



**Sociology 497:01W
Sociology of Gender
Summer II, 2015**

Instructor: Dr. Linda Matthei

Office Location: 218 Ferguson Social Sciences

Office Hours: TTR 3:15 to 5:00 p.m. and Wednesday from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. and by email

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COURSE INFORMATION

Materials –Required Textbook: It is mandatory for you to have the following text in order to pass this course because we will be discussing the readings throughout the next five weeks. We will use the text as a way of introducing the meanings of sex and gender and how they impact our lives. Please be sure to either buy or rent the following:

Maxine Bacha Zinn, Hondagneu-Sotelo, Pierette, and Messner, Michael A. eds.
Gender Through the Prism of Difference, 4th edition, New York: Oxford University Press, 2011.

Course Description:

I'm guessing that you have had the opportunity to be introduced to gender/women's issues and even men and masculine studies at some point during your undergraduate education in sociology. In this course I will select two articles to read and discuss on line each week. Your contributions to the online discussion will be graded on the basis of the rubric below.

In addition to the articles I select, students will choose a particular topic from the text that they have found of interest or that is one that they have not had the opportunity to address as yet. You must select an article that has not been assigned on the syllabus. Each student will write a critical review of the article of no more than 3-5 pages. Please let me know when you have chosen an article. You will be expected to use what you have learned in assigned readings and class discussions in order to craft your review, and make it clear that you understand the vocabulary and significant concepts used in Gender Studies.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Students will be able to comprehend and apply knowledge of gender and sexual dynamics in the U.S. and cross-culturally.
2. Students will be able to analytically discuss issues raised in the assigned readings for the course.
3. Students will be able to reason and write analytically about an article they have chosen from the assigned book.

4. Students will be able to view themselves as engaged citizens in an interconnected world.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Instructional / Methods / Activities/ Assessments

This course consists of activities and assessments to assist you in achieving the learning outcomes for this course. It is vital that you have read and are prepared to discuss the assigned readings and any exercises introduced in class. There will be writing assignments aimed at helping students to understand the meanings that scholars bring to the study of gender. Students must be prepared to discuss any articles they have decided to critically review. Because engagement in the course is vital to comprehension and the development of analytical skills students will be required to contribute to online discussions of questions presented each week.

Weekly discussions are worth 15 points each and will be graded on the following criteria

Criteria	In-Class/Homework Papers	Review Paper
Student followed directions	2	4
Student answered question posed (rather than got off track, or discussed topics not germane to the course)	3	5
Student contributed to discussion and moved topic forward with substance	5	9
Student used critical thinking & evidence from texts & lectures (rather than anecdote or personal opinion)	3	4
Student used proper grammar, complete sentences, spell-check & cites when appropriate	2	3
Total Score	15	25

Grading Scale

90-100 %	A
80-89	B
65-79	C
56-64	D
< 56	F

ACCESS

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have by email. I am also available for face-to-face appointments, so feel free to contact me. I will do my best to clarify any issues you bring to me during the summer session.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Cheating: Anyone caught cheating for any reason will receive an F for the assignment and depending on the seriousness of the incident an F in the course. All assignments in this class are meant to be done independently by each student. So be sure not to share your work with anyone.

Plagiarism is a serious form of cheating in which a student (or professor) fails to give proper credit to an author for their work and ideas. Always cite the sources of your information and remember that even if you summarize and paraphrase someone else's ideas you must give them credit.

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
Gee Library 132
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
Rebecca.Tuerk@tamuc.edu

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See *Code of Student Conduct from Student Guide Handbook*).

Non-discrimination Notice:

A&M-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses with all federal and state laws prohibiting 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 identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

COURSE OUTLINE/CALENDAR

Reading Schedule: Please note that the Reading Schedule is subject to change as circumstances warrant. I will announce any changes as far in advance as possible. If there are particular articles you'd like to discuss, please let me know and we'll try to work them in.

NOTE: *All discussions must be completed by 11 pm each Thursday*

Week One: July 13-16 **Ann Fausto-Sterling:** Article No. 1: The Five Sexes Revisited, p. 13
Thomas Rogers: Article 46: We're All Intersex

(Informal Discussion of Supreme Court Ruling on Same Sex Marriage handed down on June 26)

Week Two: July 20-23 **Bales:** No.16: Because She Looks like a Child
Davidson: No. 17: The Sex Tourist, the Expatriate, His Ex-wife and and Her "Other"

Week Three: July 27-30 **Lamm:** No. 7 It's a Big Fat Revolution
Lucal: No.8: What it Means to be Gendered Me

Week Four: August 3-6 **Don Sabo:** No. 9: Doing Time Doing Masculinity
Evelyn Nakano Glenn: No. 11: Yearning for Whiteness

Week Five: August 10-13 **MacIntosh:** No. 22: White Privilege: Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack (Take the survey in this article and then comment on its relevance)

Critical Review Paper due, Monday, August 10, 11:59 pm Upload to the dropbox.

Keep in mind how your article compares and/or contrasts with the articles we have already discussed.