

# WOMEN'S GENDER AND SEXUALITY STUDIES (WGSS)

**\* WGSS 031a / AMST 031a, LGBTQ Spaces and Places** Terrell Herring

Overview of LGBTQ cultures and their relation to geography in literature, history, film, visual culture, and ethnography. Discussion topics include the historical emergence of urban communities; their tensions and intersections with rural locales; race, sexuality, gender, and suburbanization; and artistic visions of queer and trans places within the city and without. Emphasis is on the wide variety of U.S. metropolitan environments and regions, including New York City, Los Angeles, Miami, the Deep South, Appalachia, New England, and the Pacific Northwest. Enrollment limited to first-year students. Preregistration required; see under First-Year Seminar Program.

HU

**\* WGSS 032b, History of Sexuality** Maria Trumpler

Exploration of scientific and medical writings on sexuality over the past century. Focus on the tension between nature and culture in shaping theories, the construction of heterosexuality and homosexuality, the role of scientific studies in moral discourse, and the rise of sexology as a scientific discipline. Enrollment limited to first-year students. Preregistration required; see under First-Year Seminar Program. WR, HU

**\* WGSS 036a / AMST 032a, Gender, Sexuality, and U.S. Empire** Talya Zemach-Bersin

This course explores the cultural history of America's relationship to the world across the long twentieth century with particular attention to the significance of gender, sexuality, and race. We locate U.S. culture and politics within an international dynamic, exposing the interrelatedness of domestic and foreign affairs. While exploring specific geopolitical events like the Spanish-American War, World War I and II, and the Cold War, this course emphasizes the political importance of culture and ideology rather than offering a formal overview of U.S. foreign policy. How have Americans across the twentieth century drawn from ideas about gender to understand their country's relationship to the wider world? In what ways have gendered ideologies and gendered approaches to politics shaped America's performance on the world's stage? How have geopolitical events impacted the construction of race and gender on the home front? In the most general sense, this course is designed to encourage students to understand American cultural and gender history as the product of America's engagement with the world. In so doing, we explore the rise of U.S. global power as an enterprise deeply related to conceptions of race, sexuality, and gender. We also examine films, political speeches, visual culture, music, and popular culture. Enrollment limited to first-year students. Preregistration required; see under First-Year Seminar Program. HU

**\* WGSS 112a / HIST 112Ja, Early Histories of Sexuality** Caleb Knapp

This course examines histories of sexuality across a range of colonial and national contexts, including the British Caribbean, colonial Hawai'i, Mexico, and India, the U.S. South, and the North American West. It tracks how people thought about, regulated, and engaged in sex prior to the emergence of sexuality as a category of knowledge and explores the historiographical challenges of narrating histories of sex before sexuality.

WR, HU

**WGSS 125b / AFAM 115b, "We Interrupt this Program: The Multidimensional Histories of Queer and Trans Politics"** Roderick Ferguson

In 1991, the arts organizations Visual AIDS and The Kitchen collaborated with video artist and filmmaker Charles Atlas to produce the live television broadcast "We Interrupt this Program." Part educational presentation, part performance piece, the show was aired in millions of homes across the nation. The program, in The Kitchen's words, "sought to feature voices that had often been marginalized within many discussions of AIDS, in particular people of color and women." This course builds upon and is inspired by this aspect of Atlas's visionary presentation, an aspect that used the show to produce a critically multicultural platform that could activate cultural histories and critical traditions from various communities. In effect, the course uses this aspect as a metonym for the racial, gender, sexual, and class heterogeneity of queer art and organizing. It conducts its investigation by looking at a variety of primary materials that illustrate the heterogeneous makeup of queer and trans politics. The course also draws on more recent texts and visual works that arose from the earlier contexts that the primary texts helped to illuminate and shape. HU RP o Course cr

**WGSS 127a / ER&M 127a / EVST 127a / SOCY 127a, Health and Illness in Social Context** Staff

Present-day medicine and health care provide solutions to an ever-increasing array of human problems. Yet the achievement of health can be elusive. This course provides a broad introduction to the domains of health and illness in the U.S., with some coverage of international trends and topics. Students analyze how our personal health and public health are shaped by social structures, political struggles, expert knowledge, and medical markets. Topics include the cultural and social meanings associated with health and illness; inequalities in health and health care access and provision; controversies surrounding healthcare, medical knowledge production, and medical decision-making; and the social institutions of the health care industry. None SO o Course cr

**\* WGSS 135a / ER&M 356a, Latina/x/e Feminism** Deb Vargas

The course introduces students to Latina/x/e feminist theories. We focus on historical and contemporary writings by and about Chicana, Puerto Rican, Central American, and other Latina/x/e feminist writers and activists. The course draws from interdisciplinary scholarship addressing the intellectual landscape of Latina/x/e and critical race feminist theories and social movement activist organizing. While this course approaches Latina/x/e feminist theories and activism as often having emerged in relation to U.S. nation-making projects we will consider this work with the understanding that projects of Latina/x/e feminism should be understood as cross-border, transnational, and multi-scalar critiques of nation-state violence. HU

**WGSS 194a / ENGL 194a, Queer Modernisms** Staff

Study of modernist literature and the historical formation of homosexual identity from the late nineteenth through mid-twentieth centuries. Topics include: sexology as a medical and disciplinary practice; decadence and theories of degeneration; the criminalization of homosexuality in the Wilde and Pemberton-Billing trials; cross-dressing and drag balls in Harlem; transsexuality and sex-reassignment surgery; lesbian periodical cultures; nightlife and cruising; gay Berlin and the rise of fascism; colonial narratives of same-sex desire; and the salon cultures of expatriate Paris. WR, HU o Course cr

**\* WGSS 202a / AFAM 239a / AMST 461a / EDST 209a / ER&M 292a, Identity, Diversity, and Policy in U.S. Education** Craig Canfield

Introduction to critical theory (feminism, queer theory, critical race theory, disability studies, trans studies, indigenous studies) as a fundamental tool for understanding and critiquing identity, diversity, and policy in U.S. education. Exploration of identity politics and theory, as they figure in education policy. Methods for applying theory and interventions to interrogate issues in education. Application of theory and interventions to policy creation and reform. WR, HU

**WGSS 204a / PLSC 203a, Women, Politics, and Policy** Staff

This course is an introduction to the way gender structures how we interpret the political world, exploring topics such as women's access to power, descriptive and substantive representation, evaluation of the functioning of political institutions, and analysis of government policy. It also serves as an introduction to reading and producing empirical research on gender in the social sciences. SO o Course cr

**\* WGSS 205b, Bodies and Pleasures, Sex and Genders** Regina Kunzel

This seminar explores questions of embodiment -- its pleasures, perplexities, and pains -- to interrogate sex, sexuality, and gender as analytical categories. Its aim is to evaluate formative concepts, theories, and debates within feminist, gender, and queer studies, critical race studies, and history. We will consider how terms like "women" and "men," "femininity" and "masculinity," "homosexuality" and "heterosexuality," and "gender" and "transgender" have structured people's experiences and perceptions of bodies -- their own and others'. We will interrogate the dynamic and often contested relationship between "gender" and sexuality," and their constitution through other axes of power and difference, including race, class, and (dis)ability. SO

**\* WGSS 206a / ER&M 257a, Transnational Approaches to Gender & Sexuality** Evren Savci

Examination of transnational debates about gender and sexuality as they unfold in specific contexts. Gender as a category that can or cannot travel; feminist critiques of liberal rights paradigms; globalization of particular models of gender/queer advocacy; the role of NGOs in global debates about gender and sexuality. WR

**WGSS 207a / PLSC 298a, Gender, Justice, Power, Institutions** Staff

Welcome to *Gender, Justice, Power & Institutions*, a mouthful of abstractions that we work together to comprehend and critique throughout the semester. An aspiration of this course, as political as it is pedagogic, is that students approach their world-building projects with an enriched understanding of the ways gender, justice, and power shape and are shaped by institutions, inequality, and theory. Part I opens up some preliminary considerations of our course terms by investigating the case of abortion, abortion rights, and reproductive justice. The topic is politically loaded, philosophically complex, and emotionally challenging; the point is not to convince you of the permissibility or impermissibility of abortion, but to explore how the contested case configures, imbricates, and puts pressure on our course terms. In Part II, we examine the historical and conceptual coordinates of the courses first three titular terms: is gender a subjective identification, social ascription, or axis of inequality? Is justice a matter of redistribution, recognition, resources, capabilities, or something more hedonic? Where is power located, or where does it circulate? Who are what leverages power? In Part III, we consider ways gender, justice, and power travel within and across several institutions: heterosexuality, the university, the trafficking/anti-

trafficking industrial complex, the prison, and the bathroom. Part IV closes out the course by focusing on the reconfiguration of democratic institutions in late modernity; or, can institutions "love us back" under the the political economy we shorthand as "neoliberalism"? SO TR o Course cr

\* **WGSS 209a / CLCV 216a / LITR 239a / MGRK 216a, Dionysus in Modernity**  
George Syrimis

Modernity's fascination with the myth of Dionysus. Questions of agency, identity and community, and psychological integrity and the modern constitution of the self. Manifestations of Dionysus in literature, anthropology, and music; the Apollonian-Dionysiac dichotomy; twentieth-century variations of these themes in psychoanalysis, surrealism, and magical realism. HU

\* **WGSS 218b / AMST 218b, Sex, Gender, and American Moderns** Terrell Herring

What did being "modern" mean to those whose marginalized aesthetics negotiated sexual, racial, regional, national, and gender norms in the first half of the twentieth-century United States? This course functions as an intensive immersion into the creeds and concerns of recent scholarship regarding modes of U.S. modernity as the field overlaps with current forays into sexuality and gender studies. Via painting, photography, print culture, a "homosexual comedy," oral history and other resources, we discuss the popularization of heteronormativity in US sex manuals; the emergence of LGBTQ subcultures within and without urban East Coast environments; queer feminist agency through experimental photography in Provincetown; slumming and sensationalism in the Chicago Loop; and modern crip intimacies in Connecticut. Students meet the artists of the PaJaMa collective; James Weldon Johnson's Ex-Colored Man; avant-garde Pacific Rim poets such as José Garcia Villa; a Nepali American surrealist; and a bohemian of the Harlem Renaissance whose drawings are held at the Beinecke. HU

\* **WGSS 220b / PLSC 220b / PLSC S220b, Women & Politics** Andrea Aldrich

Exploration of theoretical and empirical work in political science to study the relationship between women and politics in the United States and around the world. Topics include women's descriptive and substantive representation in legislative and executive branch politics in democratic regimes; the impact of gender stereotypes on elections and public opinion; conditions that impact the supply and demand of candidates across genders; and the underrepresentation of women in political institutions. WR, SO

\* **WGSS 224a / ENGL 226a, Race and Gender in Transatlantic Literature, 1819 to the Present** Margaret Homans

Construction of race and gender in literatures of Great Britain, North America, and the Caribbean from the early nineteenth century to the present. Focus on the role of literature in advancing and contesting concepts of race and gender as features of identity and systems of power, with particular attention to the circulation of goods, people, ideas, and literary works among regions. Some authors include Charlotte Bronte, Sojourner Truth, Zora Neale Hurston, Virginia Woolf, Audre Lorde, Chimimanda Adichie, and Kabe Wilson. Second of a two-term sequence; each term may be taken independently. WR, HU

**WGSS 230a / ANTH 230a, Evolutionary Biology of Women's Reproductive Lives**

Claudia Valeggia

Evolutionary and biosocial perspectives on female reproductive lives. Physiological, ecological, and social aspects of women's development from puberty through menopause and aging, with special attention to reproductive processes such as pregnancy, birth, and lactation. Variation in female life histories in a variety of cultural and ecological settings. Examples from both traditional and modern societies. SC  
o Course cr

\* **WGSS 232a / AMST 233a / ER&M 286a, Porvinda: Latinx Queer Trans Life** Deb Vargas

This course provides an introduction to Latinx queer trans\* studies. We approach the field of Latinx queer trans\* studies as an ongoing political project that emerges from social justice activism, gay/lesbian/queer/trans studies, critical race feminism, cultural practitioners, among other work. We pay particular attention to the keywords "trans," "queer," "Chicanx," and "Latinx" by placing them in productive tension with each other through varied critical genealogies. HU, SO

\* **WGSS 233a / FILM 341a / MGRK 238a, Weird Greek Wave Cinema** George Syrimis

The course examines the cinematic production of Greece in the last fifteen years or so and looks critically at the popular term "weird Greek wave" applied to it. Noted for their absurd tropes, bizarre narratives, and quirky characters, the films question and disturb traditional gender and social roles, as well as international viewers' expectations of national stereotypes of classical luminosity#the proverbial "Greek light"#Dionysian exuberance, or touristic leisure. Instead, these works frustrate not only a wholistic reading of Greece as a unified and coherent social construct, but also the physical or aesthetic pleasure of its landscape and its 'quaint' people with their insistence on grotesque, violent, or otherwise disturbing images or themes (incest, sexual otherness and violence, aggression, corporeality, and xenophobia). The course also pays particular attention on the economic and political climate of the Greek financial crisis during which these films are produced and consumed and to which they partake. None HU

\* **WGSS 238a, Foucault and the Sexual Self** Igor De Souza

This course explores the main ideas and influence of Foucault's *History of Sexuality*. Alongside the methods and conclusions of the *HS*, we examine the implications of the *HS* for feminist studies and queer theory, and the approach of the *HS* towards ancient Greek sexuality. HU

\* **WGSS 245b / FILM 243b / MGRK 218b, Family in Greek Literature and Film** George Syrimis

The structure and multiple appropriations of the family unit, with a focus on the Greek tradition. The influence of aesthetic forms, including folk literature, short stories, novels, and film, and of political ideologies such as nationalism, Marxism, and totalitarianism. Issues related to gender, sibling rivalry, dowries and other economic factors, political allegories, feminism, and sexual and social violence both within and beyond the family. WR, HU TR

\* **WGSS 251a / ENGL 251a, Experiments in the Novel: The Eighteenth Century** Jill Campbell

The course provides an introduction to English-language novels of the long eighteenth century (1688-1818), the period in which the novel has traditionally been understood to

have "risen." Emphasizing the experimental nature of novel-writing in this early period of its history, the course foregrounds persistent questions about the genre as well as a literary-historical survey: What is the status of fictional characters? How does narrative sequence impart political or moral implications? How do conventions of the novel form shape our experience of gender? What kind of being is a narrator? Likely authors include Aphra Behn, Daniel Defoe, Samuel Richardson, Henry Fielding, Laurence Sterne, Maria Edgeworth, Jane Austen, Jennifer Egan, Colson Whitehead, and Richard Powers. WR, HU

**\* WGSS 260a, Food, Identity and Desire** Maria Trumpler

Exploration of how food—ingredients, cooking practices, and appetites—can intersect with gender, ethnicity, class, and national origin to produce profound experiences of identity and desire. Sources include memoir, cookbooks, movies, and fiction.

**WGSS 272a / AMST 272a / ER&M 282a / HIST 183a, Asian American History, 1800 to the Present** Staff

An introduction to the history of East, South, and Southeast Asian migrations and settlement to the United States from the late eighteenth century to the present. Major themes include labor migration, community formation, U.S. imperialism, legal exclusion, racial segregation, gender and sexuality, cultural representations, and political resistance. HU o Course cr

**WGSS 291a / HIST 240a / RLST 347a / SOCY 331a, Sexual Minorities from Plato to the Enlightenment** Staff

This interdisciplinary course surveys the history of homosexuality from a cross-cultural, comparative perspective. Students study contexts where homosexuality and sodomy were categorized, regulated, and persecuted and examine ancient and medieval constructions of same-sex desire in light of post-modern developments, challenging ideas around what is considered normal and/or natural. Ultimately, we ask: what has changed, and what has remained the same, in the history of homosexuality? What do gays and lesbians today have in common with pre-modern sodomites? Can this history help us ground or rethink our sexual selves and identities? Primary and secondary historical sources, some legal and religious sources, and texts in intellectual history are studied. Among the case studies for the course are ancient attitudes among Jews, early Christians, and Greeks; Christian theologians of the Middle Ages; Renaissance Florence; the Inquisition in Iberia; colonial Latin America; and the Enlightenment's condemnation of sodomy by Montesquieu and Voltaire, and its defense by Bentham.

HU o Course cr

**\* WGSS 293b / CLCV 319b / HIST 242Jb / MGRK 300b, The Olympic Games, Ancient and Modern** George Syrimis

Introduction to the history of the Olympic Games from antiquity to the present. The mythology of athletic events in ancient Greece and the ritual, political, and social ramifications of the actual competitions. The revival of the modern Olympic movement in 1896, the political investment of the Greek state at the time, and specific games as they illustrate the convergence of athletic cultures and sociopolitical transformations in the twentieth century. HU

**\* WGSS 297b / HIST 418Jb, Gender Expression Before Modernity** Igor De Souza

What are the historical forms of gender non-conformity? This course investigates expressions of gender that were considered non-conforming within their historical

contexts. Our point of departure is the idea that gender constitutes a “useful category of historical analysis” (Joan Scott). In this course we ask how deviant gender expression can be a category of historical analysis. How do we write history from the perspective of gender fluidity, non-binarism, and gender transgression? How can this history give us the tools to critique regnant norms of gender expression, then and now? How does this historical approach relate to trans\* and non-binary people & movements today? The course is historically wide-ranging, from Antiquity to the Early Modern period, and geographically diverse, including Europe, the Middle East, and the colonial Americas. The breath of contexts enable us to consider broad patterns, continuities, and discontinuities. At the same time, we discuss the specificities of particular contexts, emphasizing the connection between gender fluidity/non-conformity, on the one hand, and local cultural norms around gender and sex, on the other. We investigate intellectual and cultural trends, as well as the lives of gender fluid/non-conforming individuals. We analyze sources drawn from law, medicine, religion, philosophy, visual arts & literature, biographies, and memoirs. All readings are in English translation. No prior background is required. However, it will be helpful to have taken either WGSS 291/HIST 287J or WGSS 306 before or in concurrence with this course. HU

**\* WGSS 305a / AFAM 315a, Black Feminist Theory** Gail Lewis

This course is designed to introduce you to some of the major themes in black feminist theory. The course does so by presenting classic texts with more recent ones to give you a sense of the vibrancy of black feminist theory for addressing past and present concerns. Rather than interpret black feminist theory as a critical formation that simply puts race, gender, sexuality, and class into conversation with one another, the course apprehends that formation as one that produced epistemic shifts in how we understand politics, empire, history, the law, and literature. This is by no means an exhaustive list of the areas into which black feminism intervened. It is merely a sample of some of the most vibrant ideological and discursive contexts in which black feminism caused certain epistemic transformations. SO

**WGSS 315a / PSYC 342a, Psychology of Gender** Tariq Khan

This course explores the historical relationship between the “mind sciences” and dominant gender notions, ideologies, and norms. Students will critically examine the historical role that psychology and related fields have played in reinforcing and perpetuating things such as gender hierarchy, the gender binary, and the cis-hetero-patriarchal nuclear family unit, among other things. Students will be introduced to works that illuminate the larger underlying social, political, and economic systems, institutions, and historical processes that are co-constitutive with these gender hierarchies, ideologies, and norms, with an emphasis on the role of psychology and related fields. Students will also learn about psychologists and related scientists and scholars whose work has challenged those systems and institutions toward a more emancipatory vision for the role of psychology in society, and how their work has shaped the field. None SO

**\* WGSS 321a / ANTH 321a / MMES 321a / SOCY 318a, Middle East Gender Studies**

Marcia Inhorn

The lives of women and men in the contemporary Middle East explored through a series of anthropological studies and documentary films. Competing discourses surrounding gender and politics, and the relation of such discourse to actual practices

of everyday life. Feminism, Islamism, activism, and human rights; fertility, family, marriage, and sexuality. SO

\* **WGSS 325a or b / ER&M 324a or b, Asian Diasporas since 1800** Quan Tran  
Examination of the diverse historical and contemporary experiences of people from East, South, and Southeast Asian ancestry living in the Americas, Australia, Africa, the Middle East, Asia, and Europe. Organized thematically and comparative in scope, topics include labor migrations, community formations, chain migrations, transnational connections, intergenerational dynamics, interracial and ethnic relations, popular cultures, and return migrations. HU, SO

\* **WGSS 335a / AMST 336a, LGBTQ Life Spans** Terrell Herring  
Interdisciplinary survey of LGBTQ life spans in the United States concentrating primarily on later life. Special attention paid to topics such as disability, aging, and ageism; queer and trans creative aging; longevity and life expectancy during the AIDS epidemic; intergenerational intimacy; age and activism; critiques of optimal aging; and the development of LGBTQ senior centers and affordable senior housing. We explore these topics across multiple contemporary genres: documentary film (*The Joneses*), graphic memoir (Alison Bechdel's *Fun Home*), poetry (Essex Hemphill's "Vital Signs"), fabulation (Saidiya Hartman's *Wayward Lives, Beautiful Experiments*), and oral history. We also review archival documents of later LGBTQ lives—ordinary and iconic—held at the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library as well as the Lesbian Herstory Archives. HU

\* **WGSS 340b, Feminist and Queer Theory** Craig Canfield  
Historical survey of feminist and queer theory from the Enlightenment to the present, with readings from key British, French, and American works. Focus on the foundations and development of contemporary theory. Shared intellectual origins and concepts, as well as divergences and conflicts, among different ways of approaching gender and sexuality. WR, HU

\* **WGSS 343a / AFAM 352a / AMST 438a / ER&M 291a / LITR 295a, Caribbean Diasporic Literature** Fadila Habchi  
An examination of contemporary literature written by Caribbean writers who have migrated to, or who journey between, different countries around the Atlantic rim. Focus on literature written in English in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries, both fiction and nonfiction. Writers include Caryl Phillips, Nalo Hopkinson, and Jamaica Kincaid. HU

\* **WGSS 362a / HUMS 191a / ITAL 340a / LITR 347a, Dangerous Women: Sirens, Singers, Poets and Singers from Sappho to Elena Ferrante** Jane Tylus  
Was Sappho a feminist? This course tries to answer that question by analyzing how women's voices have been appropriated by the literary and cultural canon of the west—and how in turn women writers and readers have reappropriated those voices. Students read a generous amount of literary (and in some cases, musical) works, along with a variety of contemporary theoretical approaches so as to engage in conversation about authorship, classical reception, and materiality. Following an introduction to Greek and Roman texts key for problematic female figures such as sirens and sibyls, we turn to two later historical moments to explore how women artists have both broken out of and used the western canon, redefining genre, content, and style in literary creation writ large. How did Renaissance women such as Laura Cereta, Gaspara Stampa, and Sor



Juana Inés de la Cruz fashion themselves as authors in light of the classical sources they had at hand? And once we arrive in the 20th and 21st centuries, how do Sibilla Aleramo, Elsa Morante, Anna Maria Ortese, and Elena Ferrante forge a new, feminist writing via classical, queer and/or animal viewpoints? HU

\* **WGSS 372b / AMST 382b, Theory and Politics of Sexual Consent** Joseph Fischel  
Political, legal, and feminist theory and critiques of the concept of sexual consent. Topics such as sex work, nonnormative sex, and sex across age differences explored through film, autobiography, literature, queer commentary, and legal theory. U.S. and Connecticut legal cases regarding sexual violence and assault. SO RP

\* **WGSS 381a / AFAM 397a / ER&M 380a, New Developments in Global African Diaspora Studies** Fatima El-Tayeb

This course traces recent developments in African Diaspora Theory, among them Afropessimism, Queer of Color Critique, Black Trans Studies and Afropolitanism. We pay particular attention to interactions between theory, art, and activism. The scope is transnational with a focus on, but not restricted to, the Anglophone Diaspora Texts. Each session roughly follows this structure: One theoretical text representing a recent development in African diaspora studies, one earlier key text that the reading builds on, one theoretical text that does not necessarily fall under the category of diaspora studies but speaks to our topic and one text that relates to the topic but uses a non-theoretical format. Students are expected to develop their own thematically related project over the course of the semester. Preference give to juniors and seniors. Email instructor for more information. HU, SO

\* **WGSS 388b / AFAM 349b / AMST 326b / HIST 115Jb, Civil Rights and Women's Liberation** Crystal Feimster

The dynamic relationship between the civil rights movement and the women's liberation movement from 1940 to the present. When and how the two movements overlapped, intersected, and diverged. The variety of ways in which African Americans and women campaigned for equal rights. Topics include World War II, freedom summer, black power, the Equal Rights Amendment, feminism, abortion, affirmative action, and gay rights. HU

\* **WGSS 398a, Junior Research Seminar** Dara Strolovitch

An interdisciplinary approach to studying gender and sexuality. Exploration of a range of relevant theoretical frameworks and methodologies. Prepares students for the senior essay. WR, SO

\* **WGSS 408a / AMST 345a / ER&M 409a, Latinx Ethnography** Ana Ramos-Zayas  
Consideration of ethnography within the genealogy and intellectual traditions of Latinx Studies. Topics include: questions of knowledge production and epistemological traditions in Latin America and U.S. Latino communities; conceptions of migration, transnationalism, and space; perspectives on "(il)legality" and criminalization; labor, wealth, and class identities; contextual understandings of gender and sexuality; theorizations of affect and intimate lives; and the politics of race and inequality under white liberalism and conservatism in the United States. SO

\* **WGSS 412a / EAST 411a / HSAR 415a, Women and Art in Premodern East Asia**  
Staff

For over a thousand years, women in East Asia profoundly influenced the development of the visual arts, yet their formidable presence remains largely hidden. This seminar

explores the critical roles women played as patrons, artists, and collectors of the arts in China, Korea, and Japan. We cover periods from the sixth through the nineteenth centuries and discuss a wide array of mediums including bamboo paintings, bijinga woodblock prints, bronze Buddhist sculptures, bojagi textiles, and even embroidered lotus shoes. This seminar focuses particularly on art objects made by anonymous women as a means to rethink and problematize the traditionally elite and male-dominated art historical canon. We also contextualize artistic production in light of emergent theorizations and readings on femininity, feminism, and the sexual politics of representation. Major themes of inquiry include subjectivity and intentionality; representations of women and the male gaze; and postcolonial definitions of female agency. No prior knowledge of East Asian art history is required or assumed. HU TR

\* **WGSS 416a / ER&M 335a / FREN 416a, Social Mobility and Migration** Morgane Cadieu

The seminar examines the representation of upward mobility, social demotion, and interclass encounters in contemporary French literature and cinema, with an emphasis on the interaction between social class and literary style. Topics include emancipation and determinism; inequality, precarity, and class struggle; social mobility and migration; the intersectionality of class, race, gender, and sexuality; labor and the workplace; homecomings; mixed couples; and adoption. Works by Nobel Prize winner Annie Ernaux and her peers (Érison, Gay, Harchi, Linhart, Louis, NDiaye, Taïa). Films by Cantet, Chou, and Diop. Theoretical excerpts by Berlant, Bourdieu, and Rancière. Students will have the option to put the French corpus in dialogue with the literature of other countries. Conducted in French. HU

\* **WGSS 438a, Subjectivity and its Discontents: Psychosocial Explorations in Black, Feminist, Queer** Gail Lewis

Questions of subjectivity stand at the base of much feminist, black, queer scholarship yet how subjectivity is constituted, whether it is fixed or fluid, how it links to narratives of experience, and how it can be apprehended in critical inquiry is often left implicit. Beginning with a brief consideration of psychoanalytic conceptions of 'the subject', 'subjectivity' and their relation to social formations, this course examines some of the ways in which subjectivity has been theorized and brought under critical scrutiny by black diasporic, feminist and queer scholars. It draws on work produced in reference to multiple sites, including the UK, the USA and the Caribbean within the fields of psychoanalysis, social science, the humanities and critical art practice. It aims to critique the divide between 'interior' psychic life and 'exterior' social selves, as well as considering the relation between 'freedom' and subjectivity, including the extent to which 'freedom' might require rejection of 'subjectivity' as a mode of personhood. SO

\* **WGSS 463b / AMST 462b / ER&M 462b, The Study of Privilege in the Americas** Ana Ramos-Zayas

Examination of inequality, not only through experiences of the poor and marginal, but also through institutions, beliefs, social norms, and everyday practices of the privileged. Topics include: critical examination of key concepts like "studying up," "elite," and "privilege," as well as variations in forms of capital; institutional sites of privilege (elite prep schools, Wall Street); living spaces and social networks (gated communities, private clubs); privilege in intersectional contexts (privilege and race, class, and gender); and everyday practices of intimacy and affect that characterize, solidify, and promote privilege. SO

\* **WGSS 490a, The Senior Colloquium** Dara Strolovitch

A research seminar taken during the senior year. Students with diverse research interests and experience discuss common problems and tactics in doing independent research.

\* **WGSS 491a, The Senior Essay** Eda Pepi

Independent research on, and writing of, the senior essay.