



Please click on the following link to access A&M-Commerce Covid-19 Information: <https://new.tamuc.edu/coronavirus/>

GDRS 200
Introduction to Gender Studies
Fall 2022

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Zachary Palmer
Office Location: BA 102F
Office Hours: MWF 11am-1pm
Office Phone: 903-886-5230
University Email Address: Zachary.palmer@tamuc.edu
Preferred Form of Communication: Email
Communication Response Time: Within 24 hours

COURSE INFORMATION

Required Texts

- Launius, Christie and Holly Hassel. 2018. *Threshold Concepts in Women's and Gender Studies* (2nd Edition).
- hooks, bell. 2015. *Feminism is for Everybody: Passionate Politics*.
- McBee, Thomas Page. 2018. *Amateur: A Reckoning with Gender, Identity, and Masculinity*.

All additional readings will be posted to D2L

Course Description

This interdisciplinary course provides students with an introduction to the theories and methods used in gender studies. Through the examination of a variety of topics, students will explore the ways that gender shapes societies and cultures historically and throughout the world.

[Syllabus is Subject to Change](#)

Student Learning Outcomes

After taking this course, you should be able to...

1. Demonstrate an awareness of gender differences in a given society or culture
2. Understand the approaches used by multiple academic disciplines to make arguments about attitudes toward gender

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

You must be able to access a computer with Microsoft Word and use D2L.

GRADING

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

A=90-100%

B=80-89%

C=70-79%

D=60-69%

F=59% or below

Assessments

- In-Class Writings: Each week there will be at least one short writing assignment completed in class. You must be in attendance to complete that session's in-class writing, as they will often be based on activities completed during class time. Three will be dropped, giving you some wiggle room in case of absences. Each will be graded on a check-plus (100%), check (85%), and check-minus (75%) scale.
- Reading Responses: You will have two short reading response papers (~5 pages each), one for *Amateur* and another for *Feminism is for Everybody*. Details can be found on D2L.
- Exams: There will be two exams, a midterm and a final exam. These will be a mix of multiple choice and short answer.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

LMS

All courses offered by Texas A&M University-Commerce have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements:

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm

YouSeeU Virtual Classroom Requirements:

<https://support.youseeu.com/hc/en-us/articles/115007031107-Basic-System-Requirements>

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903-468-6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

Note: Personal computer and Internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all coursework in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulties with any part of D2L, please contact Brightspace (D2L) Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found at <http://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>.

Interaction with Instructor Statement

I am available through email during business hours and in my office during office hours. Please feel free to come by office hours at any time. If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please reach out to me!

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Policies

- Late work will not be accepted in this course except in cases of extenuating circumstances that necessitate an extension.
- I take plagiarism and academic dishonesty very seriously. The first instance of academic dishonesty will result in a 0 on the particular exam/assignment, the second instance will result in an F in the class.
- Coming in late is a distraction to other students, so I will not allow students to enter the classroom if they are more than 10 minutes late to class.

- If you experience a death in the family, serious illness, or other life trauma, please speak to me and I will work with you to do my best to help you keep up with the course.

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances a, Od events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for me to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

University Specific Procedures

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the Student Guidebook:

http://www.tamuc.edu/student_guidebook/Student_Guidebook.pdf?_ga=2.174666466.139137986.1597081037-785048279.1537547496

TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy, please visit the [Attendance webpage and Procedure 13.99.99R0.01](#)

Academic Integrity

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty, see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)
[Graduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10](#)

Students with Disabilities- ADA Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protections for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce
Gee Library- Room 162
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

Nondiscrimination Notice

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information, or veteran status. Further, and environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill- 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns on Campus](#) document.

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

A&M-Commerce Supports Students' Mental Health

The Counseling Center at A&M-Commerce, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit www.tamuc.edu/counsel

COURSE CALENDAR

Week 1: Introducing Gender Studies

- Read: Syllabus, Chapter 1 Threshold Concepts

Week 2: The Social Construction of Gender

- Read: Chapter 2, “Night to His Day” (D2L)

Week 3: The Gender Binary

- Read: “Dueling Dualisms” (D2L)

Week 4: Transcending the Binary

- Read: “Transgender Feminism: Queering the Woman Question” (D2L)

Week 5: Privilege & Oppression

- **NO CLASS MONDAY (Rosh Hashanah)**
- Read: Chapter 3 Threshold Concepts, “Oppression” (D2L), recommend to start reading *Amateur*

Week 6: Heterosexuality

- **NO CLASS WEDNESDAY (Yom Kippur)**
- Read: “Let’s Call It What It Is: The Tragedy of Heterosexuality” (D2L)

Week 7: Masculinities

- Read- *Amateur*
- Due Saturday, October 15th at 11:59pm: *Amateur* Reading Response

Week 8: Intersectionality

- Read: Chapter 4 Threshold Concepts, “Black Feminist Thought” (D2L)
- **Midterm Exam Friday, October 21st**

Week 9: Disability

- Read: “The Mountain” (D2L)

Week 10: Queerness

- Read: “Punks, Bulldaggers, and Welfare Queens: The Radical Potential of Queer Politics?” (D2L)

Week 11: Bodies

- Read: “In the Name of Beauty” (D2L), recommend to start reading *Feminism Is for Everybody*

Week 12: Feminist Praxis

- Read: Chapter 5 Threshold Concepts, *Feminism is for Everybody*
- Due Saturday, November 19th at 11:59pm: *Feminism is for Everybody* Reading Response

Week 13: Postcolonial and Transnational Feminisms

- NO CLASS FRIDAY (Thanksgiving)
- Read: “La Conciencia de la Mestiza/Towards a New Consciousness” (D2L)

Week 14: Reproductive Justice

- Read: “Killing the Black Body” (D2L)

Week 15: Toward the Future

- Read: “A World Without Gender” (D2L)

Final Exam Friday, December 16th at 10:30am