SPRING 2009 COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Graduate Minor Courses

GSC 60502   Issues in Contemporary Poetics
TR 2:00 pm – 3:15 pm
Fulfills Humanities Requirement for Undergraduate Majors
Fulfills Course Requirement for Gender Studies Graduate Minor
Joyelle McSweeney/ENGL
Department Approval Required
This course fulfills a gender studies rubric on the most general level in that it will include works by male, female, straight and queer writers; more specifically, we will study the ways hybrid genres and formats dismantle conventional hierarchies pertaining to gender, nation, language, the body and the body of the text. Additionally, we will take up such theorists and critics as Artaud, Acker, Parks, Virilio, Deleuze and Guattari, Cha and others as they consider such matters as obscenity, resistance, subversion, and the militarized or colonized body, landscape and tongue. Implicitly, course readings and discussions will evince the contiguity and solidarity of gender studies, disability studies, postcolonial studies, minor literatures, and other theoretical models.

GSC 60555   Feminist and Multicultural Theologies
TR 3:30 pm – 4:45 pm
Fulfills Humanities or Diversity Requirement for Undergraduate Majors
Fulfills Course Requirement for Gender Studies Graduate Minor
Catherine M. Hilker/THEO
Department Approval Required
An exploration of how the voices of women have helped to reshape theological discourse and to bring to light new dimensions of the living Christian tradition. Like other liberation theologies, feminist theologies take the experience of suffering and missing voices in the tradition as the starting points for theological reflection on the mystery of God and all of reality in relation to God. Using the writings of feminist, womanist, Latina, mujerista, Asian, and Third World theologians, this class will focus on the following questions and areas of theology: the theological task and vocation, the significance of gender and social location in the fields of theological anthropology and Christology, theologies of the cross in the face of contemporary suffering, the mystery of God, and implications of women's spirituality in our day. Students will have the opportunity to join an optional reading group that will focus on classic texts in the development of feminist theologies.

GSC 60600   Gender and Health
MW 11:45 am – 1:00 pm
Fulfills Social Science or Diversity Requirement for Undergraduate Majors
Fulfills Course Requirement for Gender Studies Graduate Minor
Vania Smith-Oka/ANTH
Department Approval Required
This course looks at the intersection of gender, health policy, and health care organization around the world. Some of the issues to be discussed include: medicalization of the female body; critical medical anthropology; the politics of reproduction; social production of illness and healing; politics, poverty, and health; national and international health and development policies.
GSC 61650  Marital Therapy Practicum
M 5:45 pm – 7:00 pm
Fulfills Course Requirement for Gender Studies Graduate Minor
David A. Smith/PSY
Department Approval Required/Restricted to Psychology Graduate Students
Pre-Requisite: Marital Therapy Seminar I.
Trainees who have successfully completed the Marital Therapy Seminar (646B) register for this supervised practicum every semester. They carry cases at the Marital Therapy and Research Clinic.

GSC 63504  Contemporary Political Philosophy
TR 12:30 pm – 1:45 pm
Fulfills Humanities Requirement for Undergraduate Majors
Fulfills Course Requirement for Gender Studies Graduate Minor
James Sterba/PHIL
Department Approval Required
This course will provide a critical evaluation of the most compelling contemporary political perspectives along with their foundations and practical requirements. Whether we spend more time on the political perspectives themselves, or on evaluating their foundations, or on working out their practical requirements will depend on the interests of the students who enroll in the course, as will also which political perspectives we will be considering and what practical requirements we will be looking at. So this will be a course that will be driven and structured by the students' own interests in contemporary political philosophy.
Requirements (also open for negotiation), Two papers (each 10-15 pages in length), Participation in class discussions.

GSC 63552  US Women’s/Gender History
F 2:00 pm – 4:30 pm
Fulfills Humanities or Diversity Requirement for Undergraduate Majors
Fulfills Course Requirement for Gender Studies Graduate Minor
Gail Bederman/HIST
Departmental Approval Required
This colloquium is intended to serve as an introduction to the fields of U.S. women's, gender and sexuality history. It will provide a basic background to some of the major current methodologies, approaches and topical interests in these fields, as well as acquainting students with the changing ways these histories have been written over the past forty years. Although the first half of the course will be organized chronologically, from colonial times through the twentieth century, the main focus will be historiographical. We will not attempt to "cover" all the important areas of this historiography. Students who wish to master this field, however, will emerge from the class with the requisite analytical tools to begin that task. Although most of our common readings will discuss the United States, some readings and/or papers may discuss women's/gender/sexuality history in other national, regional, or comparative histories.

GSC 63600  Gender & Human Development
R 3:00 pm – 5:30 pm
Fulfills Social Science or Diversity Requirement for Undergraduate Majors
Fulfills Interdisciplinary Core Seminar Requirement for Gender Studies Graduate Minor
Eileen Hunt Botting/GSC/POLS
Department Approval Required
Integrating the fields of gender studies, political theory, philosophy, sociology, and economics, this seminar addresses how gender affects both economic development and our development as human beings. In the first half of the semester, we will learn both classic and contemporary theoretical approaches to the study of the roles
of gender in human development (Rousseau, Wollstonecraft, J.S. Mill, de Beauvoir, Dupré, Young, Sen, Nussbaum, Sachs, MacKinnon, Mohanty, Nagel, and Sandoval). In the second half of the semester, students will apply these theories to analyze several case studies of the roles of gender in human development, particularly in developing countries in contemporary East Africa and Latin America, through presentations and seminar discussions of their self-designed research projects.

The learning objectives of the seminar are for students to become adept in the interdisciplinary discussion and study of gender and human development, to give professional oral presentations of their research, and to write article-length research papers suitable for eventual publication or conference presentation.

This course fulfills the interdisciplinary core seminar requirement for graduate students in the Gender Studies Graduate Minor. This course also counts toward the completion of the political theory concentration in the doctoral program in Political Science. Upper-level undergraduates may take this course with permission of the instructor, in fulfillment of the requirements of the Gender Studies major or minor, the Political Science major, or the Philosophy, Politics, and Economics minor.