

# Women's and Gender Studies

## Spring 2014 Graduate Courses

118 Himes Hall • 578-4807 • wgs@lsu.edu • <http://www.lsu.edu/wgs>

To get a **WGS Graduate Minor**, you need to take WGS 7150, 7900, and 6 hours of approved 4000/7000 level courses.

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### WGS COURSE OFFERINGS

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#### WGS 4500

##### Psychoanalyzing Gender

What does it mean to identify ourselves (or be identified as) feminine or masculine, straight or gay? Are our feelings, abilities, and ambitions dependent on whether we are born women or men? Can nurture outweigh nature? Are we able to change our identities? Do we want to? Do they change over time in ways we don't always realize? We will consider responses to these and other questions by classical analysts such as Sigmund Freud and Frantz Fanon, as well as those by contemporary theorists such as Jessica Benjamin, Lee Edelman, and Elisabeth Young-Bruhl. Discussion format. Required work includes daily journal, 3 essays, take-home final, and attendance/participation.

Michelle Massé

10:30-11:50 T/Th

#### WGS 4900

##### Readings in Women's and Gender Studies

*PERMISSION OF DEPARTMENT REQUIRED*

#### WGS 7900

##### Independent Reading and Research

*PERMISSION OF DEPARTMENT REQUIRED*

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### WGS ELECTIVES

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#### ANTH 4909

##### Doing Oral History

The class will include a strong gender component as it involves feminist methodologies and discussion of theory, method and ethics of doing oral history to document the voices and experiences of under-represented groups including women, racial and cultural minorities, and members of oppressed or marginalized communities. For more information, please contact Helen Regis [hregis1@lsu.edu](mailto:hregis1@lsu.edu)

Helen Regis

3:00-5:50 T

#### ENGL 7423

#### Ritual in Caribbean Literature

This course explores the roles that gender, sexuality, and ritual play in framing Caribbean and Caribbean diaspora literature. We look at how authors construct representations of gender, sexuality, and race through writing about vernacular religious practices like folk Catholicism, Santería, Vodou, and Obeah. Authors covered include, but are not limited to: Junot Díaz, Reinaldo Arenas, Mayra Santos-Febres, Thomas Glave, Achy Obejas, Mayra Montero, Virgilio Piñera, Edwidge Danticat, Maryse Condé, Lorna Goodison, Giannani Braschi, Nancy Morejón, and Zoe Valdés. The social and historical contexts of the Caribbean and the African diaspora also makes this course a site for the examination of transnational, post-colonial, and creolized cultural production.

Solimar Otero

3:00-5:50 W

#### ENGL 7541

##### The Rhetorics and Poetics of Disability and Medicine

This course will introduce graduate students to the field of Disability Studies through a number of lenses, some more rhetorical and some more literary. In addition, we will be reading theoretical work that will help us frame our inquiries: work by Robert McRuer, and the Feminist Science Theorists Sandra Harding and Donna Haraway, among others. Such work will also help us consider such disability issues as prosthetics and representation of those who are differently abled in our and other cultures. Some of the literary work we will take up includes Nancy Mairs, Jean-Dominique Bauby and Temple Grandin. Brenda Jo Brueggemann's work on deaf culture will also be valuable and will offer great insight into issues of representation by those who are not differently abled and claim to represent those who are. Disability is an important "emerging" field that we need to engage in critically and with careful awareness.

Barbara Heifferon

3:00-5:50 Th

#### GEOG 4078

##### Environment and Development

Geographic theories and methods for analyzing relationship between environment and development.

Brian Marks

8:30-9:20 MWF

#### INTL 4997

##### Arab Spring

Touria Khannous

9:00-10:20 TTH

#### PHIL 4947

**Consent, Sex Law, and Hooking Up**

Often the difference between a legally and morally permissible action and an illegal or immoral one comes down to consent. Yet, there is only a sparse theoretical literature on what exactly consent is. We can agree that consent amounts to a special type of agreement that transforms the moral parameters between two agents such that new moral obligations, permissions, and possibly even rights are created. But there is much more controversy over what conditions ought to be required for consent and how much moral value it takes to override consent, if that is even possible. This course will examine consent with an emphasis on how it plays out in sex law. The law tends to treat sexual consent as easier to establish than business consent. We will assess whether this position is morally or legally plausible. Further, the way young people have casual sex today—through hooking up—problematizes consent in a fashion that is rarely, if ever, discussed. Is hooking up morally or legally permissible? Find out, in Philosophy 4947!

James Rocha

3:00-4:20 MW

**REL 4010****Religion, Food, and Culture**

Food is a pivotal issue in a number of overlapping domains of interest: gender, religion, cultural studies, economic justice, and personal ethics, among others. In Rel, Food & Culture, we will examine these intersections. In all religions, dietary prescriptions and proscriptions are central to establishing communal identity and moral parameters. These dietary principles in turn help to shape many elements of social life. One of the most disturbing aspects of global corporate dominance is the eradication of bio-diversity and forced cultivation of denatured, chemically infused seeds and plants. Food is also, of course, a source of immense pleasure. A question many ask themselves is: it possible to maximize culinary pleasure while eating ethically and healthfully?

Gail Sutherland

3:00-4:20 T/Th

**SOCL 4463****Gender and Crime**

Courses titled "Gender and Crime" often end up being courses on women and crime. This is highly appropriate, since most criminological research and theory are devoted to male offenders. However, the "gender gap in offending" merits explanation. And that can't be done by focusing totally on women. This course will be a combination of these two imperatives, then—sometimes focusing more heavily on female offenders and victims who have been relegated to the sidelines of criminology and sometimes focusing on theoretical challenges that the gender gap in offending raises.

Sarah Becker

10:30-11:50 T/Th

**SW 7406****Social Work with Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender People**

The purpose of this course is to enhance students' professional competence with lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) people. Content explores social work practice at the micro, mezzo, and macro levels and across social, political, and economic realms.

Elaine Maccio

8:30-11:20 T