



**GDRS 200: INTRO TO GENDER STUDIES**  
**COURSE SYLLABUS: FALL 2025**  
**T/TR 12:30-1:45 p.m.**  
**TALBOT HALL 203**

**Instructor:** Rebecca Worley, MFA, Associate Professor of Theatre  
**Office Location:** Performing Arts Center #105  
**Office Hours:** MW 12-2 p.m., T/R 11 a.m.-12 p.m or by appointment  
**University Email Address:** [Rebecca.worley@etamu.edu](mailto:Rebecca.worley@etamu.edu)  
**Communication Response Time:** M-F within 24 hours

<b>COURSE INFORMATION</b>
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**Required Textbook:**

*Threshold Concepts in Women's and Gender Studies*, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed – Christine Launius and Holly Hassel  
*A History of U.S. Feminisms*, Rory C. Dicker (**eBook via Waters Library**)  
*Feminism is for Everybody: Passionate Politics*, bell hook (**eBook via Waters Library**)  
*Trifles*, Susan Glaspell (<http://www.one-act-plays.com/dramas/trifles.html>)  
*A Raisin in the Sun*, Lorraine Hansberry (**.pdf in D2L**)  
*For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow is Enuf*, Ntozake Shange  
*The Gut Girls*, Sarah Daniels (**.pdf in D2L**)  
**OR** *The Triangle Factory Fire Project*, Christopher Piehler & Scott Alan Evans (**.pdf in 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. No prerequisites.

Throughout the course we will especially focus on the following foundational themes in Gender Studies:

1. The Social Construction of Gender
2. Privilege and Oppression
3. Intersectionality
4. Feminist Praxis

**Student Learning Outcomes:** By the end of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Students will demonstrate an awareness of gender differences in a given society or culture.
2. Students will understand the approaches used by multiple academic disciplines to make arguments about attitudes toward gender.
3. Students will be able to understand their role in their own education.

**Course Ethics and Attendance:** *Note that attendance alone does not constitute participation.*

Promptness, attendance, and “attentiveness” are valued in this class. Please behave accordingly and do not disrupt the class with excessive talk or the use of cell phones or other devices. It is assumed that students will work cooperatively with one another and all work that is not “original” will be properly credited. See the ETAMU *Student’s Guide Handbook* for more information on plagiarism. This is a serious offense that can result in separation from the university. **EVEN if not specifically noted on instructions or prompts for each assignment, plagiarism policies will be strictly enforced.**

<b>COURSE REQUIREMENTS</b>
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**Instructional / Methods / Activities Assessments:** TBD

**Grading Breakdown:**

The following grading scale will be used to determine all individual grades as well as the student's overall grade in the course:

**Please note: A grade of "A" will not be assigned to an individual who has not completed ALL outside of class assignments, regardless of average.**

<b>TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS</b>
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All course sections offered by ETAMU 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](https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm)

Zoom Video Conferencing Tool

[https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom\\_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu](https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu)

<b>ACCESS AND NAVIGATION</b>
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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](mailto: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 ETAMU campus open computer lab, etc.

**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>

## COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

### **My Personal Policy:**

Please keep in mind that I am a human. I have a family. As such, please see below for my boundaries so that I may maintain my own self-care yet still be available for you as my student:

- You may email me at any point for guidance, questions, etc. I will respond within 24 hours between the hours of **9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Friday**
  - General course-specific questions: **review your syllabus/look at the handouts/check D2L/ask a classmate first.** If your question has already been addressed, then you will have the answer you need.
  - **When emailing me:** Please make your emails clear and concise. In addition, please follow some common “email etiquette” procedures in order to keep our electronic communication effective and efficient. Specifically:
    - Write a relevant subject line (ie: “Gender Studies class question,”)
    - Address me by name (ie: “Dear Professor Worley” or “Hi Becca” or just “Becca”)
    - Concisely state what it is you need. If it can't be communicated in a concise manner, schedule an appointment (see below)
    - **Sign your name**
- I will **NOT** check email on the weekends, which means I will respond Monday morning.
- If you need to ask me an **URGENT** question regarding class at *night*, you may text me. Note, however, that I will **only respond between the hours of 5-8 p.m.**
- If you need me outside of the student/teacher relationship, please text me. I will respond (via text or phone call) as soon as I can.

### **Office Hours & Appointments:**

If I am in my office & the door is open, feel free to visit me during my office hours. Scheduling an in-person or Zoom appointment in advance, however, is preferred. To schedule an appointment, scan the QR code below or go to: <https://forms.gle/PpH1kEpUAA3WBYEj7>



## COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

### **Attendance Policy:**

You may accumulate two (2) absences before any penalty occurs. **There are no additional absences allowed without penalty. Grades will be dropped in ½ letter grade increments for every class absence beyond the first two absences.** Of course, if you have a prolonged illness or injury, or if a family emergency arises, speak with your instructor ASAP. **Students should not attend class when ill or after exposure to anyone with a communicable illness.** Communicate

such instances directly with your instructor. I will work to support you getting access to missed content or completing missed assignments.

### **Late Arrivals:**

The class will begin promptly at 12:30 p.m. If you arrive after 12:40 p.m., you will be marked absent. If you arrive within the ten minute grace period, please do so discretely in order to avoid disrupting the class activities/discussions. Also, you are expected to stay until you are dismissed from class. **Two late arrivals (within the ten-minute grace period) or early departures (or any combination of the two) may be counted as one absence in the class.**

### **Cell Phones and Laptops:**

Please turn off all cell phones while in class. Please do not check messages or engage in text messaging during class. Laptops should only be used for class purposes.

### **Late Work:**

Under normal circumstances, I do not accept late work.

### **Extra Credit:**

The instructor reserves the right to offer extra-credit to all students, and to gauge its application appropriately and uniformly for all.

### **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.

### **Incompletes:**

Under normal circumstances, an Incomplete (I or X) will NOT be given for a final grade in this course. Per University policy, students who **because of circumstances beyond their control** are unable to attend classes will, upon approval of their instructor, receive a mark of X (incomplete) in all courses in which they were ***maintaining passing grades at the time of the request*** for an incomplete.

### **University Specific Policies and 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).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx>

#### **ETAMU 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/13s-tudents/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

### **Academic Integrity**

Students at ETAMU 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>

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

### **ADA Statement**

#### **Students with Disabilities**

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**

ETAMU; Velma K. Waters Library Rm 162

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: [studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu](mailto:studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu)

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

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

### **Nondiscrimination Notice**

ETAMU 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 ETAMU 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 ETAMU 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.

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 ETAMU campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

### **Mental Health**

Please make sure that you are taking care of yourself, not just with the work in this class, but also balancing what is happening in your life. Know that there are people willing to listen and help if needed. If you or someone you care about is in need of any assistance, please reach out to me or use the following resources:

- The Counseling Center at ETAMU, 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.etamu.edu/counsel](http://www.etamu.edu/counsel)
- The university aims to provide students with essential knowledge and tools to understand and support mental health. As part of our commitment to your well-being, we offer access to **Telus Health, a service available 24/7/365 via chat, phone, or webinar**. Go to <https://www.etamu.edu/telus/> for more information & instructions on how to download the **FREE** app.
- Crisis Text Line: Text "MHFA" to 741741
- Lifeline Crisis Chat: [www.crisischat.org](http://www.crisischat.org)
- National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, call, text, or chat **988**

### **AI Use in Courses (Draft)**

ETAMU acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, ChatBots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words, as determined by the instructor of the course.

Any use of such software must be documented. Any undocumented use of such software constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism).

Individual instructors may disallow entirely the use of such software for individual assignments or for the entire course. Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructors' guidelines. **If no instructions are provided the student should assume that the use of such software is disallowed.**

In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI, in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources.

<b>COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR</b>
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Reading and assignments are due on the days on which they are listed below.

**SCHEDULE TBD**

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