

## SOC 587.01 Gender and Society (3 Credit Hours) Fall 2007

**Location:** University Center **Class Meeting Times:** Wednesday 2-4:50

**Instructor:** Dr. Mary Ann Davis **Office Location:** AB1, Room 308-C

**Instructor Contact Information:** Phone: 936-294-4083 (office); 936- 294-1512 (dept.); 936-294-3573 (fax) E-Mail: [mad011@shsu.edu](mailto:mad011@shsu.edu)

**Office Hours:** SHSU TTh 9:30 -11; University Center 30 minutes prior to class or by appointment.

**Course Description:** The course focuses on the social construction of gender and provides students a framework for them to think critically about what it means to be a man or a woman in contemporary US society. The course uses a socio-historical approach to investigate the concept of gender and its relationship to sexuality

**Course Objectives:** By the end of the course, students should be able to:

1. Develop a clearing understanding of the basic sociological principles, concepts and issues related to gender studies.
2. Gain a broader understanding and appreciation of gender issues in both our culture and in cultures that are structurally and culturally different.
3. Further understanding, from a global, transnational perspective, how race, class, and sexual diversity are central to the study of sex and gender.
4. Apply course material in a paper, preferably a research paper using secondary analysis of data-assisted by this professor in individual meetings, which each student will submit for presentation at a conference and for publication.

**Required Text:** *Gender Through the Prism of Difference* (2005) Third Edition Eds. Maxine Baca Zinn, Pierrette Hondagneu-Sotelo and Michael A. Messner. Additional readings are through electronic resources.

**Attendance Policy:** Attendance at all classes, and active participation is expected. During each class students will read all assigned articles and present one article, selected during the first class meeting, distributing a one page synopsis to classmates. Each student will respond to the article by asking at least question, relevant to the article.

**These questions will be emailed to the student, with a copy to the professor by noon on the Tuesday prior to the class where it is presented.** If the class is taken as an on-line course both questions and the one page synopsis are due at this time, so the instructor can copy for classmates.

**Exams, Assignments and Grading:** The Final Grade is based on: 1/3 Class participation (written questions and discussions, article summaries and oral presentations) 10 points per class = 100); 2/3 Final Paper (Grading Rubric: 10 Points Abstract, 20 points IRB Proposal, 50 points Literature Review and Classroom Presentation, Final Paper 120 Points Total 200 points ). Each student will write a paper, which will be submitted for presentation and publication, following the style of the peer reviewed journal you have selected for publication: Suggested format for research paper.

Introduction: State why the problem you address is important, gap in current research and your research question.

Methods: Study design, population, hypotheses, variables, and analytic methods. (Professor will assist with data analysis-using secondary data if desired).

Results: Key and secondary findings to research question

Discussion: Main findings, referencing prior research. Strengths and limitations, suggestions for future research.

You are required to circulate your paper, present in class and revise your paper after the class has reviewed it, including an attachment explaining what feedback you did and did not incorporate and why. This revision is due prior to the final class. (Extra Credit: None)

**Academic Dishonesty:** All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials.

**Americans with Disabilities Act:** It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination.

Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance should visit with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Counseling Center. They should then make arrangements with their individual instructors so that appropriate strategies can be considered and helpful procedures can be developed to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired.

SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If a student has a disability that may affect adversely his/her work in this class, then the student is encouraged to register with the SHSU Counseling Center and to talk with the instructor about how best to deal with the situation. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. **NOTE:** no accommodation can be made until the student registers with the Counseling Center.

**Religious Holidays:** Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence.

"Religious holy day" means a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Section 11.20, Tax Code.

**Visitors in the Classroom:** Unannounced visitors to class must present a current, official SHSU identification card to be permitted into the classroom. They must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. If the visitor is not a registered student, it is at the instructor's discretion whether or not the visitor will be allowed to remain in the classroom.

**Instructor Evaluations:** Students are asked to complete a course/instructor evaluation form toward the end of the semester.

**Study Tips:** All materials must be read weekly, if student is unfamiliar with Sociological terms I suggest you consult a specialty dictionary such as *The Cambridge dictionary of sociology*. (2006) Publisher: Cambridge University Press or *A dictionary of sociology*(2005). Publisher: Oxford University Press. Both are in the reference section of the Newton Grisham Library; and are inexpensive to purchase. Additionally, the SAM Center is available for students with academic difficulty; you may contact the SAM center at 294-4444 for assistance.

**COURSE OUTLINE COURSE OUTLINE**

August 22	Introduction: Three Waves of Feminism
August 29	I. Perspectives on Sex, Gender and Difference
Sept. 5	II. Bodies
Sept.12	III. Sexualities, <b>Each student presents their final paper topic.</b>
September 19	IV Identities <b>Select venue for presentation and present Abstract for submission to conference.</b> Paper Presentation to SSSA, in Vegas MARCH 12-15, 2008 (SSSA submission DEADLINES - PAPER SUBMISSIONS DUE October 19, 2007 to session organizer); or propose additional professional venues.
September 26	<b>Present Literature Review for paper to class.</b> Present journal selected for submission along with their submission guidelines, to professor. Deadline for Institutional Review Board Submission.
October 3	V. Families (10/ 10 is the semester drop date).
October 10	VI Gender in the Workplace
October 17	VII Gender in Education
October 24	Paper Due via email 12 PM (No late papers will be accepted) VIII. Gender in Popular Culture
October 31	Presentations of Papers
November 7	Presentation of Papers continued
November 14	IX Gender and Politics
November 28	X. International Gender Issues; <b>Submit Revised Paper in final format for article submission.</b>
Dec 5	GLBT
December 10	Final Exam

**Classroom Rules of Conduct:** The Code of Student Conduct and Discipline is found at the following link: <https://www.shsu.edu/students/guide/dean/codeofconduct.html>. Section 5.2.22 defines classroom disturbances. During class, no electronic communication equipment is permissible unless required by a disabling condition. This means no cell phones use; no text messaging; no audio equipment or earpieces during class or exams.

**THIS SYLLABUS IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.**