectual traditions have explored the impact of theories of identity on our world. We look at their discussions of slavery, colonialism, sexuality, motherhood, citizenship, and what it means to be human.

Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, SC, SD EN: H

L77 WGSS 4221 Topics in Women and French Literature
In our modern interconnected society, it is not always easy for young people to define who they really are or to discover and fulfill their potential, but it is encouraged and facilitated through education, travels, social contacts, and even technology. But it was not always so. In earlier times, individuals were often constrained by the prevalent social and moral values of their worlds and had a much harder time discovering their persona or fulfilling their needs and aspirations. This seminar explores the issues of self-discovery, initiation, and self-realization in the modern novel, including Balzac's EUGENIE GRANDET, Stendhal's LE ROUGE ET LE NOIR, Falubert's MADAME BOVARY, Mauriac's TERESE DESQUEYROUX; and Philippe Grambert's UN SECRET. Prereq: Fr. 308.

Same as L34 French 4221
Credit 3 units. Arch: HUM Art: HUM BU: IS

L77 WGSS 4231 Topics in American Literature I:
Same as L14 E Lit 4231
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM Arch: HUM Art: HUM EN: H
L77 WGSS 427 Technology and Feminist Practice: Gender Violence Prevention Tools
How can we best use technology, and the tools and insights of the Digital Humanities in particular, to promote effective approaches to addressing gender-based violence? What are the most effective ways to bridge the innovations of the research university with the everyday work of practitioners seeking to prevent violence or intervene in its aftermath? What are the ethics involved in constructing tools for public and professional use? Which interests should govern the choices in content, design and dissemination of information? This course will introduce students to the strategies and challenges of devising technological tools for violence prevention for use beyond the classroom. Class readings and discussions will be supplemented by hands-on project work with Washington University's Gender Violence Database and lab sessions that focus on skill-building in digital project construction. Prerequisite: For undergraduate students, L77 393 01 or previous work experience with the Gender Violence Database. Graduate students by permission of instructor. Same as L93 IPH 427 Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, SC, SD Arch: HUM Art: HUM BU: BA, ETH EN: H

L77 WGSS 429 Feminist Political Theory
This course asks how feminist thinkers from various political and intellectual traditions critique, adopt and transform political theories of justice, citizenship, property and the state. To uncover how different feminist theories have been adopted in the struggle for political transformation and social justice, we will pursue two main lines of inquiry. The first asks how feminist thinkers from various traditions critique and engage the history of political thought within the social contract tradition. We will ask, in particular, how gender, race, slavery, colonialism and empire shape conceptions of citizenship and property. We will also examine transnational feminist critiques of the public/private division in the Western political theory canon as it impacts the role of women and the social construction of women's bodies. During the second half of the semester, we will ask how various transnational social movements have engaged and adopted feminist theories in efforts to resist state violence, colonialism, labor exploitation and resource extraction. In following these lines of inquiry we will draw from postcolonial, decolonial, liberal, Black, radical, Marxist and Chicana feminist perspectives. Part of our goal will be to uncover how various feminist theories treat the relationship between politics and embodied experience, how gendered conceptions of family life affect notions of political power and how ideas about sexuality and sexual conquest intersect with empire-building. Prerequisite: L77 100B or consent of instructor. Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, SC, SD Arch: HUM Art: HUM BU: BA EN: H

L77 WGSS 430A Divergent Voices: Italian Women Writers
This course engages the fictional and political works of Italian women writers from the 17th century to the present day. We will read one of the acclaimed Neapolitan novels of Elena Ferrante, who is considered by many to be the most important Italian fiction writer of her generation. We will examine a cloistered Venetian nun's defiant 1654 indictment of the misogynist society that forced her into the convent. We will confront the reality of a woman writer who in 1901 was compelled to choose between her child and her literary career. Among other contemporary writers, we will study the humorous and radical feminist one-acts of playwright Franca Rame. Taught in English. No Final. Same as L36 Ital 430 Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, LCD, SC, SD EN: H

L77 WGSS 432 Women Writers of the 20th Century
This course examines select novels, poetry and political writings by such noted authors as Sibilla Aleramo, Dacia Maraini, Luisa Muraro and Anna Banti. Special attention is paid to the historical, political and cultural contexts that influenced authors and their work. Textual and critical analysis focuses on such issues as historical revisionism in women's writing, female subjectivity and the origins and development of contemporary Italian feminist thought and practice. Taught in English. Same as L36 Ital 432 Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, LCD, SD Art: HUM

L77 WGSS 433 Feminist Political Theory
Advanced course in feminist theory. For specific content in a particular semester, consult course listings. Credit 3 units.

L77 WGSS 4331 Topics in Feminist Theory: Feminist Philosophy
Credit 3 units.

L77 WGSS 4333 Women of Letters
We investigate the representation of women in 18th-century texts. Why did the novel and epistolary fiction become so closely associated with women as writers, heroines and readers in the course of the century? Why were women considered exemplary and yet, at the same time, a threat? The 18th century saw the last of the salons led by women well-versed in philosophy, literature, art and politics. It saw the reinforcement of the opposition between the public and the private sphere. Woman was the incarnation of the ideal of liberty and yet excluded from the "rights of man." Rousseau praised women's role as nurseries and peacemakers but cast into doubt their capacity for genius. Literary texts that feature women became a sparring ground for two of the century's major literary trends: Sensibilite and Libertinage, for a woman's sensitivity was thought to contain the seeds of virtue and licentiousness. We investigate philosophical discourses on the senses and emotions and political discourses on republican responsibility. We read these texts in conjunction with the literary works of men and women authors, including Prévoit, Marivaux, Graffigny, Riccoboni, Diderot, Rousseau, Charrière, Laclose, Sade and Stalé. Prerequisites: French 325 and French 326 or one of these courses and the equivalent Washington University transfer literature course from Toulouse or Paris. One hour preceptorial required for undergraduates. Same as L34 French 4331 Credit 3 units. Art: HUM

L77 WGSS 437 Transnational Feminisms
This course engages contemporary feminist theories from diverse transnational contexts, as well as the social movements and local resistances they inspire. Through engagement with key works of feminist theory, political manifestos, and creative works of resistance, we will explore how transnational feminist alliances and coalitions have contested and responded to gendered and racialized forms of exploitation, navigating and reshaping
We will engage with debates around the notion of a “global sisterhood”; tensions between universal and local feminist practice; the role of difference, nationality and culture in navigating the possibility of solidarity; the role of the internet in forging cross-border alliances; human rights-based activism; “women’s” work; transgender inclusivity and transfeminisms. Part of our goal will be to ask how feminist theories from diverse geographical locations have influenced the politics of borders, movements for environmental justice, migrations and mobility, resistance to imperialism and the forging of alternative economies. We will also explore the gray areas existing in between binaries such as feminist/anti-feminist; local/global; home/away; global South/North; victim/agent; domination/dependency. Finally, we will ask how processes of knowledge-production take shape within different intellectual and political movements such as postcolonial feminism, decolonial and indigenous feminism, liberal and radical feminism, Marxist feminism and religiously-based feminisms.

Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: LCD, SSC, SD Arch: SSC Art: SSC BU: BA EN: S

L77 WGSS 441A Gender Analysis for International Affairs
Although for generations gender was ignored in theory and practice, it is a central but too often obscured dimension of the policy and practice of international affairs, relations, and development. In this transdisciplinary course, students take gender seriously as an analytical category and examine how masculinities, femininities, gender identities, and sexualities shape the construction, implementation, and outcomes of global governance, politics, economics, and interventions. By traversing both macro and micro levels, this course exposes students to diverse voices from around the world, which they utilize to conduct gender analyses of case studies relevant to their interests. Throughout, we will be mindful of (1) how gender functions in tandem with sexuality, class, race, religion, and ethnicity (intersectionality); and (2) how multidimensional identities morph historically, regionally, and culturally. The student builds a gender analysis toolkit and practices what Cynthia Enloe describes as “feminist curiosity,” exploring the relationship between gender and power in various aspects of international affairs.

Same as L97 GS (IAS) 4414 Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: LCD, SSC, SC Arch: SSC Art: SSC BU: BA, IS EN: S

L77 WGSS 443 Thinking about Consent
Consent has become a dominant framework we use to think about sex and sexual violence. We often assume that consent is clear, unambiguous, and consistent. At the same time, popular representations of sex and sexual violence suggest that situations and experiences are often fuzzy, messy, or icky -- in other words, questions of consent do not always have the clear answers that we might like to imagine. In this course, we will use recent literary, film, and pop culture expressions of unpleasant, ambiguous, and ambivalent sex to explore and interrogate feminist and queer theories of consent, sexual harm, and autonomy. Works will include Kristen Roupenian’s “Cat Person;” Patricia Lockwood’s “Rape Joke,” and Kate Elizabeth Russell’s “My Dark Vanessa,” along with work by Sara Ahmed, Wendy Brown, Octavia Butler, Angela Davis, Joseph J. Fischel, Ida B. Wells, and others. Topics include philosophies of consent; concepts of consent in queer, racialized, minoritized, disabled, and incarcerated communities; the experience of survivors; and alternatives to consent.

Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: SSC, SC EN: S
L77 WGSS 4496 Modern Japanese Women Writers
Japanese women have been scripted by Western (male) imagination as gentle, self-effacing creatures. From their (re)emergence in the late 19th century to their dominance in the late 20th, Japanese women writers have presented an image of their countrywomen as anything but demure. Struggling to define their voices against ever-shifting expectations and social contexts, the women they create in their fiction are valiant, if not at times violent. This course examines the various manifestations of the female image in female-authored modern Japanese fiction. Writers considered are Higuch Ichiyo, Hirabayashi Taiko, Uno Chiyo, Enchi Fumiko, Yamada Eimi, and others. A selection of novels and shorter fiction are available in English translation, and students need not be familiar with Japanese. Prerequisites: 6 units of literature/women's studies and junior standing, or permission of the instructor.

Same as L05 Japan 4491
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, LCD, SC Arch: HUM Art: HUM BU: BA EN: H

L77 WGSS 4502 Women and the Medieval French Literary Theory
The Middle Ages constitute a beginning — a period when new languages and literatures came into being, along with Romanesque book — illumination and stained glass, Gothic cathedrals, Gregorian chant, Troubadour song, Crusades for the Holy Land and quests for the Holy Grail. Medieval French Literature is therefore a new literature, defining itself against antique models and its own rich multilingual, highly visual and oral culture. This course provides an overview of this diverse and fascinating literary tradition while focusing on the status of women in the literary production of the Middle Ages. Particular attention is given to women's role in the creation of texts as authors and patrons. We also examine how gender roles are constructed and challenged through the literary representation of female characters. Readings include examples from major genres: Marie de France's Lais, Chrétien de Troyes' Lancelot, Rutebeuf's Vie de Sainte Elyslabel, the anonymous Aucassin and Nicolette, as well as Fabliaux, poetry of the Trouvères and Troubairitz, excerpts of the Roman de la Rose, and works by Christine de Pizan. All readings and discussions are in modern French. Prerequisites: French 325 and French 326 or one of these courses and the equivalent Washington University transfer literature course from Toulouse or Paris. One-hour preceptorial for required for undergraduates.

Same as L34 French 450
Credit 3 units. Art: HUM

L77 WGSS 4505 Topics in Korean Literature and Culture: Gender in Korean Literature and Film
Varied topics in Korean literature and culture. Subject matter varies by semester; refer to current semester listings for topic.

Same as L51 Korean 455
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: LCD EN: H

L77 WGSS 4551 Intersectional Identities in Medieval France
Were medieval French identities "intersectional"? What cultural evidence is there -- in literature, theatrical performance, the visual arts, and the artifacts of everyday life -- for such identity categories as "race," "sexuality," or "disability"? In this course, we will investigate medieval French imaginaries of the racialized, gendered, classed, and able/disabled body, seeking to do the following: (1) understand the systems of power and privilege that undergirded medieval identities; (2) critique the contemporary perception of medieval Europe as an all-"white," male-dominated space; and (3) explore how contemporary critical identity studies can deepen our comprehension of medieval culture and how medieval materials can offer new insights into contemporary identity formations. This course will be taught in English, with a weekly discussion section in French for undergraduates enrolling for French credit. Prerequisite: French 325, French 326, Thinking-It-Through, or In-Depth.

Same as L34 French 4550
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, LCD, SC Arch: HUM Art: HUM BU: BA EN: H

L77 WGSS 457 Gender and Modernity in Latin America
The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the particular forms modernity assumes in Latin American countries and to the ways in which national cultures, identity politics, and gender issues interweave during the 20th-century. The course will discuss three particular articulation of this topic: 1) Gender and the national question in Argentina: Eva Peron; 2) Gender and Visual Arts: Frida Kahlo; and 3) Gender and Ethnicity: Rigoberta Menchu. Through these iconic figures, students will be introduced to the specific features that characterized three very different but representative cultural scenarios in Latin America. In each case, the context for the emergence of these highly influential public figures will be studied from historical, social and cultural perspectives. In order to explore the cultural and political significance of Eva Peron, Frida Kahlo and Rigoberta Menchu, the course will utilize literary texts (speeches, letters, diaries, etc.), visual materials (photography, films, and paintings) and critical bibliography.

Same as L45 LatAm 457
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM Arch: HUM Art: HUM EN: H

L77 WGSS 4601 Taboo: Contesting Race, Sexuality and Violence in American Cinema
Pushing the envelope or going too far? What is the boundary between films that challenge us and films that offend us? This is a course about films that crossed that boundary, most often by presenting images of race, sexuality and violence, images that could attract audiences as much as they offended moral guardians and courted legal sanctions. Because they were denied the First Amendment protection of free speech by a 1915 Supreme Court decision, movies more than any prior art form were repeatedly subject to various attempts at regulating content by government at federal, state, and even municipal levels. Trying to stave off government control, Hollywood instituted forms of self-regulation, first in a rigid regime of censorship and subsequently in the Ratings system still in use. Because taboo content often means commercial success, Hollywood could nonetheless produce films that pushed the envelope and occasionally crossed over into more transgressive territory. While control of content is a top-down attempt to impose moral norms and standards of behavior on a diverse audience, it also reflects changing standards of acceptable public discourse. That topics once barred from dramatic representation by the Production Code — miscegenation, homosexuality and "lower forms of sexuality," for example — could eventually find a place in American movies speaks to changes in the culture at large. In trying to understand these cultural changes, this course explores films that challenged taboos, defied censorship, and caused outrage, ranging from films in the early 20th century that brought on the first attempts to control film content through to films released under the ratings system, which has exerted subtler forms of control. Required screenings.

Same as L53 Film 460
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, SC, SD Art: CPSC EN: H
L77 WGSS 4675 Beyond the Harem: Women, Gender, and Revolution in the Modern Middle East
This course examines the history and current situations of women in Middle Eastern societies. The first half of the course is devoted to studying historical changes in factors structuring women's status and their sociopolitical roles. The second half of the course will focus on several case studies of women's participation in broad anticolonial social revolutions and how these revolutions affected the position of women in those societies.
Same as L22 History 4675
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, LCD BU: BA, HUM EN: H

L77 WGSS 4711 Gender and Religion in China
In this course, we explore the images, roles and experience of women in Chinese religions: Confucianism, Daoism, Buddhism, and so-called "popular" religion. Topics discussed include: gender concepts, norms and roles in each religious tradition; notions of femininity and attitudes toward the female body; biographies of women in Confucian, Daoist, and Buddhist literature; female goddesses and deities; and the place of the Buddhist and Daoist nun and laywoman in Chinese society. All readings are in English or in English translation. Prerequisite: senior/graduate standing. Students with no previous background in Chinese religion, literature or culture need to obtain instructor's permission before enrolling.
Same as L23 Re St 4711
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, LCD

L77 WGSS 475 Reformers and Radicals: Feminist Thinking Through History
We focus on feminist thought in Western culture but also examine non-Western ideas about feminisms. We trace the relationship among emergent feminist ideas and such developments as the rise of scientific methodology, Enlightenment thought, revolutionary movements and the gendering of the political subject, colonialism, romanticism, socialism, and global feminisms. Readings are drawn from both primary sources and recent feminist scholarship on the texts under consideration. Note: This course is in the core curriculum for the Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies graduate certificate. Permission of instructor required. Prerequisite: completion of at least one Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies course or permission of the instructor. Students who have taken L77 475 Intellectual History of Feminism cannot take this class.
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, SC, SD Arch: HUM Art: HUM EN: H

L77 WGSS 480 Topics in Buddhist Traditions: Gender and Sexuality in Buddhism
This course focuses on a selected theme in the study of Buddhism. Please refer to the course listings for a description of the current offering.
Same as L23 Re St 480
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, LCD Art: HUM BU: ETH, HUM EN: H

L77 WGSS 481 Selected English Writers I
Concentrated study of one or two major English writers, e.g., Spenser, Dickens, Blake, Yeats. Consult course listings.

L77 WGSS 483 Gender and Genre
A sampling of the diverse contributions made by French women to literary history. This course examines what prompted women to write in the 16th century; what they wrote about; which genres they chose; how these women were viewed by their contemporaries; etc. Prerequisites: French 325 or 326 or one of these courses and the equivalent Washington University transfer literature course from Toulouse or Paris. One-hour preceptorial required for undergraduates.
Same as L34 French 483
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, LCD, SC, SD Arch: HUM Art: HUM EN: H

L77 WGSS 4918 Advanced Seminar: Sexuality in the United States
Does sex have a history, and if so, how can we study it? This seminar examines important themes in the history of sexuality: the relationship between sexual ideologies and practices; racial hierarchy and sexuality; the policing of sexuality; construction of sexual identities and communities; and sexual politics at the end of the century. Students will also spend time discussing theoretical approaches to the history of sexuality, as well as methodological issues, including problems of source and interpretation.
Same as L22 History 4918
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM Arch: HUM Art: HUM EN: H

L77 WGSS 4982 Advanced Seminar: Women and Confucian Culture in Early Modern East Asia
This course explores the lives of women in East Asia during a period when both local elites and central states sought to Confucianize society. We will focus on Ming (1368-1644) and Qing (1644-1911) China, but will also examine these issues in two other early modern East Asian societies: Yi/Choson (1329-1910) Korea and Tokugawa (1600-1868) Japan.
Same as L22 History 4982
Credit 3 units.

L77 WGSS 499 Honors Thesis: Research and Writing
Enrollment in this course is limited to students accepted into the Honors Program. Petition for permission to enroll is available in the Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Office, McMillan Hall, Room 210.
Credit 3 units. EN: H

L77 WGSS 4993 Advanced Seminar: Women and Religion in Medieval Europe
This course explores the religious experience of women in medieval Europe and attempts a gendered analysis of the Christian Middle Ages. In it, we will examine the religious experience of women in a variety of settings — from household
to convent. In particular, we will try to understand how and why women came to assume public roles of unprecedented prominence in European religious culture between the 12th century and the 16th, even though the institutional church barred them from the priesthood and religious precepts remained a principal source of the ideology of female inferiority.
Same as L22 History 4993
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, LCD EN: H

L77 WGSS 49MB Advanced Seminar: Women and Gender in Modern Caribbean History
This course will highlight women in the “making” of Caribbean history, and it will consider how “men” and “women” were made in the English-speaking Caribbean from emancipation (1838) to the present. We will explore women and gender issues within the context of significant political shifts including the transition from slavery to wage and indentured labor, the labor rebellions of the 1930s, the rise of labor unions and political parties, anti-colonial activism, decolonization and nationalism. The course will also situate the Caribbean within an international context, paying attention to migration, black internationalism and the Third World movement.
Same as L22 History 49MB
Credit 3 units. A&S IQ: HUM, LCD, SD BU: IS EN: H