



Summer Session I: June 29 – August 1

CGS 2A – Intro to CGS: Key Terms & Concepts

In this course, we will be working together to learn, personalize, and deconstruct key terms in critical gender studies scholarship through the interrogation of popular culture. Using a mix of definitions offered by scholars, artists, activists, and beyond, we will work to clarify significant terms in gender studies—recognizing that even defining what it means to be “woman,” “man,” or “non-binary” has no clear or steady answer. By drawing upon a cultural studies approach to keywords, we will develop an understanding of significant movements, figures, and languages in critical gender studies that is informed by popular opinion and scholarship beyond academia. Simultaneously, we will strive to recognize the power relationships inherent in language and how many dominant iterations of history work to erase persons from marginalized groups.

CGS 112 – Sexuality & Nation

(Cross-listed with ETHN 127.) This course explores the nexus of sex, race, ethnicity, gender, and nation and considers their influence on identity, sexuality, migration movement and borders, and other social, cultural, and political issues that these constructs affect.

CGS 119 – Asian American Film, Video, and New Media: Asian American Embodiments

(Cross-listed with LTCS 119.) This course surveys a variety of Asian American cultural productions to explore the different forms of embodiment that Asian America has inhabited at the intersection of race, gender, sexuality, and (dis)ability. Students will be introduced to theories from performance studies, Asian American studies, science studies, and feminist and queer theory to think critically about how the “body,” as both a biological entity and aesthetic form, has figured prominently in narratives about Asian American racial formation. We will interrogate historical narratives that place Asians in proximity to inhuman forms such as machines, viruses, animals, and aliens as well as explore Asian American works that challenge these conventional modes of representing race. This course will challenge normative assumptions of embodiment by considering methods of thinking about the body that prioritize relationality, collaboration, and entanglement as opposed to individuality and identity. In the process, students will familiarize themselves with a variety of media and genres of Asian American cultural production, including film, poetry/spoken word, performance art, and popular culture.

Summer Session II: August 3 – September 5

CGS 101 – Gender & Globalization

This course ties critical texts in transnational feminist studies to ongoing conversations about borders, globalization, and modernity. Students will be asked to consider contemporary issues that stretch beyond borders with a focus on how these areas are influenced by and influence gender. Together, we will consider questions such as: What role does gender have on immigration? What kinds of labor are feminized and extended beyond national borders? How are innovations in science and technology affected by ideas of gender and race? How does globalization affect access to health care?



CRITICAL
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STUDIES

Summer 2020

CGS 105 – Queer Theory

Examines the different methodologies and disciplinary histories that together constitute the interdisciplinary project called queer studies. Of particular interest will be how these different methodologies and history construe and construct the relations between gender, race, class, and nation.

CGS 114 – Gender, Race, Ethnicity, & Class

(Cross-listed with ETHN 183.) The course explores the relationship of race, ethnicity, class, and gender by examining the participation of working-class women of color in community politics and how they challenge mainstream political theory. We will look at various contemporary examples of activism from women of color from Moms 4 Housing in Oakland to Idle No More in Canada. Gender is often neglected in studies of ethnic/racial politics. This course will examine how gender, race, ethnicity, and class are socially, culturally, and historically constructed yet experienced materially. We will examine how women of color globally are challenging White heteronormative supremacy, which includes White feminism. We will examine critiques of heteropatriarchal gendered classifications that reenact and reinforce uneven, colonial power relations, thereby linking decolonization movements with emancipation from heteropatriarchal rule. Not only will we examine social movements but will look at cultural works by women of color feminists in popular culture from poetry to science fiction that not only critique White heteronormativity but offer visions of possibilities for the future with regards to race, class, and gender relations.