



Department of Women's and Gender Studies  
Summer and Fall 2017  
Undergraduate Course Offerings

*For questions about permits, course registration, and degree requirements please make an appointment to see your academic advisor by visiting <http://usfweb.usf.edu/escheduler/student.aspx>.*



# WST 2250: The Female Experience in America

David Rubin, Ph.D.

Offered completely online (CRN 55187) in Summer B

What new perspectives on American history, culture, and politics become available when we center women's experiences? How do sex, gender, race, and class, among other categories of difference and power, intersect to shape women's everyday lives? What experiences do women share, and how do differences between women shape their relationships with one another and with American society more broadly? How do women of diverse walks of life variously understand, respond to, and challenge structural inequalities?

Looking carefully at women's roles in American history, medicine and science, culture, and politics, this course will teach students how to critically analyze a variety of texts—scholarship from various fields, as well as materials from popular culture, literature, and film—from a variety of disciplinary and interdisciplinary perspectives. In addition to providing an overview of the female experience in America, the goal of this course is to help you develop the basic critical thinking and writing skills necessary for succeeding in undergraduate studies.

This course meets the FKL requirements for human historical context and humanities.



# WST 2250: The Female Experience in America

Tangela Serls, M.Ed.

Offered completely online (CRN 84258 ) in Fall

Our understanding of the past is transformed when considered through women's experiences. This course reexamines U.S. History through the lived experiences of women from the late 1800s to the present, providing alternate conceptions of what and whom constitutes "the U.S.," and thus "U.S. history." While we will identify common experiences between different groups of women, we will also notice the differences and divisions among them. We will highlight how women's identities cannot be separated along lines of gender, race, and class, but intersect to form unique and distinctive experiences.

We further investigate how a variety of women have created and responded to shifting and contested cultural, political, and social discourses and events. Positioning ourselves as both students and scholars, we link the historical journey of American women to current social and political conditions surrounding contemporary experiences, like voter identification mandates, immigration debates, and the impact of 9/11.

This course meets the FKL requirements for human historical context and humanities.



# WST 2600: Human Sexual Behavior

Jennifer Ellerman-Queen, M.A.

Summer B: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 2:30—4:50 PM PM (CRN 52997)

Fall: Mondays and Wednesdays, 3:30—4:45 PM (CRN 84257)

Let's talk about sex!

Mainstream America is awash in mixed and often conflicting messages about sex. On one hand we are bombarded by sexually explicit imagery, yet there is a conspiracy of silence when it comes to having frank, honest discussions about sex. In this class we will begin to delve into and pull apart notions about sex and gender from historical, social, cultural, political, and biological perspectives in an effort to create a holistic and interdisciplinary paradigm that more accurately encompasses human experience.

We will touch on topics such as: sexual response, double standards, gender vs. sex, gender roles, masculinity, heteronormativity, gender non-conforming, birth control, sexually transmitted infections, sexy safer sex, sexual expression and variation, and sexual violence/coercion. In addition to spirited discussions, there will be in-class activities, role playing, and videos that will have you hungry for more!

Think of it as the sex education class that you only *wish* you would have taken in high school... only a lot more fun and thought-provoking! Upon completion, students will have the tools and knowledge necessary to make informed choices about their sexual health. This class also meets the FKL requirement for Social and Behavioral Science.

*Human Sexual Behavior* requires one text book: *Sex Matters*, 4th Edition.



# IDS 2931: Intro to LGBTQ Culture

Milton Wendland, JD. And Ph.D.

Offered completely online in Summer B (CRN 61223)

Explores the experiences of people who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, asexual, intersex, nonbinary, and more -- and the histories, representations, and cultures they've developed. We'll pay particular attention to how oppression and progress, repression and expression, and conflict and cooperation are often interrelated and we'll also take notice of how race, class, and region affect these experiences.

**Questions about our readings? Assignments? Class schedule? Just drop Dr. Wendland an email at [miltonw@usf.edu](mailto:miltonw@usf.edu).**



# WST 3015: Intro to Women's Studies

Michelle Hughes Miller, Ph.D.  
Mondays and Wednesdays, 2—3:15 PM  
(CRN 80694 in Fall)

Milton Wendland, Ph.D.  
Offered completely online (CRN 55188 in  
Summer A and CRN 86168 in Fall)


Gender and sex and power... Oh my!

In this course we develop critical frameworks for thinking about sex, gender, and sexuality. What do these words mean? Are these things “natural” or might they vary by person and time and place? Do our go-to ideas about sex, gender, and sexuality fit all experiences? What other ways of thinking about sex, gender, and sexuality exist – in our culture and in other cultures? Do sex, gender, and sexual orientation matter or are they “just human?” What roles have feminist movements and gender justice movements played in advancing these questions? And what do we make of the backlash that says “feminists are man-haters” or that “real men don’t cry?” In what ways do gender norms control us all?

We also think about the ways that sex, gender, and sexual orientation are constructed and institutionalized – in our friendships and love lives, in our families and kin networks, in our schools and workplaces, in pop culture and politics, and in our culture more generally. Among the issues we might explore are the ongoing debates concerning public and private, the value of feminism and gender justice movements, equality and difference, and the intersection of gender with other axes of identity like class, religion, and race. This course is foundational if you’re going into education, medicine, law, social welfare, journalism, parenthood, or any other career that involves...

Wait for it...! Wait for it...! Working with humans! Why? Because all humans have some relationship to sex, gender, and sexual orientation themselves and in our society. This course draws heavily on the notions that the personal is political and that the political is personal, connecting theory and academic thinking with “real life” and requiring that students become adept at doing the same.

This course meets the FKL requirement for social and behavioral science.



# WST 3324: Women, Environment, & Gender

Zoe DuPree Fine, M.A.

Offered completely online (CRN 56597 in Summer C and CRN 88923 in Fall)

We are our environments. We concurrently create, consume, and are consumed by the images and messages about difference that bombard us every day. In *Women, Environment, and Gender*, students excavate and analyze their individual and collective experiences of sex, gender, race, socioeconomic status, sexuality, dis/able-bodiedness, age, and nationality in and through the lenses of the very environments we create and perpetuate. Students accomplish this all while having this multisensory, multimedia 100% online class count as an Exit Requirement Major Works, an FKL Natural Science (NS) Life Science core, and/or an Environmental Policy Concentration course!

In WST 3324, students will learn course content ranging from feminist and critical race theories to environmental and socioeconomic oriented scholarship, and from historically situated narratives to literature centered on difference, and apply it to their life experiences. Through these reflective and reflexive applications, students will illustrate in their course assignments how theory and practice inextricably coalesce in Women's and Gender Studies. This 100% online learning experience will give students the rare opportunity to discover strategies of resistance and subversion while gaining tools that will empower us to positively change our environments, to create a brighter 21st century for all. Join us on this journey of a lifetime!



# WST 4262: Literature by Women of Color in the Diaspora

Tangela Serls, M.Ed.

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12:30—1:45 PM (CRN 85358)

and Tuesdays 5—7:45 PM (CRN 95905) in Fall

This course centers works by women of color who write against a legacy of invisibility. The authors position their characters as knowing subjects in an effort to give voice to groups of women who are routinely pushed to the margins.

In this course we will read, discuss, and analyze works by Toni Morrison, Maxine Hong Kingston, Edwidge Danticat, Angie Cruz, and other women of color who use their writing to combat racist, sexist, and classist power structures. We will explore what the texts suggest about women of color's spirit to survive in spite of assaults on their bodies and psyches. We will also examine how social institutions and relationships are affected by such offenses.

In this course students will be encouraged to consider Barbara Christian's declaration in "The Race for Theory" that calls for scholars to center works by women of color and engage them on their own terms. This course is largely discussion-based, and we will approach each narrative with empathy and the willingness to tolerate uncertainty, otherness, and our own ignorance.

This course satisfies the FKL Writing Intensive and Gordon Rule requirements. This course satisfies the exit FKL and Gordon Rule requirements.





# WST 4930: Queer Theory

David Rubin, Ph.D.

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11 AM—12:15 PM (CRN 86621 in Fall)

This course will explore the intellectual and political genealogies of the interdisciplinary field of queer theory, paying special attention to how queer theory troubles and reconfigures—or queers—naturalized ideas about sexuality, gender, race, embodiment, health, power, knowledge, and human rights. We will begin by examining the field's analytic predecessors through a close reading of Sigmund Freud's *Three Essays on the Theory of Sexuality* and Michel Foucault's *The History of Sexuality, Volume 1*. We'll then turn to the moment generally recognized as the birth of queer theory in the U.S. academy—1990—when the convergence of feminist theory with lesbian and gay studies led to the publication of Judith Butler's *Gender Trouble* and Eve Sedgwick's *Epistemology of The Closet*. We will devote the remainder of the course to exploring various subfields and debates in queer studies, including: essentialism versus constructionism; the antisocial thesis; intersex and transgender studies; the sexual politics of neoliberalism; queer disability studies; queer of color critique; and queer diasporas. Taken as a whole, the aim of the course is not only to familiarize students with the history and major areas of research of queer theory, but also to provide a deep appreciation of the broad relevance of queer theory for approaching fundamental interdisciplinary questions.



# WST 4930: Intro to Sexuality Studies

Milton Wendland, JD. And Ph.D.

Tuesdays and Thursdays in Fall 9:30—10:45 AM (CRN 90399)

Join Dr. Wendland for a journey through some of the key concepts and issues in sexuality studies. Sexuality Studies is an emergent interdisciplinary field that looks at human sexuality from multiple angles – popular cultural, legal, psychological, artistic/literary, biological, political, historical, educational, sociological, anthropological, and more. Sexuality Studies is concerned with behaviors and identities and the way those behaviors and identities both shape and are shaped by individuals and culture, especially in relation to power. Please note that this course is separate from and covers different material than WST 2600 Human Sexual Behavior. There is no prerequisite for this course.

**Questions about our readings? Assignments? Class schedule? Just drop Dr. Wendland an email at [miltonw@usf.edu](mailto:miltonw@usf.edu).**



# WST 4930: Sex Work and Trafficking— Discourse and Violence

Jill McCracken, Ph.D.

Fridays, 11 AM—1:45 PM (CRN 91596) in Fall

In this course we will explore sex work and human trafficking in the sex industry on both theoretical and practical levels within global and local contexts. Combining theories on gender, sexuality, and race with major theories about sex work and human trafficking in the sex industry, students will apply these concepts to real-world applications within sex work and anti-trafficking organizations and policies. Students will gain an understanding of the complexities involved in sex work and trafficking in the sex industry. In addition to examining how arguments surrounding sex work and trafficking in the sex industry are constructed and shaped by the contexts in which they are written, students will demonstrate their understanding of these theories by using them in their own arguments about sex work and human trafficking. Students will critically analyze an aspect of sex work or trafficking in the sex industry that illustrates the depth and breadth of their knowledge.



# WST 4935: Capstone in Women's & Gender Studies

Kim Golombisky, Ph.D.

Mondays and Wednesdays, 12:30—1:45 PM (CRN 88933) in Fall

Capstone is the senior experience for Women's and Gender Studies students who ready to take their education off campus and out into the world. Recognizing the interplay between personal connections and intellectual experience, the course is designed to you help you establish some post-graduation goals and successfully leverage your WGS knowledge toward achieving said goals. The semester culminates in a final project, negotiated between you and the professor. Your project by design becomes a major portfolio piece for demonstrating your intellect, skills, and ability to succeed, whether in graduate school, doing social justice advocacy and activism, and/or on career path using your degree.



# WST 4940: Internship in Women's & Gender Studies

Milton Wendland, Ph.D.

Select meeting dates (CRN 89573 in Fall)

What the heck is an internship?!

- Do you ever wonder, "What will I do with a WGS degree?!"
- Do you want some real world experience putting your WGS knowledge into action?
- Do you want a rockin' resume when you start applying for jobs or graduate school?

A WGS Internship is your chance to connect your educational experiences with feminism and social justice in a professional business and non-profit environment beyond the classroom. Um. Okay. What does that mean?

It means -- You'll work on-site with a local organization for the entire semester -- earning 1-3 hours of academic credit that count toward your degree and toward graduation (oh yeah!), contributing to the success of our communities (um social justice for the win!), and gaining valuable skills for your own career (skills to pay the bills!) -- all within the context of a feminist and social justice framework. Yeah, that's right! REAL WORLD experience with a FEMINIST flavor!

And best of all, the internship is keyed to YOUR specific career interests and skills, with Dr. Wendland helping you along the way to sort your internship experiences into valuable job skills. And don't worry! A moment of frustration can become a key skill on your resume. If you find out that "Ew, yeah... I don't like working with children after all," then that helps us discuss your job search. Regular check-in chats with Dr. Wendland keep the whole experience focused on your success.

WGS Interns have made connections with important Florida politicians, lobbied the state legislature, assisted with ACA "Obamacare" education, written sex-positive blogs, become trained self-defense instructors, done art therapy with young girls, organized food banks, developed outreach presentations for young voters, assisted Latino/a immigrants, web designed for a sexual assault crisis center, and more. And here's the thing -- THOSE experiences help YOU meet the CONTACTS you need on the job market!

To learn more (even if you're still not quite sure what an internship is!), drop Dr. Wendland an email at [miltonw@usf.edu](mailto:miltonw@usf.edu)