

**Women in America History since 1890**  
**HY 5468 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 Analyze primary and secondary sources for their historical content and interpretations.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 **eight books required** for this course (listed below). In addition to the eight 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.

**REQUIRED BOOKS:**

Haley, Sarah. *No Mercy Here: Gender, Punishment, and the Making of Jim Crow Modernity* **(ebook) (G)**

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

Clement, Alice. *Love for Sale; Courting, Treating, and Prostitution in New York, 1900-1945* **(ebook) (G)**

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*

Reagan, Leslie. *When Abortion was a Crime: Women, Medicine, and the Law, 1867 - 1973 (ebook) (G)*

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

Hays, Sharon. *Flat Broke with Children: Women in the Age of Welfare Reform (ebook) (G)*

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

**ATTENDANCE: Mandatory. Your attendance is required. You are also required to attend four separate class meetings with me and the other graduate students.** If you miss a class for any reason other than a documented illness or family you will lose a two points off of you final grade for each absence.

**We will meet 4 additional times this semester as noted on the schedule of lectures and assignments. Attendance is mandatory. If you miss one of these graduate class meetings you will lose 1/3 of a final letter grade.**

**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 paper, leading one class undergraduate discussion, leading one graduate class book discussion, a take home midterm exam, and a take home final exam in this course.

**Plagiarism Quiz:** You are required to take and pass a plagiarism quiz. You may take this quiz as many times as necessary to pass it. There is no grade for this quiz, but your papers will not be graded unless you pass this quiz in advance. The in class quiz will take place on **January 15th** if you do not pass the quiz, you will have to take the quiz during my office hours. **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: Paper:** You will write a 10-12 page paper for this course. You may choose to write a historiography or a research paper. A historiography paper should include approximately 10-12 books. A research paper will include approximately five primary sources and eight secondary sources. **The instructions for your paper are posted on CourseDen.** Your paper will not be graded unless you pass the Plagiarism quiz.

**A one paragraph paper topic is due on January 29<sup>th</sup>.**

**A list of ACCESSIBLE sources is due on March 5<sup>th</sup>.**

**Paper is be due April 19<sup>th</sup>.**

**Class Discussion:** Each of you will be required to lead **two** discussions. One discussion will cover a book in our graduate student meetings, the other discussion will occur in class and cover class materials due that day. **You are also expected to participate in class discussion everyday time the class meets.**

**EXAMS:**

**Midterm Exam:** The midterm exam will consist of a take home essay question. The midterm exam will be by 11:59pm on **March 1<sup>st</sup>.**

**Final Exam:** The exam will consist of a take home essay question. The final exam will be by 11:59pm **May 3<sup>rd</sup>.**

**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 and exams:** : If approved, it must be submitted within 48 hours of the original due date.

**The assignments are weighted as follows:**

Participation	10%
Discussion	10%
Book Reviews	30%
Paper	20%
Midterm Exam	15%
Final Exam	15%

**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**

Assigned readings are located on CourseDen unless noted otherwise.

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"

**Grad Meeting 3:30 in Sky Lounge: Haley, Sarah. *No Mercy Here: Gender, Punishment, and the Making of Jim Crow Modernity***

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."

**Grad Meeting 3:30 in Sky Lounge:** Clement, Alice. *Love for Sale; Courting, Treating, and Prostitution in New York, 1900-1945*

**2/26:** Undergrad Midterm – No Class for Grad Students

**3/1:** Graduate Student Midterm Exam due 11:59pm upload to CourseDen

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

**Grad Meeting 3:30 in Sky Lounge:** Reagan, Leslie. *When Abortion was a Crime: Women, Medicine, and the Law, 1867 -1973*

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 Schlafly, *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

**Grad Meeting 3:30 in Sky Lounge:** Hays, Sharon. *Flat Broke with Children: Women in the Age of Welfare Reform*

4/16: “Set it Off”

4/18: “Set it Off“ Discussion

4/19: Papers Due 11:59pm upload to Course Den

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: Undergrad Final Exam – no class

5/3: Final Exam due 11:59pm upload to CourseDen