

# North Hennepin Community College

## GWS 1501: Introduction to Gender and Women's Studies

### A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours/Week: \*.\*

Lab Hours/Week: \*.\*

OJT Hours/Week: \*.\*

Prerequisites:

This course requires any of these eight prerequisites

Reading College Level

Reading at College Level

Placement into EAP 1230

ENGL 0990 - Gateway Composition

ENGL 1200 - Gateway College Writing (Minimum grade: 1.67 GPA Equivalent)

ENGL 1201 - College Writing I (Minimum grade: 1.67 GPA Equivalent)

EAP 0930 - Academic Reading and Study Skills (Minimum grade: 1.67 GPA Equivalent)

EAP 1230 - College Reading and Studying Skills

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: Goal 05 - Hist/Soc/Behav Sci, Goal 07 - Human Diversity

This course introduces students to the foundations of Gender and Women Studies by examining the diversity of women's experiences throughout history and across cultures, races, ethnic groups and religions. From a social science/humanities perspective, we will explore how factors such as gender, gender identity and sexuality have been shaped by Western society.

**B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES:** 01/26/2021 - Present

### C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. In this introductory course, we will use various readings and small group discussions to examine the impact of economics, history, politics and society on women's lives.

### D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. Examine and critique ideological assumptions underlying social institutions and systems of representation, including assumptions regarding gender, race, class, nationality, disability, age, and sexual identity.
2. Recognize and understand ways that gender functions as a social institution.
3. Identify and explain how socially constructed categories of gender, race, class, and sexual identity function together to create and support systems of oppression that shape our lives.
4. Define and utilize basic terms and concepts central to gender & women's studies, including sex, gender, sexuality, feminism, patriarchy, and oppression.
5. Understand fundamental concepts, theories, history, and contemporary expressions of feminism as a social justice movement.
6. Identify the major gender issues and discuss how men and women are socialized into masculine and feminine identities.

## **E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies**

### Goal 05 - Hist/Soc/Behav Sci

1. Employ the methods and data that historians and social and behavioral scientists use to investigate the human condition.
2. Examine social institutions and processes across a range of historical periods and cultures.
3. Use and critique alternative explanatory systems or theories.
4. Develop and communicate alternative explanations or solutions for contemporary social issues.

### Goal 07 - Human Diversity

1. Understand the development of and the changing meanings of group identities in the United States' history and culture.
2. Demonstrate an awareness of the individual and institutional dynamics of unequal power relations between groups in contemporary society.
3. Analyze their own attitudes, behaviors, concepts and beliefs regarding diversity, racism, and bigotry.
4. Describe and discuss the experience and contributions (political, social, economic, etc.) of the many groups that shape American society and culture, in particular those groups that have suffered discrimination and exclusion.
5. Demonstrate communication skills necessary for living and working effectively in a society with great population diversity.

## **F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT**

As noted on course syllabus

## **G. SPECIAL INFORMATION**

None noted