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W I N T E R C O U R S E S I N S I D E

WOMEN'S STUDIES PROGRAM
NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
VOL. 1 No. 5 October-November 1976

PROGRAM NOTES

HOW DO YOU MAJOR IN WOMEN'S STUDIES?/WHAT DO YOU DO WITH IT?

Women's studies courses and programs have been growing in number all over the country in the last few years because of the interest shown by scholars, teachers, and students in learning more about women and in changing the traditional curriculum. Women especially have been motivated to do research and take courses in women's studies because they see the knowledge gained as touching on their own experience and personal goals. Here at UNI (where 60% of students are women, many "returning" to school), 8-14 courses are offered each semester (see inside pages for winter schedule); just since Fall '75, 999 students have enrolled in 38 women's studies courses offered by faculty in 7 departments, PIE, and WSP. UNI students are also fortunate in having several options in putting together a major or concentration in women's studies. Undergraduate majors in history and sociology can choose women's studies concentrations in these fields. The Kaskaskia Plan is available for students to design their own women's studies major or career field relating to women. Now, a recently approved track in interdisciplinary social science leading to a B.A. degree presents a new and exciting opportunity for students who want to focus on women or gender-related studies. For graduates, both the M.A. in Social Science and the M.A. in American Studies offer majors in women's studies. (For more information, call ext. 423 or pick up one of our WSP brochures.)

Students considering women's studies as a major are naturally concerned about the career possibilities. A program of varied courses taken in several disciplines might provide, for example, a satisfying knowledge of women's history, socialization processes and sex role stereotypes, women poets, and cross-cultural data on woman's role in society. For many students, this kind of enrichment is an end in itself. For most, though, the inevitable question is, "What do I do with it?" The most promising path, given the job outlook for students who are "merely" well-rounded and strong in liberal arts, is to combine an interdisciplinary focus on women with a more traditional discipline. This can be done with a double major or major/minor combination, or by designing a program which will prepare the student for a job field in which a women's studies background will be a strong asset.

Traditional fields such as counseling, teaching, clinical psychology, group work, health care, and library science are example of areas in which assertive, well-prepared women with a women's studies background have found jobs. Many are working in centers organized to provide women with special guidance and counseling in careers, education, personal growth, and health problems; these are supported by community groups, schools, and private and government agencies. (Continued on back page)

WOMEN'S STUDIES COURSES for WINTER 1977

The following have been cross-listed as Women's Studies Courses because they support the goals of WSP: to encourage new knowledge about women's experience, history, contributions, and status; to bring a critical perspective to traditional areas of knowledge dealing with women and gender roles; to promote nonsexist education. Courses of Special Interest to Women offer skills or training in areas to which women are not traditionally oriented or in areas of special need to women.

REFERENCE NUMBER	DEPT./ COURSE NO.	TITLE	CREDITS	TIME	ROOMS	INSTRUCTORS
19076	* Ed Found 314A-01	SOCIAL ISSUES IN EDUCATION: SEXISM IN EDUCATION	3 hrs	11-1T 11-2Th		Mitchell Vogel Nancy Green
This seminar will examine the ways in which schools perpetuate or modify sex role stereotypes. Students will review textbooks and investigate hiring practices, classroom activities, and teacher training programs to determine their effects on sexist behavior. (min. of Jr. standing or C. of I.).						
12213	English 325B-02	READINGS IN WORLD LITERATURE: WOMEN WRITERS	3 hrs	3TWTTh		Elizabeth Libbey
20th century women writers will be studied, including their creative and autobiographical works and their unique perception of the world as women (Woolf, Sexton, Hellman, Lessing, O'Connor).						
13982	History 464-31	READINGS IN 20C AMERICA: WOMEN'S HISTORY	3 hrs	6:30- 9 Th		June Sochen
A graduate level seminar in which students will do an in-depth study and analysis of readings dealing with the history of American women in the 20th Century.						
15716	Philo 271-31	TOPICS IN PHILOSOPHY: PHILOSOPHY OF SEXUALITY	3 hrs	4-5:15 TTh		Hugh Moorhead
This course will introduce students to sexual attitudes and practices in past ages and other societies and will also involve discussion of current issues and attitudes toward sexuality, including such topics as women's liberation, new marriage styles, and sex research.						
17203	Sociology 301-01	SOCIALIZATION PROCESSES	3 hrs	12 MTTh		Donna Iven
Socialization will be examined in terms of preconditions, processes, agencies, consequences; consideration will be given to cross-cultural approaches to socialization studies.						
17353	Sociology 343-01	MARRIAGE AND THE FAMILY	3 hrs	2 MTTh		Mary Ann Schwartz
Course topics will include the historical role of the family, types of family structures, sexuality and parental attitudes, future patterns of courtship, marriage and family.						
17422	Ext/Soc	SOCIOLOGY OF WORKING	3 hrs	6:30-	Evansston	Jean Berman

376-81 WOMEN 9 Th H.S.
Seminar-style class will analyze special problems of working women, including the nature of women's paid and unpaid work, and efforts to combat sex discrimination, including unionization.

16759 320-01 PSYCHOSEXUAL DEVELOPMENT 3 hrs 2-3MWTh S325 Dorothe Weinberg
16765 320-31 (two sections offered) 3 hrs 6-8:30Th S317

The course will focus on the factors which influence the development of gender identity, the significance of gender identity for learning and behavior, and the effect on personality development and individual functioning of identification with stereotyped sex roles (Prereq-Gen. Psych)

18056 *PIE/SEM COMMUNICATION BETWEEN 3 hrs 11-12:30 0-040 Joyce Flory
383B-02 THE SEXES MW

Students in this seminar will learn about concepts, models, forms, functions, and styles of communication between males and females by means of readings, discussion, and exercises.

18119 *PIE/SEM WOMEN IN POLITICS 3 hrs 2-4Th 0-040 June Sochen
383H-08 Shirley Castelnuovo

A cross-cultural approach to women in politics with particular focus on the United States; both the historical and contemporary political behavior of women will be studied.

18131 PIE/SEM WOMEN IN FRANCE AND THE 3 hrs 6-8W 0-040 Josiane Caron
383K-31 U.S.: MYTHS AND REALITIES

This will be a research seminar that will document myths about women and study historical and contemporary data to evaluate the realities of the status of women cross-culturally.

17901 *PIE/FAC RESEARCH AND FIELD EXPERIENCE credit varies from Josiane Caron
152A-01 IN WOMEN'S SERVICES 2 - 15

17917 353A-01
17923 355A-01 Students will research the perceived needs of UNI women and work with
17930 355B-02 the Office of Women's Services to acquire the skills to help women.
Four separate courses can be taken concurrently or separately. Consent of instructor is required; see Ms. Caron in B-114 for more information.

————— C O U R S E S O F S P E C I A L I N T E R E S T T O W O M E N —————

** PIE/SEM RAPE VICTIM 3 hrs 10-11M 0-040 Mary Marzotto
383P-12 LAY ADVOCACY SEMINAR 10-12Th Pat Sadow-Thelin

This course will focus on the sociological, psychological, medical, and legal issues involved in the prosecution of rape with special attention given to the kinds of assistance, legal and otherwise, which rape victims need. It will include required readings and field experience.

** (Contact PIE, ext 424, or WSP, ext. 423 for reference number for this course)

20590 Phys Ed BASKETBALL: WOMEN'S RULES 1 hr 12 TTh Gym Betty Guzik
172- 01

* Course given for the first time.

PLEASE NOTE: SIX WIVES OF HENRY VIII
has been cancelled.

PLANS, POSSIBILITIES, PROBLEMS: R.S.V.P.

A Women's Studies Colloquium?

Several people interested in bolstering and ordering their own knowledge of women's studies have suggested an informal colloquium, open to all, which would meet regularly to read and discuss important books and articles on women. This would help us all to be better teachers and students and could also be stimulating and fun. Are you interested? R.S.V.P.

To faculty teaching women's studies courses: Do your students know your course is part of the Women's Studies Program, which in turn is part of a national (international?) movement to gain new knowledge about women and encourage nonsexist education? What do they say when people ask them "Why are you taking a women's studies course?" Are they asked? Have you spent time in class talking about the "what" and "why" of women's studies? Do your students read our Program Notes? We would welcome feedback on all of these questions. R.S.V.P.

Achievements and Problems for Women's Studies

Florence Howe, in her keynote address at our October 9 conference, cited both achievements and problems nationwide. There are WS courses in over half of U.S. institutions of higher education, over 200 established programs, and five scholarly WS journals. The Women's Studies Newsletter now has over 6,000 teachers on its mailing list (we have copies in the Resource Center). Twelve regional associations are in formation in connection with the establishment of the National Women's Studies Association, and several local consortia already exist. On the other side, she sees a continuing struggle for survival coexisting with expanding interest. In addition to budget and tenure battles, she focused on the lack of adequate planning and theory that often accompanies rapid curricular growth, inadequate attention paid to minority women in curricula as well as in programs, inadequate attention to high school and elementary teaching, and the need for more carefully planned strategies for the future. She emphasized the importance of educating ourselves and our students as well as developing a coherent and high quality program and trying to have an impact on the total curriculum. All of these are things we might well think about and discuss in the future. R.S.V.P.

A timely poem read after pondering stacks of information on Title IX, which requires equal opportunity for girls to compete in school athletics:

TOMORROW MAYBE

I'm thinking that I've caught the pass
that will win the game.
She hopes I'll catch the pass
that will win the game.
I dropped the pass
We lost the game.
Tomorrow maybe I'll be
hoping she'll win the
game.

Jim Stone, Age 15; Washington, D.C. (From Male and Female Under 18, reprinted in Women's Studies Newsletter, Fall '73).

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Women's Studies Program offices are C523 and C520, 583-4050, x423,4.

WOMEN'S STUDIES PEOPLE ARE SPECIAL!

Teachers of women's studies are especially active in research because the field is new and the need is great. Students in their classes often hear about new theories and new data before the professional journals do. Just a few items from UNI scholars: Sue Sheriden Walker's essay, "Widow and Ward: The Feudal Law of Child Custody in Medieval England," appeared in the latest issue of Feminist Studies; Shirley Castelnovo, political science, will chair a panel and present a paper, "Reflections on Legal and Social Change" at the African Studies Association meeting in November; Mary Ann Schwartz and Paula S. Wolf co-authored "Singlehood and the American Experience" to appear in the November Journal of Social Relations and previewed at our Brown Bag Seminar October 12. Other women's studies people doing interesting things: June Sochen, with a number of books on women in history and film behind her, is researching Jewish women in America; Joyce Flory of Speech and Performing Arts, who has also published widely in her field, is active with PEER, NOW's Project for Equal Education Rights, which acts as a watchdog for Title IX, the federal law barring discrimination against girls and women in education. (Other activities will be reported as they come to our attention and as we have space for them.)

OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO WOMEN'S STUDIES PEOPLE

Assertiveness Training will be offered by Mini U. on October 30. For more information contact the Alumni Office at x272.

WSP Resource Center 0-041, is now open 12-2 MTW, 4-5M, and 11-1 on Friday. Come and browse. Education people will especially find our material on non-sexist education useful.

We welcome a new member of the English Department and the women's studies faculty, poet-in-residence Elizabeth Libbey, who will be teaching a course on "Women Writers" this winter.

The Women's Studies Program is supporting efforts of Women's Services and College Students for Children's Services to make child care scholarships available to student-parents. Send contributions, small or large, to B-114; make checks payable to Northeastern Illinois University Day Care Fund.

Women's Day at Circle Campus, will feature Patricia O'Brien and Gwendolyn Brooks among others. For information call 996-8535.

Do you know the views of the candidates for governor of Illinois on ERA, abortion, and other women's issues? A candidate questionnaire prepared by the Illinois Women's Agenda is available for your perusal on WSP bulletin board outside C-523.

(How do You Major in Women's Studies, continued from front page)

Other women are working as women's studies teachers and administrators. Women with training in both women's studies and business have been hired (or are self-employed) as affirmative action officers, financial and insurance consultants to women, and personnel and management consultants. Similar kinds of jobs are available in public administration and higher education. Women's law is a new field, and women trained in women's studies would bring a special expertise to paralegal work. The numbers of women in these fields so far are few, because the field is so new, but they do suggest possible career goals for women's studies majors. Women (and men) in all of these career fields, and many others, will benefit from an understanding of the historical, social, and biological forces that have shaped women's and men's lives in the past and the important changes occurring in contemporary society. Many of these jobs have opened up because of recent laws requiring equal treatment of women, others because of the new options available to women and the large numbers of older women returning to school and to the labor force. There are many possibilities, limited only by the number of creative ways students can turn their interest and expertise in women's studies into strong career assets. More in future Program Notes.

MORE ON CAREERS FOR WOMEN

On Thursday, November 11, women students will have a valuable opportunity to gain career information. "Women in the Work Force," sponsored by Student Activities and coordinated by Debra Niemann (CCAB) and Donna Nordenmalm (Women's Studies), will be a day of varied presentations, all in CC217: 9:30-10:30, "We the Women" slide show; 10:30-11:15, panel discussions by specialists in women's careers; 11:15-12, individual consultation and literature table; the afternoon program, 1-3:30, will feature Heather Booth, who has been widely acclaimed for her work in helping women to organize and change their lives; discussion groups from 3:30-5 p.m. will close the program.

In conjunction with this program, books on women and work are now on display throughout the month of November in the center library display window; after December 1 they will be available in the Women's Studies Resource Center, 0-041.

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