

Inver Hills Community College

GWS 1000: Introduction to Gender and Women's Studies

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours/Week: 3

Lab Hours/Week: 0

OJT Hours/Week: *.*

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

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

Introduces students to the main concepts of Gender and Women Studies by examining the origins of the field of study, its theoretical and sociological underpinnings, and evolution. Explores the psychological and social construction of gendered identity, including LGBTQIA theory and social concerns, as well as the intersections of race, class and gender.

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 08/23/2010 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Foundational Theories: Historical Constructions of Gender Identity: 20%
2. Foundational Theories: Race, Class and Identity: 20%
3. Foundational Theories: The Global Economy and Emerging World Feminisms: 20%
4. History: Early male and female feminist theorists and activists (including gay and lesbian theorists) and emergence of Women's Studies as field of study: 20%
5. Shaking the Foundation: GLBT theory and redefining categories of gender, nation and race: 20%

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. Evaluate the evolution of identity politics and interprets the influence of LGBTQIA studies in reshaping Women's Studies as a field of study
2. Assess the historical and contemporary intersections between race, class and gender in the United States and Western world
3. Evaluate the economic, political and social influences on lives of women in emerging worlds
4. Describe how gender identity has been constructed through culture and identifies reasons for, and consequences of, this construction
5. Demonstrate an understanding of the historical and intellectual underpinnings of Gender Studies as a field of study

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

Goal 05 - Hist/Soc/Behav Sci

1. Examine social institutions and processes across a range of historical periods and cultures.
2. Use and critique alternative explanatory systems or theories.
3. 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.

F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

As noted on course syllabus

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION

None noted