

# Inver Hills Community College

## GWS 2100: Constructions of Masculinity and Femininity

### A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours/Week: 3

Lab Hours/Week: 0

OJT Hours/Week: \*.\*

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: Goal 06 - Humanities/Fine Arts, Goal 07 - Human Diversity

Explores key psychological, linguistic and philosophical theories on the origins of masculinity and femininity as essential gendered characteristics. Identifies current cultural assumptions about gender, masculinity and femininity and explores how LGBTQIA theory complicates these assumptions.

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

### C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Defining contemporary femininity and masculinity: 20%
2. Defining femininity and masculinity cross-culturally and historically: 20%
3. GLBT theories on gender identity, masculinity and femininity: 20%
4. Simone deBeauvoir and John Berger- enduring theories on construction of gender: 20%
5. Theories of Michel Foucault and Jacques Derrida- deconstructing categories of knowledge: 20%

### D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. Identify and analyze definitions of masculinity and femininity historically and across cultures
2. Assess contemporary intellectual and political concerns and opportunities emerging from contemporary constructions of masculinity and femininity
3. Analyze masculinity and femininity using post-structuralist strategies
4. Use post-structuralist strategies and LGBTQIA theories to explore and challenge other constructs of identity and culture

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

### Goal 06 - Humanities/Fine Arts

1. Understand those works as expressions of individual and human values within an historical and social context.
2. Respond critically to works in the arts and humanities.
3. Articulate an informed personal reaction to works in the arts and humanities.

### 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