Sociology 459
Sociology of Gender
Section 2

University of Arizona
Fall 2010
MWF 2:00 – 2:50
Modern Languages, Room 413

Instructor: Trina Running
Office: Social Sciences 406
Email: krunning@email.arizona.edu
Office hours: M,W 3:00 – 4:00 or by appt.

Course Description:

In this course we will examine the concept of gender from a sociological perspective. During the first two sections we will dissect cultural meanings of femininity and masculinity with a particular focus on how gender intersects with race, ethnicity, class, sexuality, age and other aspects of identity. Next we will consider the ways in which our social conceptualization of gender changes over time. In order to understand the role of gender in international processes, the last section of the course will focus on how gender is understood in countries around the world and how attention to gender can improve attempts to resolve global social and environmental problems in an equitable way.

The goals of this course are:

1) To understand sociological theories of gender. How does incorporating theories of gender into theories of human life help us understand social, cultural, political and economic processes?
2) To understand the intersection of gender with race and class and use this knowledge to more thoroughly understand social inequality.
3) To appreciate how gender as a social process affects global processes. How might understanding the meaning of gender internationally contribute to developing solutions to collective problems?
4) To better understand the social forces shaping our lives.

Course Materials:


Additional readings will be available on D2L.

It is expected that all assigned readings will be completed by the date listed on syllabus.

**Course Requirements:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weekly Journal</th>
<th>15%</th>
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<tr>
<td>Class Participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Course Project</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<td>Project Presentation</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<td>Final Exam</td>
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**Grading:**

- 90% and above                   A
- 80-89%                          B
- 70-79%                          C
- 60-69%                          D
- 59 and below                    E

**Homework:**

It will be necessary to do all of the required readings and other homework assignments by the date they are assigned. Homework will consist primarily of a weekly journal collected on Fridays in which you will relate course readings to personal observations about gender dynamics in your everyday life. These journal assignments will be worth 10 points each, and will be collected 10 times throughout the semester. The minimum requirement for the journal assignment will be 2 double-spaced pages each week.

Please be aware that we will be dealing with issues in this course that might cause some people to feel uncomfortable. Some of the readings may use explicit sexual language and discuss themes such as homosexuality, bisexuality, sexual oppression, prostitution, reproductive choices and/or pornography. Some of the ideas might challenge your existing beliefs or convictions. I believe, however, that there is great value in making these matters the topic of open and honest public discussion. While I understand that you may feel discomfort at times, it is expected that you will be able to read the assigned texts and participate in class discussions in an academic and respectful manner. You are always welcome to contact me about concerns you are having at any time.
Students are expected to behave respectfully at all times. The University’s written policy on threatening behavior can be found at:
http://policy.web.arizona.edu/~policy/threaten.shtml

Exams:

There will be two exams in this course which will consist of a combination of multiple choice questions, short definitions of concepts, and short essays. These exams must be completed on the day listed in the syllabus. Make-up exams for full credit will only be given if written documentation of an emergency is provided. If there is a reason a student must miss an exam that is known in advance, a make-up exam must be scheduled with me prior to the exam date. Students missing either exam without written documentation to prove an emergency occurred will be allowed to take the exam for half credit within one week of the scheduled exam date.

There will be no incompletes in this course. There will also be no extra credit assignments. Grades will be calculated based on the weighted averages of the points earned as listed in the section on Grading.

Students with special needs will be accommodated in accordance with University policy. Students with such needs or who are registered with the Disability Resource Center should contact me before the first exam.

Academic Honesty:

All students should familiarize themselves with the University of Arizona policy on plagiarism and academic honesty (consult the University of Arizona Code of Academic Integrity). The link for the University’s policy on plagiarism follows:
http://dos.web.arizona.edu/uapolicies
Cheating of any kind will not be tolerated.

Students with Disabilities:

Students with disabilities who require reasonable accommodations to fully participate in course activities or meet course requirements must register with the Disability Resource Center. If you qualify for services through DRC, please e-mail your letter of accommodations to me as soon as possible.
Schedule of Reading and Homework Assignments:

**Week 1: Gender as a Concept**

August 23: Introduction


**Week 2: Gender in Interactions**


Journal Entries due

**Week 3: Masculinity and Femininity**

September 6: Labor Day, no class

September 8: Guyland, **Chapters 1-2**

September 10: Guyland, **Chapters 3-4**

Journal Entries due

**Week 4: Masculinity and Femininity continued**

September 13: Guyland, **Chapters 5-6**

September 15: Guyland, **Chapters 7-8**

September 17: Guyland, **Chapters 9-10**

Journal entries due
**Week 5: Masculinity and Femininity continued**

September 20: Guyland, Chapter 11-12.


Journal entries due

**Week 6: Gender and Culture**


Hand out and discuss assignment for Course Project.


Journal entries due

**Week 7: Gender and Culture continued**


October 8: Review for Midterm

**Week 8: Gender and Economics**

October 11: Midterm Exam


**Week 9: Gender and Economics: The Workplace**


**Week 10: Gender and Economics: The Family**


**Week 11: Gender and Politics**


Week 12: Gender, Globalization and Social Problems


Journal entries due

Week 13: Group Presentations


November 17: In class presentations of course projects

November 19: In class presentations of course projects

Week 14: Group Presentations

November 22: In class presentations of course projects

**Final projects due**


November 26: Thanksgiving Break, no class

Week 15: Gender and the Environment


Journal entries due
**Week 16: Synthesis**


December 8: Review, last day of classes

December 10: Final Exam, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.