1. TITLE OF COURSE AND COURSE NUMBER:
*Race, Gender, and Social Justice (WGS 2250; AWS 2250)*

2. COURSE DESCRIPTION:
This course analyzes multiple forms of social oppression and inequality based on race (and color), sex (and gender), sexual orientation (and identity), and class in the United States. It will examine systemic aspects of social oppression in different periods and contexts and the ways that systems of social oppression manifest themselves on individual, cultural, institutional and/or global levels thus becoming self-perpetuating but not wholly unaltered structures. Individual and group agency, strategies of resistance, and visions for change will also be studied.

3. COURSE PREREQUISITES: None

4. COURSE OBJECTIVES:
To develop an understanding of the concept of diversity as it relates to notions of justice, oppression, tolerance, inequality, and difference.

To explain the differences between individual prejudices and institutionalized systems of social oppression.

To critically examine theoretical explanations for the development and perpetuation of systems of social oppression.

To discern commonalities and differences in the development of various systemic aspects of oppression and inequality.

To prepare students for effective citizenship in a diverse society and world.

To develop an understanding of individual agency and collective action in envisioning and creating a just, fair, and healthy society.

5. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:
Students will be able to:

Effectively express in class discussion and in writing an understanding of how diversity relates to structures of inequality. [Area Outcome Bullet 1; UCC Program Outcomes 1, 3]

Explain the difference between individual prejudices and systems of social oppression in essays, exams, and/or class discussions. [Area Outcome Bullet 1; UCC Program Outcomes 1, 3]
Demonstrate in writing knowledge of the historical development and practices of various forms of social oppression. [Area Outcome Bullet 2; UCC Program Outcomes 1, 5]

Think critically as demonstrated by effective use of the conceptual frameworks used to analyze diversity and multiculturalism, inequality, and justice in exams and/or research papers. [Area Outcome Bullet 3; UCC Program Outcomes 3, 5, 6.]

Integrate knowledge and ideas by demonstrating an understanding of the multiple and intersecting ways that inequality based on social oppression manifest themselves in everyday practices in exams and/or research papers. [Area Outcome Bullet 3, 4; UCC Program Outcomes 5, 6]

Discuss individual agency and collective strategies of resistance in class discussions, exams, or research papers. [Area Outcome Bullet 5; UCC Program Outcomes 1, 5, 7]

6. TOPICAL OUTLINE FOR COURSE CONTENT:

The meanings of diversity, difference, multiculturalism, and equality in a just society.

Features of systems of social oppression: Pervasiveness, structural and material restraints, hierarchy, multiplicity and intersectionality and internalization.

Forms of social oppression: Racism, Sexism, Heterosexism, and Class Inequality.

Lessons from history: Examination of patterns that constitute social oppression over time; investigation of how structures of inequality have changed and how they have not changed.

Social oppression and everyday practice: The study of how social oppression is normalized through social norms, rituals, language, media, etc.

Violence and the threat of violence as mechanisms of social control

Contemporary issues such as immigration, sexual violence, equal marriage rights, gender freedom, income inequality, health care, environmental justice, and media analysis.

Visions of change: Forms of resistance and agency; movements for social change.

7. Writing Intensive:

8. Technology Intensive:
9. SUGGESTED TEACHING METHODS AND STUDENT LEARNING ACTIVITIES:

   Lectures, group discussions, individual and group projects, films, guest speakers, and service learning projects, etc.

10. GUIDELINES/SUGGESTIONS FOR METHODS OF STUDENT ASSESSMENT:

   Exams, quizzes, research papers, informal and formal writing assignments

11. Suggested readings, suggested or required texts, objects of study:


12. Bibliography of supportive texts and other materials:


Harvey, David. 2009. *Social Justice and the City (Geographies of Justice and Social Transformation)*. Athens, GA: University of Georgia Press.


13. Preparer’s name and date:

    Prof. Carole Sheffield

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