

Women's and Gender Studies

Spring 2019 Graduate Courses

118 Himes Hall • 578-4807 • wgs@lsu.edu • 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.

WGS COURSE OFFERINGS

WGS 4500.1

Global Trans: Conversations on National, Queer and Transgender Studies

This course, which will be taught in English, will examine how sexualities are understood within a transnational frame of analysis. As bodies move across national, cultural, racial, and ideological borders, how is sexuality redefined, named, and leveraged for change? What factors allow for new formations and understandings of sexuality to emerge within an increasingly globalized world? The course will explore key concepts used in discussions of transnational sexuality studies, and students will develop their practice of intersectional analysis. Key issues to be examined include: the sexual politics transnational, biopolitics of sexuality, and the politics of global LGBTQIA rights discourse. This interdisciplinary course will use postcolonial, transnational, queer, and feminist approaches to address the complexities of sexualities from perspectives that decenter and challenge centric epistemologies and methodologies. Theoretical texts and primary materials will be drawn from a mix of the Iberian Peninsular and Latin American contexts, with a focus on Transatlantic approaches to them; primary materials to include contemporary poetry, novels, short stories, and films, **all in English or in English translation. Note to Graduate Students interested in the course:** this is indeed a different course from the WGS 7500 I taught in the Spring 2018.

Elena Castro

T/Th 1:30pm-2:50pm

WGS 7500

The Sexual Scene of the Harlem Renaissance

This course will explore the *éclat* of early twentieth century Harlem with its cross-currents of slumming, interracial sex, prostitution, queerness, cross-dressing, and a range of other sexually and socially transgressive formations. We will locate Harlem both within the life of New York City itself as well as within the larger networks of blackness around the globe, meeting such fascinating figures as sweetmen and sheiks, chocolate babies and bulldaggers, numbers runners and gangsters. In addition to examining the literature, music, and culture of the Harlem Renaissance, we will also read important works of queer of color critique thinking about how the Renaissance functions as important site for theorization in these texts and asking what additional possibilities it might continue to animate. In particular, we will be concerned with the warping effects that race has on sexuality and vice versa. Readings will include texts by Zora Neale Hurston, Langston Hughes, Ma Rainey, Wallace Thurman, Taylor Gordon, Anita Reynolds, and Claude McKay.

Benji Kahan

W 4:30pm-7:20pm

Related Interest

SW 7406

Social Work with LGBTQ 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

M 12:30pm-3:20pm

CMST 7971

Feminist Critique

In this course, we will learn how to read rhetorical and cultural texts from a variety of feminist orientations. We will emphasize how one might use feminist political theories as the basis for productive and rigorous rhetorical or cultural criticism, discuss how to recognize implicit rhetorical theories in feminist discourses, and finally to determine which feminist approaches are appropriate for reading various kinds of texts. The course assumes a basic sympathy but welcomes critical engagement with the feminist goals of gender equity, self-determination of women, and sex/gender freedom. We will also critically engage how these aims are complicated and challenged in the contexts of racism, nationalism, and class-based exploitation.

Ashley Mack

T 3:00pm-5:50pm

ANTH 4909

Cyborg Anthropology

In her 1985 *Cyborg Manifesto*, Donna Haraway wrote: "we are all chimeras, theorized and fabricated hybrids of machine and organism; in short, we are cyborgs." Haraway's feminist conception of the cyborg helped reframe theories of identity and politics in the late 20th century, and has been taken up, resisted, and altered in many texts. In this course, we will engage with cyborgs as both material and metaphorical objects that combine bodies, minds, and machines, breaking down barriers between nature and culture, self and other, biology and technology, and between disciplines. In particular we will look for ways that cyborgs — both Harawayan and other — have altered many questions central to the anthropological project.

Micha Rahder

T/Th 1:30pm - 2:50pm

HIST 4195**Gender and Empire**

The course emphasizes a trans-national approach to sexuality, race and power relations in the era of modern imperialism.

Asiya Alam

M 3:00pm-5:50pm

ELRC 4370**Counseling Girls and Women**

Students will learn about biological, psychological, and social issues that disproportionately impact girls' and women's mental health across the lifespan. Students will gain skills tailored to the unique counseling needs of girls and women.

Laura Choate

W 12:30pm – 3:20pm

ENGL 4493**Women and Folklore**

This course explores how authors, poets, artists, filmmakers, tradition bearers, and folklorists use creative expression to represent gender, sexuality, and culture. We will come across differences of ethnicity, class, region, age, language, race, society, and nation in how authors, artists, and performers negotiate the concepts of gender and sexuality in their work. Folklore, as narrative, material culture, and social practices, will also illuminate how gendered spaces, languages, and experiences provide a unique way of expressing the everyday. Lastly, the range in nationality and ethnicity of the communities explored in the course allows us to question the parameters of the notion of gender in terms of its difference and stability worldwide.

Solimar Otero

T/Th 1:30pm – 2:50pm

ANTH 4050**Black Music in America**

Description forthcoming from instructor.

Joyce Jackson

T/Th 9:00am – 10:20am

EDCI 4800**Teaching in the Multicultural Classroom**

This course aims to encourage and support students in their development as engaged and caring teachers in a multicultural society; to challenge their ideas of what multicultural education is and should be; and to give them concrete strategies to use in making their classrooms places where students from all cultures feel welcomed and valued. The course will encourage students to think critically and help engender critical thinking in their own K-12 students.

Kerri Tobin

M 4:30pm – 7:20pm

CMST 4144**Performance and Technology**

In the 1960s, Marshal McLuhan declared technology to be the external organs of the body. If, as Maurice Merleau-Ponty proposed, our senses are not limited to the boundaries of our skin, then our bodies are as big as we feel them. Our sensoriums can expand through tools such as cars, canes and prosthetics. What, then, does it mean to be human? In this course, through cultural theory, phenomenology, and neuroscience and artistic practice – of other artists and our own -- we will consider questions surrounding technology, the body, and “super-powers” such as empathy. How do we differ from other organisms such as aliens, robots, androids, cyborgs, and automatons in humanoid forms? We will discuss phenomena such as mirror neurons and phantom limbs as described by V.S. Ramachandran from a humanities perspective. We will also discuss the technologies of becoming woman and becoming the other. We will examine post-apocalyptic, science fiction, or technologized works of art and popular culture such as the film Blade Runner, the novel Alchemy of Stone, and performances by artists such as Orlan, The Wooster Group, and Stelarc. Finally, participants will inquire into philosophical, political, or cultural issues of the self or society through either critical, analytical work that tackles these themes or a work of their choosing that involves the creation of “bodily extensions” via electronic or other additions to the human body. Alternatively, you may create performances or works of fiction featuring such concepts and write an artist’s statement.

Serap Erincin

W 3:30pm-6:20pm