

Women in America History since 1890
HY 4468 Spring 2019
T/TH 11-12:15 Adamson 115
Dr. Stephanie M. Chalifoux

Office: TLC 3210
Office Hours: Tues and Thurs: 12:30-1:30
Wed: 12-5pm

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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course surveys the history of American women from 1890 to the present. We will explore American women's lives and experiences in the past, and examine how and why historians have approached women's history differently. Through an intersectional lens, we will also determine how identity, race, class, and sexuality shaped women's experiences.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. Demonstrate content knowledge of history of American Women.
2. Analyze primary and secondary sources for their historical content and interpretations.
3. Demonstrate writing skills that reflect persuasive historical arguments based on evidence and proper citation.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

This course will consist of lectures, readings, films, and discussions. There are **four books required** for this course (listed below). In addition to the four required books, there are **required supplemental readings** available on the CourseDen. Class lectures will provide an overarching framework within which you will analyze the readings. Each week's assigned readings appear in the Schedule of Lectures and Assignments, and must be completed by the start of class. To make the most of this class, students must read the assigned materials and be prepared to engage in dialogue based on what they have read. **Bring two exam books to class by January 30th.**

REQUIRED BOOKS:

Zeitj, Joshua. *Flapper: A Madcap Story of Sex, Style, Celebrity, and the Women who Made America Modern*

McGuire, Danielle. *At the Dark End of the Street: Black Women, Rape, and Resistance – a New History of the Civil Rights Movement from Rosa Parks to the Rise of Black Power*

Rosen, Ruth. *The World Split Open: How the Modern Women's Movement Changed America (ebook available through the library)*

Hernandez, Daisy. *A Cup of Water Under My Bed: A Memoir*

Daily/weekly reading assignments: Will be available to you through CourseDen

ATTENDANCE: There is no attendance policy for this course. However, student attendance strongly correlates with your participation grade and your final grade. Students who attend class tend to pass the class. Students who do not attend typically earn a poor grade. Note that there is a participation grade in this course. If you do not attend, you cannot participate. Your midterm and your final exam are based on the content of lecture, class discussions, and the readings.

Extracurricular Conflicts: If you are member of an athletic team, musical group, or other University organization, it is your responsibility to provide me with a schedule of planned absences at the beginning of the semester. Participation in extracurricular activities DOES NOT excuse the student from any course requirement.

ASSIGNMENTS: There will be discussion/participation, a plagiarism quiz, three book reviews, one research paper, a midterm exam, and a final exam in this course

Plagiarism Quiz: You are required to take and pass a plagiarism quiz on January 15th. Your paper will not be accepted or graded unless you pass this quiz in advance. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

Book Reviews: You will write three (2-3page) book reviews on the works required for this course. In the book review, you will be identifying the argument, sources, themes, and the strength and weaknesses of each book. More instruction will be on CourseDen.

Paper: You will be writing a research paper for this course (1900-2300 words). The topic is your choice, but must be relevant to this course and the timeframe. Papers will include a mix of primary (4-6) and secondary sources (6-8).

A one paragraph paper topic is due on January 29th.

A list of ACCESSIBLE sources is due on March 5th.

The instructions for your paper are posted on CourseDen. **Your paper will not be graded unless you pass the Plagiarism quiz on . The paper will be due April 16th.**

EXAMS:

Midterm Exam: The midterm exam will consist of an essay question. The midterm exam will be on **February 26th.**

Final Exam: The exam will consist of an essay question. The final exam will be on **April 30th during the regularly scheduled class meeting.**

MAKE-UP POLICY:

Make-ups are given only with the permission of the instructor and only in the face of extreme, extenuating circumstances (death in the family, serious illness, car accident, injury). **Documentation is required.** Feeling under the weather, roommate issues, traffic congestion, or breakups with your partner are not valid excuses for missing an assignment, an exam, or a paper. In the case of an emergency on exam day, you must contact the instructor at the soonest possible time. Students who are involved in extracurricular activities that will occasionally require them to miss class *must provide their travel schedule well in advance of the expected absence. They must also arrange to make up any missed assignments before they leave.*

Late papers: If approved, it must be submitted within 48 hours of the original due date.

Make-up midterm exam: If approved, it must be taken within 48 hours of the original exam date.

Make-up final exam: If approved, you will receive an incomplete until the following semester when you will take the exam at my convenience.

The assignments are weighted as follows:

Participation	10%
Book Reviews	30%
Paper	20%
Midterm Exam	20%
Final Exam	20%

COURSE POLICIES:

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT POLICY: Any acts of dishonesty in your work constitute acts of academic misconduct. This includes first and foremost cheating and plagiarism. In cases of student academic misconduct, the instructor will determine the appropriate penalty, which will range from a “0” on the assignment to a failing grade for the course. In addition, I will submit students who cheat or plagiarize to the University of West Georgia’s Academic Dishonesty Tracking System. I take these issues seriously and I do not overlook, ignore, or give second chances.

CLASSROOM CONDUCT: A good learning environment requires that we treat each other with respect and consideration. We must all behave in a manner that is conducive to an effective and positive learning environment. Distracting behavior including, but not limited to, talking, eating, working on assignments for another class, using earbuds or headphones, texting is not acceptable. **Studies show that students who check their phones during class receive an average of half a grade lower than their peers who do not check their phones. Turn your phone off.** You will be asked to leave class if you violate the classroom conduct rules. Continued violations will be reported to the student conduct board. Penalties range from community service, withdrawal from the course, and suspension from the university.

LAPTOPS: YOU ARE NOT ALLOWED TO USE LAPTOPS IN THIS CLASS. No exceptions without documentation from Accessibility Services. Multiple studies have demonstrated that students who take notes by hand are more engaged and perform better on class assessments. Read the most recent study: <http://www.npr.org/2016/04/17/474525392/attention-students-put-your-laptops-away>

If I find you are using a laptop (or cellphone or other technology) I will ask you to stop. If you disregard my request, I will ask you to leave class. If the behavior continues I will ask you be removed from my course.

YOU MAY NOT RECORD MY LECTURES.

Please review the Common Language for university syllabi at the link below for further information about university policies as well as information about academic and disability services:

<https://www.westga.edu/UWGSyllabusPolicies/>

Special Note: I reserve the right to modify the syllabus over the course of the semester as circumstances dictate. Revisions will be announced in class and on CourseDen. Students are responsible for checking CourseDen regularly for any changes to the syllabus and assignments.

SCHEDULE OF LECTURES AND ASSIGNMENTS

(Lectures are not available on-line – another reason to be sure you attend class)

1/8: Course Introduction

1/10: What is Women's History and Why is it Important?

Required Readings:

Kerber, De Hart, and Dayton “Gender and the New Women’s History.”

1/15: Plagiarism, Paper, and Sources

Required Readings:

UWG Plagiarism Policy Quiz

1/17: Women in the West

Required Readings:

Judy Yung, “Unbound Feet: From China to San Francisco’s Chinatown.”

Peggy Pascoe, “Ophelia Paquet, A Tillamook Indian Wife.”

Deena J González, “The Life and Legend of Gertrudis Barceló.”

“Mrs. Green Gives an Account of Frontier Life in Colorado”

1/22: The (not so) New South

Required Readings:

Patricia A. Schechter, “Ida B. Wells and Southern Horrors.”

Kathleen Bee, “Women in the 1920s Ku Klux Klan”

1/24: Gullah Geechie Culture: Daughters of The Dust

1/29: Immigration

Topic Due: Upload to CourseDen

1/31: Social Reform

Required Readings:

Kathy Peiss, “Charity Girls and City Pleasures.”

Deborah Gray White, “Black Women and Nation Making.”

“Vice Commission of Chicago.”

“Mary Church Terrell Praises Club Women”

2/5: Labor and Radicalism

Required Readings:

Jacquelyn Dowd Hall, "Disorderly Women."

Elizabeth Clark-Lewis, "Community Life and Work Culture."

"Margaret Dreier Robins Describes the Purposes of the Women's Trade Union League"

"Triangle Factory Fire"

2/7: Women's Suffrage

Required Readings:

Nancy F. Cott, "Equal Rights and Economic Roles."

Anna Garlin Spencer, "Women Citizens."

National Women's Party, "Declaration of Principles."

"Inez Haynes Irwin Recalls."

2/12: **Book Review due – Upload to CourseDen:**

Required Readings:

Zeitz, Joshua. *Flapper: A Madcap Story of Sex, Style, Celebrity, and the Women who Made America Modern*

2/14: The Great Depression and Sort of a New Deal for Women

Required Readings:

Elna Green, "The Tampa Sewing-Room Strike."

Meridel Le Seur, "The Despair of Unemployed Women."

Ruth Shallcross, "Shall Married Women Work."

The *New York Times* Reports, "Destitute Women on Increase Here."

Dorothy Dunbar Bromley, "Comments on Birth Control and the Depression."

2/19: Women in World War II

Midterm Discussion

Required Readings:

Leisa D. Meyer. "The Regulation of Sexuality"

"The Challenge of Maintaining the Health"

2/21: Women on the Homefront

Required Readings:

Marilyn Hegarty, "Patriot or Prostitute?"

Richard Jefferson, "African American Women Factory Workers"

Elizabeth Escobedo, "Mexican American Young Women."

2/26: **Midterm Exam**

2/28: Union Maids

3/5 The 1950s: In Search of June Cleaver

Due: Sources – Upload to CourseDen

Required Readings:

Betty Friedan, *The Feminine Mystique*

- “50th Anniversary of “*The Feminine Mystique*: Friedan's Rediscovered Writings on Industrial Working Women”
 Susan Douglas, “Fractured Fairy Tales”
 Busy Wife’s Achievements (1956)
 David Yellin, “I’m Married to Working Mother” (1956)
- 3/7: 1950s Continued
Required Readings:
 Joanne Meyerowitz, Transforming Sex: Christine Jorgensen in the Post War US.”
 Rickie Solinger, “Women and the Politics of Hospital Abortion Committees, 1950-1970.”
 “African American Pauli Murray Explains Why Negro Girls Stay Single”
 “A Letter to the Editor of The Ladder from an African-American Lesbian”
- 3/12: **Book Review due – Upload to CourseDen:**
Required Readings:
 McGuire, Danielle. *At the Dark End of the Street: Black Women, Rape, and Resistance – a New History of the Civil Rights Movement from Rosa Parks to the Rise of Black Power*
- 3/14: Reflections Unheard
- 3/19: Spring Break: No Class
- 3/21: Spring Break: No Class
- 3/26: **Book Review due – Upload to CourseDen:**
Required Readings:
 Rosen, Ruth. *The World Split Open: How the Modern Women’s Movement Changed America (ebook available through the library)*
- 3/28: Rosen Book Discussion continued
- 4/2: The “Other” Women’s Movement
Required Readings:
 Frances Surge, “Diary of a Rent Striker”
 Mirta Vidal Reports on the Rising Consciousness
 Frances Beale, "Double Jeopardy: To Be Black and Female. "
 Jean Smith, “Black Consciousness”
 National Black Feminist Organization, “Manifesto”
 Radical Lesbians Explore the Revolutionary Potential
 Ariel Levy, “Lesbian Nation: When Gay Women Took to the Road”
- 4/4: Backlash
Required Readings:
 Susan Faludi, *Backlash*
 Phyllis Schafly, *The Power of the Positive Woman*
 Jerry Falwell, Listen America (1980)

4/9: Women, Poverty, and Welfare

Required Readings:

Gwendolyn Mink, "Feminists and the Politics of Welfare Reform in the 1990s"

Monica Potts, "What's Killing Poor White Women?"

Jamala McFadden Tells Her Story of Welfare Assistance in the 1990s

4/11: Third Wave Feminism

Required Readings:

marilyn malloy, "The New Feminism"

R Claire Snyder, "What is Third Wave Feminism?"

"Gloria Anzaldua Speaks About Her Identity as a Borderland Chicana"

Julia Serano, Debunking "Trans Women are not Women Arguments."

Violence Against the Transgender Community 2018

4/16: PAPERS DUE (upload to Course Den)

"Set it Off"

4/18: "Set it Off" Discussion

4/23: #metoo

Exam Discussion

Required Readings:

TBA

4/25: In Class Assignment

Required Readings:

Hernandez, Daisy. *A Cup of Water Under My Bed: A Memoir*

4/30: Final Exam