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SOCI 275S.50: Gender and Society

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Gender and Society

Spring 2019

SOCI 275

Instructor: Rachel Just, M.A.

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I intend for this class to be collaborative and dynamic, with you having some control over the content and format; therefore, changes to the syllabus are inevitable. Any changes will be announced via email and posted on the Moodle page.

Course Summary

In every society, gender impacts how we are supposed to behave as well as the kind of opportunities we are afforded.

In this class, we will look at how those impacts vary based on time and space. We will also look at the relationship between gender and power, paying close attention to the intersection of gender with other important social differences like race, class, and sexuality.

Course Objectives

By the end of the course, we should be able to answer the following questions:

- ❖ What exactly is gender and why do we need it?
- ❖ What are the forces that shape gender?
- ❖ How does gender help us understand issues of race, class, and sexuality?
- ❖ What happens when we don't live up to gender expectations?

Contacting Me

Because this is an online class, the only way to reach me is by email. I check email throughout the week and once on Saturday afternoon. I will do my best to respond within 48 hours.

If you would like discuss class concepts or assignments in greater depth, we can arrange to talk on the phone or over Zoom (the University's video chat service). You can access the Zoom meeting by clicking on the following link: [Zoom Meeting](#).

For all email messages, you must have "Gender and Society" or "SOCI 275" at the start of your subject heading or I may not open your message. This is very important. If you emailed me and did not receive a response, double-check that your message contained either one in the subject heading.

Student Conduct and Plagiarism

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the [Student Conduct Code](#), which is available for review online. Make sure that your work is your own. Students are encouraged to discuss assignments with classmates to facilitate your learning. However, students must turn in their own separate assignment. Turning in an assignment that you did not personally complete is plagiarism.

If this is unclear, please ask.

Forum Etiquette

My expectation for forum etiquette is simple and can be expressed succinctly: be respectful to other students. The purpose of forum assignments is to create an interactive space of learning, and learning is not possible if interactions are disrespectful. Therefore, flaming, insults, and slurs of any kind will not be tolerated. Keep in mind that the University of Montana forbids discrimination on the basis of ethnicity, race, religion, sex, age, marital status, sexual orientation, or disability. I will participate in and monitor the forums on a regular basis and will not hesitate to seek disciplinary action for any students violating the University's [Conduct Codes and Policies](#).

Disability

The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and [Disability Services for Students](#). If you think you may have a disability adversely affecting your academic performance, and you have not already registered with Disability Services, please contact Disability Services in Lommasson Center 154 or call 406-243-2243. I will work with you and Disability Services to provide an appropriate modification.

Grading Policy

There are three main ways to earn points in this class: weekly discussion forum posts, two short essays, and small assignments. Final grades will be determined based on your average score out of the total points possible. At any point, you can calculate your grade by adding the number of points to date, dividing by the total number of points possible to date, and obtaining your percentage grade to date. Your grades will be available on Moodle.

A: 90-100%

B: 80-89%

C: 70-79%

D: 60-69%

F: 59% or below

❖ Weekly Discussion Forum Posts

- Each week, you will discuss what you've learned from the assigned readings with me and 20 of your other classmates. I split the class into two smaller groups so you wouldn't have such an overwhelming number of posts to deal with. In your post, you will apply the concepts from the reading to the weekly jam and/or other relevant news or media. **You must post by 11:59 pm every Thursday.** I will grade the first two weeks for each student using a rubric that you can view on Moodle. After the first two weeks, I will randomly select a few forum posts to grade and give you a midterm and final grade for forum posts. You will not receive a weekly grade for forum posts. **Midterm and final forum posts will each be worth 50 points for a total of 100 points for forum posts.**

❖ Two Short Essays

- You will have two essays in this course: one midterm and one final. Each will be five pages and formatted to the specifications listed below.
- For the midterm essay, you will apply the concepts we have discussed in the forums to the movie or TV show of your choice. **The midterm essay will be worth 30 points. Due March 15 by 11:59 pm.**
- For the final essay, you will examine how your life is gendered. The purpose of this essay is to use the sociological imagination to examine your social world. After you write your essay, you will be expected to briefly summarize your paper for the other students in the class using five images with brief captions. **The final essay and forum posting will be worth 40 points. Due May 1 by 11:59 pm.**
- More details about each paper will be given two weeks before they are due.

❖ Small Assignments

- There will be small assignments throughout the course that will accomplish various goals. The first assignment, for example, requires that you introduce yourself to other students in the course so we can begin to build community. Other assignments include midterm and final feedback on the course. I will create an anonymous survey for you to complete so I can determine what is working and what is not. I will take your feedback seriously and make adjustments as necessary. The surveys will be graded only on completion. **Points will vary** based on the assignment.

IMPORTANT – Formatting requirements for essays:

- ❖ Double-spaced
- ❖ 12 point, Times New Roman font
- ❖ One-inch page margins
- ❖ Use page numbers.
- ❖ Submit files as MS Word files. No Google Docs, please.
- ❖ No title pages. Place the title of your assignment on the top of the first page.
- ❖ Put your name and student number as a page header.

Name and pronouns

This course affirms people of all gender expressions and gender identities. If you go by a different name than what is on the class roster, let me know. I will respect your name and your pronouns.

Writing Assistance

The Writing Center is a resource available to all students to assist with all steps of the writing process. Set up an appointment or learn more at [The Writing Center's website](#).

Tentative Class Schedule

Week	Topic	Assignment
Week One January 10 – 11	Introduction	Reading: None Video: Pronoun Video Introduction Forum Post
Week Two January 14 – 18	Theories of Gender	Readings on Moodle Video: “Theories of Gender: Crash Course Sociology #33” Weekly Jam: Raspberry Beret by Prince Weekly Forum Post
Week Three January 21 – 25	How Gender Is Done	Readings on Moodle Weekly Jam: I Am Her by Shea Diamond Weekly Forum Post
Week Four January 28 – February 1	Race and Gender	Readings on Moodle Weekly Jam: Q.U.E.E.N. feat Erykah Badu by Janelle Monáe Weekly Forum Post

<p>Week Five February 4 – 8</p>	<p>Class and Gender</p>	<p>Readings on Moodle</p> <p>Weekly Jam: Flawless ft. Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie by Beyoncé</p> <p>Weekly Forum Post</p>
<p>Week Six February 11 – 15</p>	<p>Sexuality and Gender</p>	<p>Readings on Moodle</p> <p>Weekly Jam: 1950 by King Princess</p> <p>Weekly Forum Post</p>
<p>Week Seven February 18 – 22</p>	<p>Masculinities</p>	<p>Readings on Moodle</p> <p>Weekly Jam: I Want to Break Free by Queen</p> <p>Weekly Forum Post</p>
<p>Week Eight February 25 – March 1</p>	<p>Femininities</p>	<p>Readings on Moodle</p> <p>Weekly Jam: Thunder Thighs by Miss Eaves</p> <p>Weekly Forum Post</p>
<p>Week Nine March 4 – 8</p>	<p>Non-Binary</p>	<p>Readings on Moodle</p> <p>Weekly Jam: True Trans Soul Rebel - Against Me!</p> <p>Weekly Forum Post</p>
<p>Week Ten March 11 – 15</p>	<p>Gender and Media</p>	<p>Readings on Moodle</p> <p>Weekly Jam: It's Real for Us by Lauren Fairweather</p> <p>Midterm Paper Due March 15 by 11:59 pm</p> <p>Weekly Forum Post</p>

<p>Week Eleven March 18 – 22</p>	<p>Gender and Gaming</p>	<p>Readings on Moodle</p> <p>Weekly Jam: Video Games by Lana Del Rey</p> <p>Weekly Forum Post</p>
<p>Week Twelve March 25 – 29</p>	<p>SPRING BREAK!</p>	<p>Enjoy your break!</p>
<p>Week Thirteen April 1 – 5</p>	<p>Gendered Resistance</p>	<p>Readings on Moodle</p> <p>Weekly Jam: Bad Girls by M.I.A.</p> <p>Weekly Forum Post</p>
<p>Week Fourteen April 8 – 12</p>	<p>Gender and Politics</p>	<p>Readings on Moodle</p> <p>Weekly Jam: I'm With Her by Le Tigre</p> <p>Weekly Forum Post</p>
<p>Week Fifteen April 15 – 19</p>	<p>Gender Performance</p>	<p>Readings on Moodle</p> <p>Weekly Jam: TBA</p> <p>Weekly Forum Post</p>
<p>Week Sixteen April 22 – 26</p>	<p>Drag</p>	<p>Readings on Moodle</p> <p>Weekly Jam: Sissy That Walk by RuPaul</p> <p>Weekly Forum Post</p>
<p>Finals Week April 29 – May 3</p>	<p>Finals</p>	<p>Final Paper Due Wednesday May 1 by 11:59 pm</p>