

HIGR 205 Feminist Historical Studies

This course takes as its starting point the definition of feminist academic scholarship given by Ann-Louise Shapiro (“History and Feminist Theory”): “in its broadest outlines, feminist work seeks to produce a set of destabilizing questions that generate a reexamination of the content, methods, and epistemology of existing academic paradigms as it theorizes the meaning of sexual difference.” Without attempting to address all major areas of inquiry within feminist historiography, or to cover all geographic fields, the readings explore some of these “destabilizing questions” and their implications for historical scholarship.

Assignments:

Each student will give an oral presentation introducing one week’s reading and raising issues for discussion. For the other weeks, everyone must write a short (less than one page) summary of that week’s readings and be prepared for informed participation in discussions. Finally, each student must submit a 10-15 page essay which discusses one week’s readings in greater depth.

Readings:

Required books will NOT be ordered at the bookstore, but must be found and purchased individually. Copies of the articles will be placed in the graduate reading room. The “additional readings” are suggestions for future reading and will not be discussed in class.

Required Books:

Joan Scott, Gender and the Politics of History

Denise Riley, ‘Am I that Name? Feminism and the Category of Women in History

Judith Butler, Bodies that Matter and Undoing Gender

Joan Scott, Only Paradoxes to Offer

Ann Farnsworth-Alvear, Dulcinea in the Factory: Myths, Morals, Men and Women in
Columbia’s Industrial Experiment, 1905-1960

Margot Canaday, The Straight State: Sexuality and Citizenship in 20th Century America

Ann Stoler, Carnal Knowledge and Imperial Power: Race and the Intimate in Colonial Rule

Judith Surkis, Sexing the Citizen: Morality and Masculinity in France, 1870-1920

Week 1) Foundational Texts: Joan Scott

Joan Scott, Gender and the Politics of History, Parts 1-3

Joan Scott, “Experience” in Feminists Theorize the Political

AHR Forum on Joan Scott, “Gender and the Politics of History”, December 2008 V.113(5)

Laura Downs, “If woman is just an empty category...”, CSSH, v. 35, #2, April 1993

Additional Readings:

*Ann-Louise Shapiro, “History and Feminist Theory: or, Talking Back to the Beadle”, in Feminists
Revision History*

Catherine Hall, “Feminism and Feminist History”, in White, Male and Middle Class

*Judith Allen, “Evidence and Silence: Feminism and the Limits of History”, in Feminist
Challenges*

Kathleen Canning, "Feminist History after the Linguistic Turn", *Signs* v.19, n.21, 1994
 Susan Bordo, "Feminism, Postmodernism and Gender-Scepticism", in *Feminism/Postmodernism*
 Judith Butler, "Contingent Foundations: Feminism and the Question of Post-Modernism", in *Feminists Theorize the Political*
 Iris Marion Young, "Gender as Seriality: Thinking about Women as a Social Collective", *Signs*, 1994, v.19,#3.
 Mary Poovey, "Feminism and Deconstruction", *Feminist Studies* 14(1988)
 Linda Nicolson, ed. *Feminism/Postmodernism*
 Judith Walkowitz, "Patrolling the Borders: Feminist Historiography and the New Historicism", in *Radical History Review*, n.43(1989)
 Jane Roland Martin, "Methodological Essentialism, False Differences and Other Dangerous Traps", *Signs*, v.19 (1994)

Week 2) Foundational Texts: "Difference" and the Feminist Subject

Denise Riley, 'Am I that Name? *Feminism and the Category of Women in History*, ch.1,2,5

Chandra Mohanty, "Under Western Eyes: Feminist Scholarship and Colonial Discourses"
Feminism Without Borders

Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham, "African-American Women's History and the Metalanguage of Race", *Signs* (Winter 1992, v.17)

Norma Alarcón, "Traddutora, Traditora: A Paradigmatic Figure of Chicana Feminism", *Cultural Critique* 13 (fall 1989)

Additional Readings:

Ann duCille, "The Occult of True Black Womanhood: Critical Demeanor and Black Feminist Studies", *Signs*, 1994, v.19

Rosalind C. Morris, "Three Sexes and Four Sexualities: Redressing the Discourses on Gender and Sexuality in Contemporary Thailand", *Positions: East Asia Cultures Critique* (v.2) 1994

Hazel Carby, "White Women Listen: Black Feminism and the Boundaries of Sisterhood", *The Empire Strikes Back: Race and Racism in Seventies Britain*

Chandra Mohanty, "Under Western Eyes Revisited: Feminist Solidarity Through Anticapitalist Struggles", *Feminism Without Borders*

Chandra Mohanty and Jacqui Alexander, Introduction to *Feminist Genealogies, Colonial Legacies, Democratic Futures*

Antonia Castañeda, "Women of Color and the Rewriting of Western History: The Discourse, Politics and Decolonization of History", *Pacific Historical Review* (Nov. 1992, V.61)

Week 3) Gender Trouble: Judith Butler

Judith Butler, *Bodies that Matter*, Intro, ch.1, 3,4,8

Judith Butler, *Undoing Gender*, Intro, chs.2,3,9,10

Week 4) Gender and Sexuality

Michele Foucault, *History of Sexuality*, V.1, p1-13, 36-50, 57-73

Margot Canaday, *The Straight State: Sexuality and Citizenship in 20th Century America*

Additional Readings:

Thomas Laqueur, *Making Sex: The Body and Gender from the Greeks to Freud*

Catherine Gallagher and Thomas Laqueur, eds., *Feminism and Foucault: The Making of the Modern*

Body: Sexuality and Society in the 19th Century

Judith Butler, Gender Trouble: Feminism and the Subversion of Identity

Elizabeth Grosz, "Bodies and Knowledges: Feminism and the Crisis of Reason", in Space, Time and Perversion

Week 5) The "Other" Gender: Masculinity

Jeff Hearn, "Is Masculinity Dead? A critique of the concept", in Understanding Masculinities

Toby Ditz, "The New Men's History and the Peculiar Absence of Gendered Power: Some Remedies from Early American Gender History", G&H (April 2004)

Deborah Cohen, "From Peasant to Worker: Migration, Masculinity and the Making of Mexican Workers in the US"

Judith Surkis, Sexing the Citizen: Morality and Masculinity in France, 1870-1920

Additional Readings:

Caroline Ramazanoglu, "What Can You Do With a Man? Feminism and the Critical Appraisal of Masculinity", Women's Studies Intl Forum (15:3) May/June 1992

Michael Roper and John Tosh, "Introduction: Historians and the Politics of Masculinity", in _____ Manful Assertions: Masculinities in Britain since 1800

Mrinalini Sinha, Colonial Masculinity: the Manly Englishman and the Effeminate Bengali

Kam Louie, Theorizing Chinese Masculinity

Ann Lombard, Making Manhood: Growing Up Male in Colonial New England

Gail Bederman, Manliness and Civilization

Week 6) Gender and Citizenship

Joan Scott, Only Paradoxes to Offer, chs 1,2,4-6

Hazel Carby, "On the Threshold of Woman's Era: Lynching, Empire and Sexuality in Black Feminist Theory", Dangerous Liaisons: Gender, Nation and Postcolonial Perspectives

Lauren Berlant, "Uncle Sam Needs a Wife", in Materializing Democracy

Additional Readings:

Gender and History, v.13(3), 2001, Special Issue: Gender, Citizenships and Subjectivities

Pnina Werbner and Nira Yuval-Davis, eds., Women, Citizenship and Difference

Evelyn Nakano Glenn, Unequal Freedom: How Race and Gender Shaped American Citizenship

Linda Kerber, No Constitutional Right to be Ladies: Women and the Obligations of Citizenship

Catherine Hall, Keith McClelland and Jane Rendall's introduction to Defining the British Nation: Class, Race and Gender and the British Reform Act of 1867

Vera Mackie, Feminism in Modern Japan: Citizenship, Embodiment and Sexuality

Week 7) Gender, Race and Imperialism

Clare Midgley, "Gender and Imperialism: Mapping the Connections", (p.1-10), Gender and _____ Imperialism

Ann Stoler, Carnal Knowledge and Imperial Power: Race and the Intimate in Colonial Rule, Intro and part I

Nayan Shah, "Adjudicating Intimacies on U.S. Frontiers", in Stoler, ed. Haunted by Empire

Additional Readings:

Margaret Jacobs, Engendered Encounters: Feminism and Pueblo Culture, 1879-1934

Louise Newman, White Women's Rights

Antoinette Burton, Burdens of History: British Feminists, Indian Women, and Imperial Culture

Antoinette Burton, ed., Gender, Sexuality and Colonial Modernities

Anne McClintock, *Imperial Leather: Race, Gender and Sexuality in the Colonial Contest*
Anne Stoler, *Race and the Education of Desire: Foucault's History of Sexuality and the Colonial Order of Things*

Week 8) Gender and Class

"Labor History after the Gender Turn", ILWCH, #63, p.6-36, Spring 2003

Ann Farnsworth-Alvear, *Dulcinea in the Factory: Myths, Morals, Men and Women in Columbia's Industrial Experiment, 1905-1960*

Additional Readings:

Laura Frader and Sonya Rose, "Introduction: Gender and the Reconstruction of European Working-Class History", *Gender and Class in Modern Europe*

Ava Baron, "Gender and Labor History: Learning from the Past, Looking to the Future", in *Work Engendered: Toward a New History of American Labor*

Elisabeth Faue, "Gender and the Reconstruction of Labor History", *Labor History* (34) (1993)

Judith Coffin, *The Politics of Women's Work: The Paris Garment Trades, 1750-1915*

Thomas Miller Klubock, *Contested Communities: Class, Gender and Politics in Chile's El Teniente Copper Mine*

Emily Honig, *Sisters and Strangers: Women in the Shanghai Cotton Mills, 1919-1949*

Jacquelyn Dowd Hall, *Like a Family: The Making of a Southern Cotton Mill Industry*

Week 9: Gender and Subaltern Studies

Gayatri Spivak, "Can the Subaltern Speak?", in *Marxism and the Interpretation of Culture*

Lata Mani, *Contentious Traditions*, Intro, chs 1,5

Ileana Rodriguez, "Reading Subalterns" in *The Latin American Subaltern Studies Reader*

Ranajit Guha, "Subaltern Studies, in " " "

Marcia Stephenson, "The Architectural Relationship between Gender, Race and the Bolivian State" in *LASSR*

Marcelo Bergman and Monica Szurmuk, "Gender, Citizenship and Social Protest: The New Social Movements in Argentina"

Additional Readings:

Mrinalini Sinha, "Gender in the Critiques of Colonialism and Nationalism: Locating the "Indian Woman", in *Feminists Revision History*

Lata Mani, "Multiple Mediations: Feminist Scholarship in the Age of Multinational Reception", *Feminist Review* 35, Summer 1990

Kumkum Sangari and Sudesh Vaid, eds. *Recasting Women: Essays in Indian Colonial History*

Trinh Minh-ha, *Woman, Native, Other*