

SOC 335W.01, Gender and Inequality Spring 2008

Location: AB1 307 **Class Meeting Times:** MW 11 AM-12:20 PM

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

Office Hours: MW 9-10 AM or by appointment

Course Description: In this course students will explore gender inequalities using sociological concepts. The main theories used to understand gender studies will be introduced and students will examine the histories and current circumstances of gender issues in the U.S. and Internationally. Prerequisite courses: SOC 131 (Formerly SOC 261). This class is a writing intensive class with two exams.

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

1. Explain fundamental sociological principles, concepts, and issues related to gender and social inequalities.
2. Better understand the importance and significance of contemporary events and trends as they reflect gender issues such as earnings, prejudice and discrimination.
3. Critically examine contemporary events which evidence gender inequalities in increasingly globalized economic and social systems.

Required Text: *Women's Voices Feminist Visions: Classic and Contemporary Readings* 3rd Edition (2007). Editors: Susan M. Shaw and Janet Lee. ISBN 978-0-07-311250-3 McGraw Hill.

Attendance Policy: Attendance is factored into your grade, through 5 pop quizzes, covering the assigned chapter. (Bring a scantron to each class, if you do not have a scantron during a pop quiz you can answer it as an essay exam.) Therefore, if you do not attend class, your grade will be lowered by 20 points for each quiz missed (absences to attend SHSU activities are not penalized). Attendance is recorded at the beginning of class. Students who arrive once class is underway, or leave early, are counted absent unless the late arrival/early departure has been negotiated with the professor prior to the class meeting.

Exams and Grading Plan: The grade for the course is based on two exams, five pop quizzes, a paper and a class presentation/paper. There will be two equally weighted exams, a midterm and a final and 5 pop quizzes, worth 20 points each. Each exam will be worth 100 points for a semester total of 200. Exams will consist of short answer and multiple choice questions using the scantron, with mini essay format. The exams will cover the assigned chapters in the textbook AND the material discussed in class. Although much of the class lectures will refer to the text, new material will also be introduced. You are expected to read and study the textbook independently, weekly readings will be tested through the 5 pop exams. Information discussed in class, as well as that contained in the assigned readings, even if they are not reviewed in class, may appear on exams. Exams will be graded, and posted on Blackboard, one week following the exam. (A make-up exam will be given only if arranged with the professor PRIOR to the day of the scheduled exam to be missed and ONLY if professor deems the reason for the absence valid. Make-up exams will be short answer exams, so no scantron is necessary.)

Final Paper (Points possible: 10 Points Abstract, 10 points Literature Review, first draft 20 points, 10 points presentation and Final Paper 50 points.) Beginning with the annotated bibliography for the literature review the papers are submitted to Turnitin by student: Class ID: 2111217 Enrollment password: Gender . All work must be cited, using ASA format. No plagiarism is tolerated.

Class Presentation: Total 25 Points. Each student will select a country from *The Global Gender Gap Report 2007* and write a 2/5 page analysis of Gender Gap issues relating that country to Gender Index Ratings. (use Turnitin) This paper will be presented to classmates using 1 to 5 Power Point Slides in a 2 to 5 minute presentation. Email Power Point Presentations prior to class, so the presentations can flow in one class period.

Total semester points will equal 425. Final grades are: 425-382 = A; 381-340 = B; 339-298 = C; 297-255 = D; 254-0 = F

Extra Credit: There will be the opportunities for ten extra credit points through writing a comparison paper on gender issues between two countries, presenting these in class.

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.

Read carefully so that you understand it and it is meaningful to you. Make a list of questions from the written material. Later, ask yourself to see if you can answer your questions, if not go back and reread the material. Additionally, the SAM Center is available for students with academic difficulty; you may contact the SAM center at 294-4444 for assistance.

COURSE OUTLINE

January 23 Introduction **Part 1: Women's Studies Perspectives and Practices**

Jan. 23, 28, (Chapter 1)

Jan. 30 Feb. 4 Systems of Privilege and Inequality (Chapter 2)

February 6, 11 Learning Gender (Chapter 3)

Feb 6 Turn in Topic and 250 word Abstract for final paper

February 13,18 Sex, Power and Intimacy (Chapter 4)

February 20, 25 Gender and the Body (Chapter 5)

February 20 Turn in annotated bibliography of 5/10 articles/books related to paper

February 27 (Chapter 6)

March 3, 5 Chapter 7)

March 5 Text 1 Chapters 1-7

March 17 Turn in First Draft of Paper

March 17, 19 (Chapter 8)

March 24, 26 (Chapter 9)

March 31, April 2 Papers due: Presentations

April 7, 9 (Chapter 10)

April 14, 16 (Chapter 11)

April 21, 23 International Women's Issues: [Women Working Worldwide: transnational networks, corporate social responsibility and action research](#). By: HALE, ANGELA; WILLS, JANE. *Global Networks*, Oct2007, Vol. 7 Issue 4, p453-476. *The Global Gender Gap Report 2007*: World Economic Forum

<http://www.weforum.org/pdf/gendergap/report2007.pdf> . Presentations.

April 28, 30 (Chapter 12)

May 5, 7 (Chapter 13)

May 10-15 Final Exam per University Schedule

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.