

# **Women in the Third World**

**Sociology 235**

**Tuesday and Friday 3:35-4:50**

**Room: Ward 102**

**Professor McDonic**

**Office: T 21 Battelle Tompkins Building**

**Office Hours: T & F 9:15-9:45am, 11:20am-12:20pm, 2-3:30pm**

**Office Phone: 202-885-2490**

## **Women in the Third World**

The purpose of this course is to facilitate a critical understanding of the multiple social and political positions of women in the "Third World." We will look at a variety of topics including: colonialism, post-colonialism, feminist theories of development, motherhood, paid and unpaid labor, sexuality and the body, population, globalization, feminism, and revolution. This class is usually offered every spring. Prerequisite for General Education credit: ANTH-110G or LIT-150G or RELG-185G or SIS-140G or SOCY-110G.

**Women in the Third World** is a Gen Ed Course in the Curricular Area 4: Social Institutions and Behavior. It is in Cluster Two: Multicultural Experience and is one of the second level courses. For further detailed information please see American University's website.

## **Readings**

Readings are available on Blackboard

## **Exams and Assignments**

**Quiz** – There will be an in class quiz on April 21st, this will be a short answer quiz. You will likely be asked to identify and state the significance of terms that should be well known to you if you have been in class and done the readings. There will also be one short answer essay question. This quiz is worth 20% of your final grade.

## **In-Class Debates**

There will be two in class debates. Both of these debates will require that you do work outside of the class and come to class prepared to further the assignment during class time. You will be divided into four groups = two separate debates. You will be required to come to class with main points, and counter points on your side of the issues that you have been given. You will also decide who will be the presenters for your group. You will turn in a hard copy of your main points and rebuttals to me at the end of the class. They must be typed. Each debate is worth 10% of your final grade. These are on Feb. 27<sup>th</sup> and Apr. 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Independent projects (Films)** – You will be asked to make your own 5-10 minute film that will be inspired by the Pangea project. The films must be uploaded by the last class of the semester. This film is in lieu of a final exam. I will discuss this further in class. This is worth 25% of your final grade. It is due in class on the last class – Apr. 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Critical Paper** – Here you will write a short (8-10 page paper) on a global issue of interest to you. You will explore an issue in depth, survey the social science literature on it and come to a clear conclusion, this will be the back bone of your visual project above. This is worth 25% of your final grade. This is due Mar. 24<sup>th</sup>.

infrequent contributor to class discussion. Comments in class have been general, off-topic or anecdotal. Assignments were, rushed, poorly written and/or missed the main points. Essays and assignments were not well written and do not have a strong clear argument. They have not integrated texts well, quotes are used in a haphazard or confusing manner, do not use standard citation practices, and/ or have not clearly answered the question posed by the assignment.

**D:** assigned work is not satisfactory or not completed, and/or student fails to meet minimum attendance requirements. Things that contribute to a D grade are at least **three** of the following: student has shown no improvement over the course of the semester, has had spotty attendance and/or they have been an infrequent contributor to class discussion. Comments in class have been general, off-topic or anecdotal. Assignments were, rushed, poorly written and/or missed the main points. Essays and assignments were not well written and do not have a strong clear argument. They have not integrated texts well, quotes are used in a haphazard or confusing manner, do not use standard citation practices, and/ or have not clearly answered the question posed by the assignment.

**F:** failure to meet minimum course requirements.

### **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

Standards of academic conduct are set forth in the University's Academic Integrity Code. By registering, you have acknowledged your awareness of the Academic Integrity Code, and you are obliged to become familiar with your rights and responsibilities as defined by the Code. Violations of the Academic Integrity Code will not be treated lightly, and disciplinary actions will be taken should such violations occur. Please see me if you have any questions about the academic violations described in the Code in general or as they relate to particular requirements for this course.

### **SUPPORT SERVICES FOR STUDENTS**

If you have, or think you may have, disability related needs, please talk with me as soon as possible regarding accommodation to support you. There are also a number of resources available to you at the university. The following is a list of offices that can help you:

Academic Support Center  
243 Mary Graydon Center, x3360

Disability Support Services  
206 Mary Graydon Center, x3315

International Student Services  
410 Butler Pavillion, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, x3350

Counseling Center  
214 Mary Graydon Center, x3500

Writing Center  
228 Battelle Tompkins Hall, x2392

Student Health Center  
101 Nebraska Hall, x3380

### **Class Schedule**

Tuesday January 13 –  
Introduction, Syllabus, Expectations and a bit about learning.

Friday January 16 – **Thinking and Writing at the College Level**

Tuesday, January 20 – Inauguration Day, No Class



Friday, January 27 – **Western Modes of Knowing – Power, Politics and Expansion**  
Lecture

Tuesday, January 30 – **Thinking Being and Doing – Pulling Some of the Strands of Structure, Agency and Identity Apart**  
Lecture

Friday, February 3 – **Sex and Gender – Thinking Them Through Critically**  
Anne Fausto-Sterling "The Bare Bones of Sex"  
Anne Fausto-Sterling "The Five Sexes"  
Emily Martin, "The Egg and the Sperm"

Tuesday, February 6 – **Gender, Race and colonialism**  
Young, Lola "Imperial Culture: The Primitive, the savage and white civilization" in  
Theories of Race and Racism  
McClintock, Anne, "The White Family of Man: Colonial Discourse and the Reinvention  
of Patriarchy"

Friday, February 10 – **Gender, Feminism and Colonialism**  
*Gender in Third World Politics*, chapter 3 (pp 46-69)  
Mohanty, Chandra Talpade. 1997. "Under Western Eyes: Feminist Scholarship and  
Colonial Discourses." Pp. 51-80 in *Third World Women and the Politics of Feminism*.

Tuesday, February 13 – **A Critical Introduction to colonialism**  
Rodney, Walter. 1981. "The supposed benefits of colonialism to Africa." Pp. 585-596 in  
*How Europe Underdeveloped Africa*. Wash DC: Howard University Press.

Friday, February 17 – **Women and Armed Resistance**  
Soiri, Iina. 1996. "Resistance to Colonial Rule." Pp 48-84 in *The Radical Motherhood:  
Namibian Women's Independence Struggle*. Uppsala: Nordiska Afrikainstitutet.  
Film: *At the end of a Gun: Women and War* VHS 7172 (24 mins)

Tuesday, February 20 – **Critiquing Development**  
Escobar, Arturo. 1995. "Introduction: Development and the Anthropology of Modernity."  
Pp. 3-20 in *Encountering Development: The Making and Unmaking of the Third World*.  
Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Friday, February 24th – **Queering and Gendering Development**  
*Feminist Futures*, chapter 3 (pp 55-73)

Tuesday, February 27 – In-class Debate

Friday, March 3 – **Women and Globalization, Changing Relations of Work**  
Ward, Kathryn B., and Jean Larson Pyle. 2003. "Recasting Our Understanding of Gender  
and Work During Global Restructuring," in *International Sociology*. 18(3):461-489.  
Barndt, Deborah. 2002. "Picking and Packing for the North: Agricultural Workers at  
Empaque Santa Rosa." Pp. 165-208 in *Tangled Routes: Women, Work, and  
Globalization on the Tomato Trail*. Boulder: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers.

Tuesday, March 6 – **The Sex Trade**

Farr, Kathryn. 2005. "Introduction: Size and Scope." Pp. 1-19 in *Sex Trafficking: The Global Market in Women and Children* by K Farr. NY: Worth Publishers.

Kempadoo, Kamala. 2001. "Women of Color and the Global Sex Trade: Transnational Feminist Perspectives," in *Meridians: feminism, race, transnationalism*. 1(2):28-51.

Lazaridis, Gabriella. 2001. "Trafficking and Prostitution: The Growing Exploitation of Migrant Women in Greece," in *European Journal of Women's Studies*. 8(1): 67-102.

Tuesday March 10

**Spring Break – No Classes**

Friday, March 13

**Spring Break – No Classes**

Tuesday, March 17– Film: Anonymously Yours DVD 1196 - 60 min.

Friday, March 20 – **Domestic Work**

Constable, Nicole. 2002. "Filipina Workers in Hong King Homes: Household Rules and Relations." Pp. 115-141 in *Global Woman: Nannies, Maids, and Sex Workers in the New Economy*. Eds. B. Ehrenreich & A. Hochschild. New York: Henry Holt.

Tuesday, March 24 – Film: Modern Heroes, Modern Slaves – VHS 5547 – 45 mins  
**Critical Paper Due**

Friday, March 31 – Readings T.B.A.

Tuesday, April 4, 2008 – In Class Debate

Friday April 7 - **Research Day – No Class, No Office Hours**

This is time for you to work on your films/projects, do early edits or shooting.

Tuesday, April 10 – **Women in the Peace Movement**

Readings T.B.A.

Friday, April 14 - **Women and the Environment –**

Susan Buckingham-Hatfield, 2000. *Gender and Environment*; London: Routledge.  
(Introduction pp. 1-10, and Chapter 3, pp. 33-45)

Discussion of Wangari Maathai

Friday April 21 – Quiz – 20%

Tuesday, April 24 – **Activists and Inspirations**

Discussion of Aung San Suu Kyi

Readings T.B.A.

Friday, April 28

Last Class – **Wrap-Up and Review**

Film/Project to be turned in at the beginning of class (in hard copy –DVD, no late submissions accepted. This assignment is worth 25% of your grade.