

# **WGS Undergraduate Courses Spring 2016**

## **WSGS 203 / THEO 202 (01): Christianity and Violence**

TR 1:40 p.m. – 2:55 p.m. (E. Vasko)

Want to make a difference? Tired of just talking about social justice? Interested in psychology, sociology, public policy, education, or health, but still need to take a theology course? The course examines the research, writings, and experiences of women and men in the Christian tradition. Particular attention will be paid to religious justifications for violence and discrimination; and the role that theology and faith communities have played in both condoning and resisting such violence in the US. Theme Area Social Justice.

## **WSGS 232 / PHIL 232 (01): Philosophy of Sex and Love**

MWF 1:00 p.m. - 1:50 p.m. (J. Lambert)

This course explores sex, sexuality, and the relationship between sex and love in terms of intimacy, thinking of bodies as "sexed" rather than simply "gendered". We will be examining philosophical texts both from the ancient and the contemporary time periods. Questions for discussion will include: Is there a necessary connection between love and sex? What does it mean to be a sexed individual? What are the ethics associated with sex and love? Given the flexibility of the contemporary sexual identity and the new wave of gender expression, how are we to continue to assess perversity and what it might encompass? Is the concept of perversity still a valid category of sexual expression? And what is the status of feminist debate over pornographic art? The goal is to have the course progress through a few themes: 'What is Love and how is it expressed?', 'What is sexuality?', 'Is there a connection between Love and Sex?'. What is the relationship between one's raced and sexed body and one's expression of love and sex?

## **WSGS 236 / CLSX 236 (01): Greek, Roman, & Medieval Mothers**

MWF 11:00 a.m. - 11:50 a.m. (S. Miller)

An exploration of the representation of mothers, motherhood, and the maternal body in medical, mythological, and religious literature from ancient Greece to the High Middle Ages.

## **WSGS 251 / THEO 251 (01): Sexuality, Sex & Morality**

TR 10:50 a.m. - 12:05 a.m. (E. Cochran)

An analysis of the nature of sex and sexuality in Christian thought, and of the relevance of these concepts for contemporary moral life.

## **WSGS 261 / THEO 261 (01): Christian Social Ethics**

W 1:40 p.m. - 2:55 p.m. (E. Vasko)

This course will explore the tradition of Roman Catholic Social Teaching and modern social ethics. Issues to be addressed will include Christian interpretations of war and peace, economic justice, race relations, human rights, and ecological ethics. In assessing these issues, we will also consider important contributions from Protestant traditions as well as non-Christian perspectives.

### **WSGS 369 / SOCI 369 / PJCR 369 (01): Race, Gender & Crime**

TR 12:15 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. (A. Popp)

This course examines how different races, genders, and social classes experience crime, both as offenders and victims. Pre-requisite: Any 100 level Sociology course.

### **WSGS 422 / COMM 422 (01): Communication and Gender**

TR 1:40 p.m. - 2:55 p.m. (P. Arneson)

Examines research addressing differences and similarities in male and female communication styles in a variety of contexts, ranging from personal to social to work relationships, with attention given to philosophical and narrative understandings of what it means to be male and female persons.

### **WSGS 452W / ENGL 452W (01): Modern British and American Poetry**

TR 9:25 a.m. - 10:40 p.m. (L. Kinnahan)

What is modernist poetry? In both Britain and America, the early decades of the twentieth century were marked by rapid changes in technology, industry, economics, and communication that separated the new century in decisive ways from the past. American and British poetry written between 1900 and 1950 responded to the sense of a world irreparably changed, celebrating the freedom from outworn traditions to "make it new" while also expressing uncertainty about the uncharted experience of the "modern." Both in form and subject matter, poetry explored new territory, employing avant-garde techniques and reinventing older forms to break with past restrictions in exciting and varied ways. For many, these "past restrictions" included traditional roles for women and men and outworn assumptions about gender. Challenges to ideas about gender elicited both excitement and trepidation in society at large. How did poets approach gender in the modernist period? How did modernist poets make gender the business of poetry's explorations of new content and modern forms?

In order to approach these questions, this course will include readings from a broad range of poets to help us establish a working vocabulary and understand central concepts, techniques, and influences shaping modernist poetry. For example, the influence of the modern city, or of visual art, or of war (both WWI and WWII) will be addressed. Within this broader survey, more in-depth study of several poets will

focus the course upon how social and poetic conditions shape and reflect ideas about gender in the modernist era. In particular, we take up issues of gender in relation to formations of national, race, and class identity; and relationships between language, form, and social contexts.

### **WSGS 453 / PSYC 453 (61) : Psychology of Gender**

W 6:00 p.m. - 8:40 p.m. (S. Dixit)

The primary aim of this course is to explore the ways in which gender is socially constructed in our historical time period through a variety of power relationships or institutions (e.g., marriage) and cultural artifacts (e.g., media). The psychology of gender then involves how we as individuals experience ourselves, consciously or unconsciously, as consumers of these gender constructions, and the effects these constructions have on us at individual, interpersonal and societal levels. Although the focus of the course is on our daily performances of gender as constitutive of our identity, we will also recognize how our gendered identity is inextricably connected to other identity markers such as race, class, ethnicity, sexual orientation, and so forth.

## **WGS Graduate Courses Spring 2016**

### **WSGS 505 / PLCR 505 (61): Values, Ethics, and Policy**

M 6:00 p.m. - 8:40 p.m. (M. McIntyre)

What is good public policy? This simple, often asked question already implies the central role ethics play in policy making. This course examines that role in light of the distinctive value structure that arises from the beliefs and institutions of American liberal democracy.

### **WSGS 522 / COMM 522 (01): Communication and Gender**

TR 1:40 p.m. - 2:55 p.m. (P. Arneson)

Examines research addressing differences and similarities in male and female communication styles in a variety of contexts, ranging from personal to social to work relationships, with attention given to philosophical and narrative understandings of what it means to be male and female persons.

### **WSGS 543 / LAWS C543 (61): Employment Discrimination**

T 6:00 p.m. - 8:40 p.m. (R. Kitchen)

Course Requirement: exam or paper\* Satisfies Upper Level Writing requirement Spring 2015 (evening students only; day and part-time day students should contact the professor)\* Fulfills Concentration Elective: Civil Litigation, Family Law, Government & Public Interest Law, Labor & Employment Law This course is concerned with discrimination in employment. This course will introduce the basic theories and legal principles underlying equal employment opportunity law in the

United States. The course focuses primarily on Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended, and secondarily on the Age Discrimination in Employment Act and, Americans with Disabilities Act (and its amendments): the fundamental federal statutes prohibiting employment discrimination based on race, gender, religion, age and disability.