

TITLE OF COURSE AND COURSE NUMBER:**Women of Color in the US
WS 320 3 Credits****DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:**

"Women of Color in the United States" is an introductory Women's Studies course, placing the experiences and concerns of the U.S. women of color at the center. It is designed for students interested in exploring similarities and differences among women in major racial/ethnic groups in the United States. The focus is on women born in the United States who, because of their nonwhite or mixed racial heritage identify as both American, AND as Native Indian, African, Chicana, Puerto Rican, Chinese, and Japanese. To develop students' skills to critically examine issues of race/ethnicity, class, gender, and sexuality, readings, lectures, and class discussions will explore experiences and concerns of women of color in the workforce, in the family, and, in their respective communities.

COURSE PREREQUISITES:**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

This course will

1. to familiarize students with the diversity among women in the U.S.
2. to examine varied perspectives and realities of U.S. women of color.
3. To provide student with analytical skills and information necessary to think and write critically about the multiplicity of the lives of women of color in the U.S.
4. to encourage students to take an active part in their education.
5. to help students learn about turning discussion into action.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Students will:

1. analyze and explain the impact of race/ethnicity, gender, class, and sexuality in the lives of women of color/in the areas addressed
2. demonstrate critical evaluation of course content by writing analyses of assigned readings and actively participating in class discussions, contributing their analyses, thoughts, feelings and opinions on issues
3. facilitate class discussion
4. illustrate how to turn discussion into action

TOPICAL OUTLINE OF POSSIBLE COURSE CONTENT:

- I. Who Are Women of Color in the U.S.?
This section also focuses on social and economic characteristics of major racial/ethnic groups including Indian/Native American, African, Chicana, Puerto Rican, Chinese and Japanese women. The section also addresses the importance of race/ethnicity, gender, class, when describing the experiences of "women" in U.S. society.
- II. Women's Studies and Exploration of Experiences of Women of Color
This section explores exclusion of the experiences of U.S. women of color across academic disciplines especially Women's Studies.
- III. Race, gender, Class, Sexuality, in the Work Lives of U.S. Women of Color

This section focuses on the interconnectedness of race/ethnicity, gender, class, and sexuality, illustrating how this matrix operates simultaneously in determining and differentiating work among women in the U.S. The section also considers how feminists account for and explain differences among women.

IV. Women's Labor in the U.S.

Examining each major racial/ethnic group separately, this section explores similarities and differences of the economic histories of women of color. Economic histories include slave labor, wage labor, unpaid household labor, and voluntary work.

V. Family and the Position of Women of Color

This section similarities and differences in family arrangements and explores contradictions in family life that, restrict, restrain and oppress, on the one hand, and support, protect, comfort, and bring joy on the other.

VI. Community Involvement

This final section explores creative ways women of color cope with and resist structured inequalities at work, in families, and in their respective communities.

GUIDELINES/SUGGESTIONS FOR TEACHING METHODS AND STUDENT LEARNING ACTIVITIES:

- Lecture and classroom discussion
- Student led discussion and presentation
- Films
- Small group work

GUIDELINES/SUGGESTIONS FOR METHODS OF STUDENT ASSESSMENT

- Critical analyses of assigned readings
- Oral and written reports
- Research projects
- Class participation relevant to assigned readings

SUGGESTED TEXTS:

Moraga, Cherrie and Gloria Nzaldua (eds.). 1983. This Bridge Called My Back: Writings by Radical Women of Color. Albany, New York: Kitchen Table: Women of Color Press.

Asian Women United of California (eds.). 1989. Making Waves: An Anthology of Writings By and About Asian American Women. San Francisco: Aunt Lute Foundation.

Anzaldua, Gloria (ed.). 1990. Making Face, Making Soul, Haciendo Caras: Creative and Critical Perspectives by Women of Color. San Francisco: Aunt Lute Foundation

Ruiz, Vicki L., and Ellen Carol DuBois (eds.). 1994. Unequal Sisters: A Multicultural Reader in U.S. Women's History. New York: Routledge.

- Zinn, Maxine Baca and Bonnie Thornton Dill (eds.). 1994. Women of Color in U.S. Society. Philadelphia: Temple University Press.
- Kesselman, Amy, et. al. 1995. Women Images and Realities: A Multicultural Anthology. California: Mayfield Publishing Company.
- Amott, Teresa L. and Julie A. Matthaie. 1997. Race, Gender & Work: A Multicultural Economic History of Women in the United States. Boston: South End Press.
- Kirk, Gwen and Margo Okazawa-Rey. 1998. Women's Lives: Multicultural Lives. California: Mayfield Publishing Company.
- Alaniz, Yolanda and Nellie Wong. 1999. Voices of Color. Seattle: Red Letter Press.
- Mankiller, Wilma et al. (eds.). 1998. The Readers Companion to U.S. Women's History. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company.
- Furchtgott-Roth, Diane and Christine Stolba. 1999. Women's Figures: An Illustrated Guide to the Economic Progress of Women in America. Washington, D.C.: American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research.
- Martinez, Elizabeth. 1998. DeColores Means All of US: Latina Views for a Multi-Colored Century. Boston: South End Press.
- Alaniz, Yolanda and Wong, Nellie. 1999. Voices of Color. Seattle: Red Letter Press.
- Rothenberg, Paula (ed.). 1998. Race, Class, and Gender in the United States: An Integrated Study. New York: St. Martin's Press.
- Shah, Sonia (ed.). 1997. Dragon Ladies: Asian American Feminist Breathe Fire. Boston: South End Press.
- Lorde, Audre. 1984. Sister Outsider: Essays and Speeches by Audre Lorde. California: The Crossing Press Feminist Series.
- Giddings, Paula. 1984. When and Where I Enter: The Impact of Black Women on Race and Sex in America. New York: William Morrow and Company, Inc.
- Aptheker, Bettina. 1982. Women's Legacy: Essays on Race, Sex, and Class in American History. Amherst: University of Massachusetts Press.
- Jones, Jacqueline. 1985. Labor of Love, Labor of Sorrow: Black Women, Work and the Family from Slavery to the Present. New York: Vintage Books.
- Cheng, Lucie and Bonacich (eds.). 1984. Labor Immigration Under Capitalism: Asian Workers in the United States Before World War II. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Yung, Judy. 1995. Unbound Feet: A Social History of Chinese Women in San Francisco. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Lim, Shirley Geok-lin and Tsutakawa, Mayumi (eds.). 1989. Forbidden Stitch: An Asian American Women's Anthology. Oregon: Calyx Books. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Del Castillo, Adelaida (eds.). 1990. Between Borders: Essays on Mexicana/Chicana History. Los Angeles: Floricanto Press.

Daniels, Roger. 1988. Asian America: Chinese and Japanese in the United States Since 1850. Seattle: University of Washington Press.

Shoemaker, Nancy (eds.). 1995. Negotiators of Change: Historical Perspectives on Native American Women. New York: Routledge.

Katz, Jane, (eds.). 1995. Messengers of the Wind: Native American Women Tell Their Life Stories. New York: Ballentine Books.

Klien, Laura F. and Ackerman, Lillian A. (eds.). 1995. Women & Power in Native North America. Oklahoma: University of Oklahoma Press.

Ling, Huping 1998. Surviving on the Gold Mountain: A History of Chinese American Women and Their Lives. NY: State University of New York Press.

Allen, Paula Gunn, 1986. Grandmothers of the Light: A Medicine Women's Sourcebook. Boston: Beacon Press.

Farley, Ronnie, 1993. Women of the Native Struggle: Portraits & Testimony of Native American Women. New York. Orion Books.

Hale, Janet Campbell, 1993. Bloodlines: Odyssey of a Native Daughter. New York: Random House.

PREPARER'S NAME AND DATE: Dr. Bonita Hampton, 1999.

ORIGINAL DEPARTMENT APPROVAL DATE:

REVISER'S NAMES AND DATE: Dr. Arlene Holpp Scala

DEPARTMENTAL REVISION APPROVAL DATE: December 1, 2004