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GDRS 200: 01E

COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall 2023

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Nicole Farris, Professor

Office Location: BA Room 102

Office Hours: M/W: 8:00am to 9:00am; 11am to Noon on campus; Tuesday 10-11 am online and by appointment

Office Phone: 903-886-5169

Office Fax: 903-886-5330

University Email Address: Nicole.Farris@tamuc.edu

Preferred Form of Communication: Email

Communication Response Time: 24-48 Hours, Monday through Friday, 8am to 5pm

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

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.

Colapinto, John. 2006. The Boy Who Was Raised as a Girl. Harper Perennial.

Software Required: Access to course website- you need to have an active email username and password. I will post your grades to the course website, as well as your powerpoints, assignments, and supplemental articles that I see fit to include in lecture.

Optional Texts and/or Materials: None

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

Using the Learning Management System, Powerpoint, Microsoft Word, and Internet.

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

Do the reading ahead of time: Reading about a definition or issue and then hearing about it in class will help to cement your knowledge of the definition or issue. This will be very beneficial when it comes time to study for your exam.

Take Notes: I will use a power-point style presentation for this class, however this power-point presentation is not all inclusive. I will be making many important points during lecture, and these will not be included on the power-point. The power-point is to be used as an outline to help you while you take notes; not to be the only notes you take.

Face Your Fears: Ask questions in class. I do realize that this can be hard, especially in a large class. However, asking questions is the only way to find out information you want to know, and it is likely that your classmates may have the same question.

Make Yourself Known: Showing an interest and letting me know you have an interest will help you understand the material, and help me understand you. Talk to the instructor!

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GRADING

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

Total points corresponding to the final letter grades

A = 900-1000 points

B = 800-899 points

C = 700-799 points

D = 600-699 points

F = 599 points or Below

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Assessments

Assignment	SLO's Addressed	Points
Discussion + Participation		200
Reading Responses (4@50 points)		200
Autobiographical Essay		200
Midterm Essay		200
Final Essay		200
Total		1000 points

There is always a chance that papers or grades get lost in transit. Please keep a record of your grades in case something unexpected should happen. Any student who is dissatisfied with his/her grades during this course is urged to discuss this with the instructor.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

LMS

All course sections 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>

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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 course work 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

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

Interaction with Instructor Statement

I prefer communication via email. I rarely answer my office phone and am much more likely to respond to email. I will respond to email within 24 to 48 hours, between normal business hours of 8am to 5pm. Please be sure that when you email me, you use a proper greeting (Dr. Farris, Professor Farris, Instructor Farris), an email body, and an appropriate closing. You should never send an email with just an attachment and no email body. Be sure you have an appropriate and informative subject line and include the name and section of the course you are enrolled in. If you have read this far, please send me via email, a term or phrase that is popular that I may not know of, and explain what it means. Alternatively, send me your favorite TikTok video. The people to do this within the first two weeks of class will get 5 extra credit points. See the following for some email expectations that would serve you well in all future communication with any professors or potential employers.

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COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

You are expected to access the course webpage and engage with it on a regular basis. It is in your best interest to access the webpage regularly and engage in active learning.

Reading and Assignments: Whenever you finish your reading for the next class, ask yourself these questions as a way to prepare for class:

What did you learn from the reading? What are you thinking differently about?

Which reading particularly engaged you and why?

Is there a passage or two you'd like the class to think about?

Did you learn any new terminology?

Please mark or make a note of sections, ideas, and issues you want the class to address, along with taking notes on major points or points of interest. You will need notes on your reading in order to write your essays.

Assignments

Discussion Groups: Each student will be assigned a group and will be expected to lead the discussion about the week's readings when it is their turn. Each person in the group will be graded on their attendance and contribution to the discussion. More information will be provided about this.

Reading Responses: A reading response is not a summary of your reading. A reading response is a way of writing about your thinking about the reading, or your reactions to a reading. A reading response is not a formal paper, but should be well thought-out, fully developed, and carefully written nevertheless. It should demonstrate not only that you have carefully read the text (more than one time) but also that you have thought carefully about the text and engaged with it in some way. You will be assigned four reading responses over the course of the semester.

Autobiographical Essay: This will be an analysis of how gender/sexual scripts have operated in your life. More information will be distributed at the start of the term.

Midterm and Final Essays: These two assignments will be 4-5 pages each, and each will ask you to synthesize and respond to the concepts we've covered in the units of the course. More information about the essays will be given during the course. The midterm

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and final essays should be about 5 pages and will include a synthesis of readings and discussions with personal opinion.

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor 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/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum:

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

TAMUC Attendance

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

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

Academic Integrity

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

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

[Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/documents/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyForm.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/academics/graduateschool/faculty/GraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyFormold.pdf>

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<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

Students with Disabilities-- ADA Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection 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

Velma K. Waters Library Rm 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, an 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 34.06.02.R1, 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 and/or consult your event organizer.

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Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

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.

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

Department or Accrediting Agency Required Content

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

(This is tentative and subject to change)

Week 1: Women's and Gender Studies and the F Word 8/28

READ:

Hogeland "Fear of Feminism"
Chapter 1 "Threshold Concepts"

WORK:

Reading Response (1) to Hogeland's Essay
(50 points, Due 11:59pm online 9/1)

*Week 2: Nature Versus Nurture 9/4
Labor Day, No Class*

READ:

Chapter 2 "Threshold Concepts"
Fausto-Sterling "The Five Sexes;" "The Five Sexes Revisited"
Colapinto "As Nature Made Him" (Part I)

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Week 3: Nature Versus Nurture Continued 9/11

READ:

Lorber “Believing is Seeing”
 Espiritu “All Men are not created Equal”
 Colapinto “As Nature Made Him” (Part II and III)

WORK:

Discussion Groups (9/13 in Class)

Week 4: Learning Gender: Social Construction, Education and Socialization 9/18)

READ:

Lorber “Night to His Day”
 Kessler “The Medical Construction of Gender”
 Lucal “What it means to be gendered me”
 Bourgois “In Search of Masculinity”

WORK:

Discussion Group Session 2 (9/20 In Class)
 Reading Response (2) to Week 4 (50 points; Due 9/22 11:59pm online)

Week 5: Privilege & Oppression 9/25

READ:

Chapter 3 “Threshold Concepts”
 Feminism is for Everybody

WORK:

Discussion Groups 9/25

Week 6: Intersectionality 10/2

READ:

Chapter 4 “Threshold Concepts”
 “Black Feminist Thought” (D2L)
 Hondagneu-Sotelo “I’m Here But I’m There”
 Hochschild “The Second Shift”

WORK:

Discussion Groups 10/4
Distribute Instructions for Midterm Essay (10/6)

Week 7: Social Institutions 10/9

READ:

Ferguson “Naughty By Nature”
Boswell and Spade “Fraternities and Collegiate Rape Culture”
Film “The Hunting Ground”

WORK:

Discussion Groups (10/13, In-Class)

Week 8: Heterosexuality and Masculinities 10/16

READ:

“Let’s Call It What It Is: The Tragedy of Heterosexuality” (D2L)
Ward “Dude-Sex”

WORK:

Reading Response (3) (50 points, Due 11:59pm Online 10/20)

Week 9: Sexualities and Identities 10/23

READ:

Liddiard “The Work of Disabled Identities”
Bernstein “The Meaning of the Purchase”
Tolman “Doing Desire”

WORK:

Midterm Essay (Due 10/27 by 11:59pm)
Handout Instructions for Autobiographical Essay

Week 10: Identities, Politics, and Popular Culture 10/30

READ:

Powell “Confessions of a Recovering Misogynist”
Gilman “Klaus Barbie”
Myers “Anti-Feminist Messages”
Kimmel “Manufacturing Rage”

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

WORK:

Discussion Group (11/1)

Week 11: Popular Culture Continued 11/6

READ:

Barbie Film?

WORK:

Autobiographical Essay (Due 11/10 11:59pm)

Week 12: Bodies 11/13

READ:

Read: "In the Name of Beauty" (D2L)
Miss Representation

WORK:

Handout Instructions for Final Essay
Reading Response (4) to (50 points, Due 11:59pm Online 11/17)

11/20 to 11/24: Thanksgiving Break, No Class

Week 13: IMAGINING THE FUTURE 11/27

READ:

"A World Without Gender" (D2L), TBA

WORK

Discussion Groups (11/29)

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Week 14: TBA

WORK:

Final Essay (Due 12/13 11:59pm)

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