Women’s and Gender Studies Program
American University, College of Arts and Sciences
Fall 2009 Course Offerings

**If you have questions about declaring your major or minor, or about the WGS major/minor in general, please contact Professor Findlay or Professor Feder.**

WOMEN’S AND GENDER STUDIES
WGST-125/125G Gender in Society
   Young,G
   TF 11:20AM-12:35PM
This course focuses on the social construction of gender along with other forms of social inequality; representations of gender that permeate all forms of cultural experience; and theoretical arguments regarding key issues such as equality, ethics and politics, as well as debates at the frontier of gender theory.

WGST-350 Interpreting Gender in Culture

001 Hist of Modern LGBT Movemnt
   Connelly,R
   M 8:10PM-10:40PM
This course follows the emergence and advancement of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) civil rights movement in the United States from World War II to the present day. Students study how mid-century homophile assimilationist methodologies generated activist protestations and the politicization of LGBT issues including same-sex marriage, gays in the military, and the evolving dialogue of gender identity.

002 Gender and Violence
   Bendoraitis,S
   MW 6:45PM-8:00PM
This course examines rape and domestic violence specifically, and intimate partner violence in general. The class examines theories about intimate partner violence, frequency and prevalence of rape, and social and cultural contributors to domestic violence, rape, and sexual assault on college campuses, as well as what individuals and what society can do to end intimate partner violence.

WGST-392 Cooperative Educational Field Experience
Prerequisite: WGST-125 and permission of program director and Cooperative Education office. Varies by student. 3 credits.

WGST-490 Independent Study
Prerequisite: permission of instructor and program director. Varies by student. 1-6 credits

WGST-491 Internship Women’s & Gender Studies
Prerequisite: WGST-125 and permission of instructor and program director. Varies by Student. 1-6 credits.

WGST-498 Senior Honors Project in WGS
Prerequisite: WGST-500. 3 credits

WGST-500 Current Issues & Research in WGS
   Young,G
   W 11:20AM-2:00PM
Exploration of the philosophies, methods, and theories entailed in doing scholarly work in women's and gender studies. Close examination of selected current works in the discipline. Collaborative work developing bibliographies and designing course
activities; individual work in the field. Usually offered every fall. Prerequisite: permission of instructor or program director.

AMERICAN STUDIES
AMST-341 Research on City of Washington

001 Am Founding Fathers & Mothers
   Smith,E
   MTH 12:45PM-2:00PM
This course examines the lives, talents, and tenacity of men and women such as Thomas Jefferson, John and Abigail Adams, James and Dolly Madison, Alexander Hamilton (who has been characterized as the founder from the future who journeyed to the past to lead us to the present), and numerous other powerful personalities who helped to form the America we are today.

ANTHROPOLOGY
ANTH-215/215G Sex, Gender & Culture

001 Leap,W
   MTH 3:35PM-4:50PM
002
   TF 12:45PM-2:00PM
How economic systems, social structures, and values construct and redefine biological distinctions between women and men. Includes gender in egalitarian societies; origins and consequences of patriarchy; gay and lesbian cultures; gender, politics, and social change. Case studies from tribal, state-level, and post-colonial contexts.

ANTH-225/225G Language & Human Exper

001
   MTH 8:30AM-9:45AM
002
   MTH 2:10PM-3:25PM
Examines language and its contribution to creativity, and how knowledge of language enriches human experience. Includes imagery and metaphor building through language; the effects of topic, speaking situation, and gender on creativity in tribal, state-level, and post-colonial contexts; and ways written language recasts and redefines human imagination.

ANTH-431 Taboos
   Williams,B
   MTH 2:10PM-3:25PM
Exploration of those persons, items, experiences, and acts which so frighten and repel humans that they try to prohibit them. Includes discussion of subjects rich in taboo and sensitivity including sexuality, witchcraft, cannibalism, human-animal relations, madness, and death. Why taboos emerge, how they are enforced, and when they are violated.

ANTH-537 Topics in Language & Culture

002 Language, Sexuality, and Globalization
   Leap,W
   W 5:30PM-8:00PM
This course considers how sexuality is shaped by multiple forms of global circulation, e.g., economic development projects, urban restructuring, travel and tourism, international human rights campaigns, militarist expansion and anti-terrorism programs, trajectories of displacement and diaspora, and new forms of electronic media. As a parallel theme, the course considers how constructions of sexuality, at local and broader levels, provide content and incentive for further enactments of these globalizing processes. Course discussions pay particular attention to spaces of globalization, using the new literature on "sexual cartography" to map instances of the language/sexual/global interface in the Washington, DC area.
ECONOMICS
ECON-374 Gender Roles in the Economy
Grown,C
TF 2:10PM-3:25PM
Explores the gender dimensions of economic life. For economics majors, an in-depth look at the different roles of men and women in the community, the market, and within the household, and how these are affected by economic and social change. For women's studies and other social sciences majors, the discipline of economics is brought to bear on the study of women's and men's well-being and status in society.

ECON-574 Gender Persp Econ Anlys: Micro
Floro,M
W 5:30PM-8:00PM
This course provides an introduction to gender analysis in micro and labor economics. It explores theories of the household and household bargaining and empirical research; conceptualization and measurement of the reproductive economy, care work and unpaid work; women's participation in labor markets; assets and income distribution; gender, inequity, and poverty; and related social policy issues.

HEALTH & FITNESS
HFIT-245/245G Gender, Culture and Health
TF 12:45PM-2:00PM
Provides basic understanding of gender and cultural issues affecting health. Emphasis is placed on male/female and ethnic disparities in health status and how these gender and cultural indicators affect behavioral risk factors. The relationship between health and other factors such as religion, social class/socioeconomic status, acculturation, migration, and globalization are also studied.

HFIT-323 Issues in Women's Health
Rose,M
W 2:10PM-4:50PM
Provides basic understanding of gynecologic anatomy and physiology as well as female health conditions. Emphasis placed on current health research areas such as female cancers, menopause, infertility, lesbian health, minority health, sexually transmitted diseases, pregnancy, and sexual dysfunctions. Students develop a personal health plan based upon an extensive family history and personal lifestyle.

GOVERNMENT
GOVT-484 Women & Political Leadership
M 5:30PM-8:00PM
This course explores the historical evolution of women as leaders, the factors that have limited the number of women in leadership positions, and the differences in men's and women's leadership styles.

GOVT-486 Feminist Political Theory
W 2:10PM-4:50PM
This course traces the major debates in feminist political theory and their roots in liberalism, communitarianism, Marxism, post-modernism, and other schools of thought and examines the ways in which feminist political theory can inform current policy debates concerning women.

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE
SIS-319 Topics in Int'l Relations
008 Gender in Int'l Development
Samarasinghe,V
T 2:10PM-4:50PM
This course examines from an interdisciplinary and international perspective how development is gendered and creates different meanings, impacts, and processes for women around the world. The course explores the different theoretical approaches used in understanding women’s
situation in developing societies and examines the impact of production and reproduction, politics, globalization, environment, and migration on women in different parts of the developing world. The course probes the success and failure of development strategies in incorporating women into the development process and explores new approaches to ensure women’s empowerment and their agency to fully participate in development processes.

JUSTICE, LAW & SOCIETY
JLS-496 Selected Topics: Non-Recurring
001 Human Trafficking & the Media
Viano, E
W 8:10PM-10:40PM
This course examines the economic, social, cultural, and legal issues related to the trafficking of persons from an international and comparative perspective. It includes forced labor, the exploitation of immigrant females for domestic and sex services, the sale of children and irregular inter-country adoption, and the sale of wives legalized by transnational marriages. Students consider the trafficking prohibitions of the various international conventions, analyze legislative texts of domestic trafficking laws of selected jurisdictions worldwide, and analyze the U.S. statutes prohibiting trafficking in human beings.

PSYCHOLOGY
PSYC-430 Human Sexual Behavior
McCarthy, B
W 2:10PM-4:50PM
Basic physiological knowledge, sex education, sexual myths, premarital and marital sexual behavior, homosexuality, pornography, etc. Emphasis on psychological aspects of sex and sexuality.

SOCIOLOGY
SOCY-205/205G Families in Sociological Persp
Brenner, A
W 11:20AM-2:00PM
The family as a social institution in a changing society. Social inequalities of class, race, ethnicity, and gender as key factors in shaping diverse forms and experiences in family life. Theoretical and actual alternatives to family patterns as well as the future of the American family.

SOCY-354 White Privilege/Social Justice
Pascale, C
MTH 12:45PM-02:00PM
This course considers the social, legal, and media constructions of white racial identities in relation to issues of racial justice. It examines how white privilege intersects with gender, class, and sexuality. Students develop skills for multicultural alliances and strategies for antiracist activism.

SOCY-570 Sociology of Gender and Family
Young, G
W 5:30PM-8:00PM
The study of gender and family as basic principles of the social order and primary social categories. Introduces students to the theories, data sources and applications of family structures and gender relationships in the United States and cross-culturally.