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Spring 2014 Courses

CGS 2A – Introduction to CGS: Social Movements

M.G. Renu Cappelli, Critical Gender Studies Program

This course provides an introduction to methods and theories of social justice movements in the US from the late 18th Century to today, focusing on an intersectional approach to gender, race, sexuality and class. Organized around key issues in feminist thought and practice, including family structures, work, and reproduction, the class introduces students to foundational histories and practices that actively define liberty and justice.

CGS 87 – Freshman Seminar: Reproductive Politics Today

Sara C. Kaplan, Department of Ethnic Studies and Critical Gender Studies

From the US Congress to the Texas Legislature to the streets of global cities, reproductive rights and access remain highly contested topics. This class will explore these contemporary political struggles and debates from the perspective of reproductive justice scholars and activists.

CGS 103 – Feminist Theory: Changing the Subject

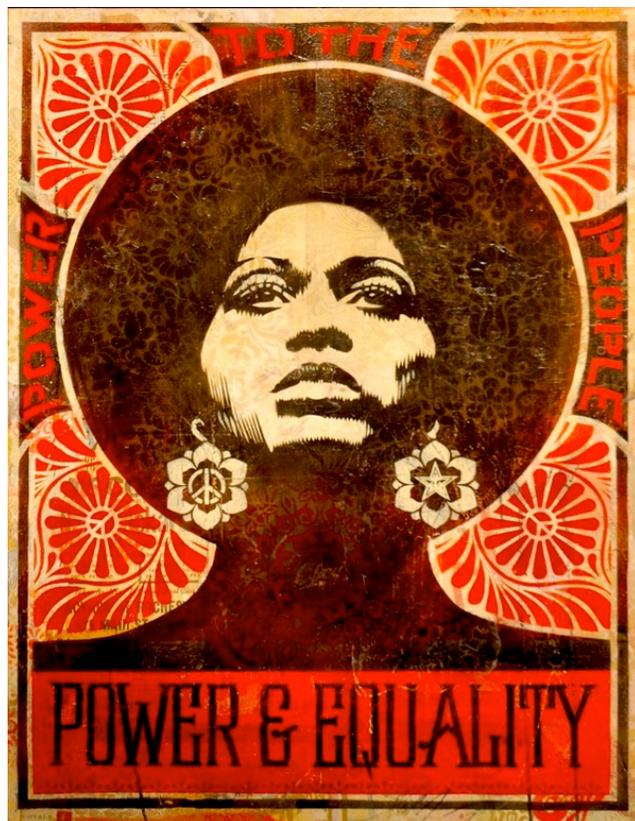
M.G. Renu Cappelli, Critical Gender Studies Program

Feminist theory is made of the ideas and provocations that are both a result of and a precursor to social movements for justice. Generally speaking the purpose of any theory is to make useful the insights and tactics gained from one instance and place to other times and locations. One foundational idea in contemporary feminist theory is that each of us is positioned in a geographical and social location that frames our perspective on the world. In other words, what we know is *situated*. Another main idea in feminist theory is that what and who we study are subjects---not “just” objects of knowledge; in other words, the places and people we come to know *also* act on us and also *change*. In this course on Feminist Theory, we will look at four different ways of knowing (film, the graphic novel, scholarly prose, and the memoir) to learn how narratives of place and of change shape new feminist theories of race, gender, and sex.

CGS 104 – Advanced Topics in CGS: Queer Contact Zones in Asian, Intra-Asian, and Asian-American Studies

Todd Henry, Department of History

This course will serve as an intellectual forum for thinking about the intersection of “area studies” and “queer studies.” To date, “area studies,” particularly those dealing with Asia, have tended to sideline questions of the body, especially those pertaining to non-normative practices and life-worlds. In a similar way, “queer studies,” at least until recently, has tended to take Euro-American cases as the default mode for empirical research as well as larger theoretical paradigms. To transcend the intellectual oversights of these two fields and reconnect them in productive ways, we will focus on “contact zones,” transnationalism, diaspora, inter-racial mixing and other cross-cultural analytics that have allowed scholars in Asian, Intra-Asian, and Asian-American Studies to produce a new body of cutting edge work that is redefining both area studies and queer studies. The course will closely survey this new body of literature, using it to imagine our own set of scholarly, artistic, and activist modes of investigation and practice.



CGS 105 – Queer Theory

Sara C. Kaplan, Department of Ethnic Studies and Critical Gender Studies

Gay? Straight? Trans? Genderqueer? Homophile? Homophobia? Homonormative? What do these terms all mean, and where do they come from? This quarter, we will seek to answer this and other questions through an introductory exploration of the theoretical frameworks, political debates, and intellectual approaches that make up the study of gay, lesbian, trans and other forms of queer gender and/or sexuality. Drawing upon course readings, film screenings, and class discussions, we will challenge ourselves to complicate our understandings of seemingly natural categories of meaning such as sex/gender, man/woman or homosexual/heterosexual as we experience them in our own daily lives and perceive them in the world around us. Using an interdisciplinary approach, we will explore queer and trans history, critical theory, cultural production, and politics in the United States and transnationally. We will pay particular attention to how ideas of gender and sexuality intersect with social categories of race, class, and citizenship.

CGS 111 – Gender & the Body

Arianne Miller, Department of Psychology and Critical Gender Studies

Gender and the gendering of some bodies as masculine and other bodies as feminine have been central to the scientific identification, treatment and production of homosexuality and heterosexuality. In fact, gender and “the body” are so essential to the concept of sexual orientation, we must question whether “sexual orientation” truly exists in and of itself. Without gender or sex, what would be the basis for sexual orientation? What would we be left with? In this course, we will read psychological, bio-medical and historical texts to examine the importance of gendered and sexed bodies in defining and operationalizing sexual orientation within current and historical scientific discourse.

CGS 115 – Latina/o Sexualities

Jillian Hernandez, Department of Ethnic Studies and Critical Gender Studies

(Cross-listed with ETHN 187.) The construction and articulation of Latina/o sexual identities and practices will be explored in this course through interdisciplinary and comparative regional, national, and transnational perspectives. Through engaging ethnography, cultural studies, queer theorizing, poetry, memoirs, visual art, and popular culture, we will examine how immigration, class, and norms of ethnicity, race, and gender determine the expression and framing of Latina/o sexualities.

CGS 147 – Black Feminisms: Past & Present

Sara C. Kaplan, Department of Ethnic Studies and Critical Gender Studies

(Cross-listed with ETHN 147.) An advanced introduction to historical and contemporary Black feminisms in the US and transnationally. Students will explore the theory and practice of Black feminists/womanists, and analyze the significance of Black feminism to contemporary understandings of race, class, gender, and sexuality.

CGS 196B – CGS Honors Research

Patrick Anderson, Critical Gender Studies Program Director

Honors thesis research and writing for students who have completed CGS 190 and 196A. A letter grade for both CGS 196A and 196B will be given at the completion of the quarter.

Departmental Courses Applicable/Petitionable to CGS Major and Minor

#Course is eligible for major/minor credit, but must be petitioned. Please see CGS advisor for assistance with the petition. Some departmental courses may require prerequisites. If you have not met the prerequisites you may contact the department directly to ask for preauthorization.

Social Sciences

POLI 115A – Gender & Politics
PSYC 134 – Eating Disorders
SOCI 119 – Sexuality & Sexual Identities
SOCI 132 – Gender & Work

Arts & Humanities

HIEA 138 – Women & the Chinese Revolution
HIUS 130 – Cultural History, 1607-1865
HIUS 131 – Cultural History, 1865-1917
LTCS 130 – Gender, Race/Ethnicity, Class & Culture
LTEN 185 – Themes in African-American Literature: The Prison Industrial Complex

For additional information, please contact the Critical Gender Studies Program Office in the Social Sciences Building, Room 201A at (858) 534-9982 or e-mail cgs@ucsd.edu.

You can also visit our website at <http://cgs.ucsd.edu>.