

ANTHROPOLOGY 2200.001

Gender in Cross-Cultural Perspective

Spring 2016

Monday, Wednesday and Friday 12:00pm – 12:50am

BLB, Room 015

INSTRUCTOR:

Instructor: Dr. Jamie K. Johnson

Office location: 330-J Chilton Hall

Department of Anthropology, 3rd Floor

Office hours: Monday 1:30pm – 3:30pm, Friday by **appointment**

***please email to make an appointment**

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INSTRUCTIONAL ASSISTANT:

IA: Ana Belen Conrado

Office Location: Chilton Hall

Department of Anthropology, 3rd Floor

Office Hours: Thursday 3:30pm – 5:00pm, or by **appointment**

Email: anaconrado@my.unt.edu

REACHING US

- The best way to reach the Instructor or Instructional Assistant is through email.
- Office visits are great. Emailing for an appointment guarantees you will be seen during office hours.
- Please allow 24 hours for me to respond to emails between Monday and Friday. In turn, I expect your response within 24 hrs. Over the weekends and on holidays I require 48 hours to respond.
- **Please include the name of the course you are taking in the body of your email.** If you do not include your course information in your email, my response to you may be delayed.
- **Only email from your official UNT email account.** Do not email either the Instructor or the Instructional Assistant from Blackboard. Do not email us from your personal email account, as it is may be marked as “Spam” and subsequently not read.
- **Only your official UNT student email address will be used for course notification.** It is your responsibility to log into Blackboard and check Announcements. We also recommend that you check your UNT email on a regular basis.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is designed to introduce students to the construction of masculinity and femininity in cross-cultural contexts. Central to these discussions are issues and debates important within the last three decades of feminist anthropology that speak to questions posed by widespread gender asymmetry

amidst abundant cultural diversity. Through ethnographic case studies, students will explore the differences in the expression of gender ideology, roles and relations worldwide. The globalizing trends of capitalism, neo-colonialism, and biomedical technologies will also be addressed in terms of their impact on changing gender roles both in developing and developed nations.

NOTIFICATION OF ABSENCE:

Students desiring to observe a religious holy day, which will result in a class absence, must notify their instructor in writing, for each class, no later than February 6th. For University-excused absences such as illness or extracurriculars, the student is required to notify me before or within 24 hours of the absence, and must complete assignments or take any missed quizzes or examinations within **ONE WEEK**. Only students with legitimate University-excused absences will be allowed to submit late work or make up missed quizzes/tests.

READINGS:

THERE ARE NO BOOKS REQUIRED FOR THIS COURSE. ALL ARTICLES WILL BE POSTED ON BLACKBOARD, AND ARE TAKEN FROM THE FOLLOWING TEXTS:

Brettell, Caroline and Carolyn Sargent, eds. 2009

Gender in Cross-Cultural Perspective. 5th edition. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall.

Lamb, Sarah E. and Diane P Mines, eds. 2002

Everyday Life in South Asia. 2nd edition. Bloomington, IN: Indiana Press.

Ferraro, Gary 2011

Classic Readings in Cultural Anthropology. 3rd edition. Wadsworth/Cengage.

Low, Setha M. and Denise Lawrence-Zuniga, eds. 2003

The Anthropology of Space and Place: Locating Culture. Malden, MA: Blackwell.

Fainstein, Susan S. and Scott Campbell, eds. 2011

Reading in Urban Theory. 3rd edition. Malden, MA: Blackwell

COURSE ACTIVITIES AND EVALUATION

Attendance and Participation:		30 Total Points
Short quizzes	10 quizzes x 7 points =	70 Total Points
Film Discussions	4 discussion posts x 10 points =	40 Total Points
Exams	Midterm Exam @ 80 points and Final Exam @ 80 points =	160 Total Points
Final paper (90 points + proposal 10 points)		100 Total Points
TOTAL:		400 Total Points

Quizzes – 7 points each: There will be **roughly 10** short quizzes in this class. **Quizzes will take place on Blackboard**, will cover assigned articles, and will consist of 7 true/false questions. There will be a quiz

due every week on Sunday at 11:59pm. The first quiz will be due Jan. 31st, and will cover the readings from 1/25 – 1/29. If you attend class, you will score well on the quiz. You will not be allowed to make-up a quiz unless you have a university-excused absence.

Film Discussions – 10 points each: Because of the brevity of our class periods, there is not always time to discuss films. Therefore, you will post **roughly 5** Film Discussions **within Blackboard** by Sunday, 11:59pm.

Film discussions will be two parts: 1) Your post 2) Your response to *at least one* of your peers' posts

- 1) **7 points** To earn full credit, your post must do more than summarize the film. The discussion post should *integrate your understanding of the film with the weekly lecture topics and readings*. The better you synthesize the material, the more points you will earn. Posts should be between 200 - 300 words (about the length of this section), and should
 - a. integrate the weekly course theme
 - b. be thought-provoking
 - c. demonstrate critical thinking skills
 - d. be free of grammar, spelling and mechanics errors
 - e. be conversational in nature.

Asking critical thinking questions prefaced by a problem or interest you had in the film is perfectly acceptable, and allows others to respond to your query. Integrating quotations from the readings or from the film are fine if cited and not overused. Summaries of the films are available online – I am familiar with them, so **do not attempt to plagiarize!**

- 2) **3 points** Within the discussion board, you will offer a thoughtful response to *at least one* of your peers' posts. Responses should be roughly 100 words and should follow the general guidelines above. It is okay to disagree with a classmate, but make sure you do so in a sensitive, respectful manner. Abrasive or injurious language will not be tolerated and will result in an automatic zero for the assignment.

Exams – 80 points each: There will be **2 exams** in this course – a **Midterm**, which will take place on Wednesday, **March 23rd**, and a **Final**, which will take place **Wednesday, May 11th from 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.** Each exam will consist of multiple choice, true/false, and short answer. The course outline indicates the dates of all exams. Make-ups will not be given unless students approach me with a reasonable excuse **BEFORE** the scheduled exams. Students may not reschedule exams because of out-of-town trips and/or plane reservations. **Mark the test dates on your calendar.**

Class Participation/Attendance – 30 points: Attendance in this class is extremely important. I will circulate an attendance sheet at every class period. You can earn 20/30 points just by being present in

class and participating in discussion. The other 10 points will come from group worksheets circulated at the instructor's discretion. Points will be deducted as follows:

Attendance	1 unexcused absence =	- 2 points
	2 unexcused absences =	- 5 points
	3 unexcused absences =	-10 points and written warning from Instructor
	4+ unexcused absences =	-1/2 letter grade on final grade and Notification to Dean of Students
Tardiness	First tardy =	Frown of disapproval from Instructor
	Second tardy =	Frown of disapproval from Instructor <i>and</i> – 2pts
	Third tardy =	Verbal warning from instructor <i>and</i> -5 points
	Fourth tardy =	Notification to Dean of Students and -10 points

Paper/Project - 100 points:

Students will have to complete one final paper during the semester. All papers should be typed (Times New Roman or similar, 12 pt.), double-spaced, and 5-8 pages in length. Papers are due on Friday April 29th. Late papers will be marked down 1/2 letter grade per day late. In other words, if you submit your paper on Monday, May 1st, the best you can score is an 85. I will give you more detailed instructions, but here is a brief summary.

You will submit a research paper proposal in class on March 11 which will be worth 10 out of the total 100 points. I will provide you with an instruction sheet on Monday, February 29th with detailed instructions, but in a nutshell, your proposal will indicate your choice of paper project and topic.

Option One – Life Narrative

Find an informant whose life differs significantly from yours and conduct an interview about the role gender issues have played through the course of their life. Some sample questions for interviewees: Did they fit easily into gender roles as children? What were those roles? Did their parents raise them with particular gender expectations? What factors influenced their choice of a mate? Has their perception of the opposite sex changed over the years? Why? Has motherhood/fatherhood, marriage, sex or other events influenced this change? Have they been involved politically in gender issues (e.g. gay marriage or the abortion debate)? These are only sample questions. Use your imagination and don't forget to analyze your findings based upon lecture and readings. You will need to gain informed consent from your interlocutor and include your interview questions at the end of your paper.

Once again, preferable informants are people a culture other than your own. However, interviewing someone of your own culture but of a *radically different* segment of the population (e.g. generation, ethnicity, class) may be acceptable. **You must see me about these cases.** Otherwise there are no restrictions on informants. They may be of any age, gender, class, or ethnic group. Be aware that you will get the most out of this project if you find an informant **very different from yourself.**

Option Two – Short Term Paper

If you feel more comfortable with a traditional paper writing assignment, you may choose to write a 5-8 page paper. You should research and write about an issue or phenomenon relevant to the subject matter of the course. You must use a minimum of 5 sources, including books and professional journals. You may use a website, but for only **ONE** of your sources. In addition to substantive information, your paper should include the following:

- (1) **Why did you choose the topic?**
- (2) **What new insight did you gain from doing the research?**
- (3) **What is significant about your topic?**

You may use any format for citations you choose, but it must be used consistently. You **MUST** cite your references **IN THE TEXT**. **The instructor must approve all topics.**

Lecture outlines: Lecture outlines can be found on the course website in Blackboard Learn (<https://learn.unt.edu/>). These outlines are intended to give your notes structure. Do not rely solely on the lecture outlines to study for the exams. I put keywords on the outline, not full text. You will not be prepared if you do not hear the lecture. I do not give out my lecture notes to students. If you miss class for any reason, you need to get notes from a classmate. Introduce yourself to your neighbor....get to know the other students. Once you have looked over your classmate's notes and read the assigned readings, I am happy to meet with you to go over material that you are still missing. Be advised that I do not give out my lecture notes.

Make-up exams: Make-ups will not be given unless students approach me with a reasonable excuse **BEFORE** the scheduled exams. **Quizzes** cannot be made up without a university excused absence and must be scheduled with the TA. In the event that something unexpected happens to you on exam day, I expect an email or telephone call **from you or your representative by 5:00pm the day of the exam** explaining why you were not at the scheduled exam. If you do not have my phone number, you can call information for the main UNT line and ask them to transfer you to the UNT office. A missed exam is not taken lightly in my class. Students may not reschedule exams because of out of town trips and/or plane reservations. **Mark the test dates on your calendar.**

Withdrawal: If you are unable to complete this course you must withdraw by March 3 (for a "W" with instructor approval), by April 7 (for a "W" or "WF," as determined by the instructor, with instructor approval). Withdrawing from a course is a formal procedure which **YOU** must initiate. I cannot do it for you. If you simply stop attending and do not withdraw, you will receive a performance grade, usually an "F."

Here are some important dates to be aware of:

February 1	Census
February 26	Last Day for Auto W

April 5	Last day to drop with either W or WF
April 18	Can Begin to Request Incomplete
April 22	Last day to Withdraw (drop all classes)

Your primary responsibility as a student is to master the material presented in class and in the readings and do well in the course. This is an easily achieved objective. Come to class and do the reading! At times concepts or issues raised in class might be unclear. Students come from a variety of backgrounds and have various strengths and weaknesses. If you have any questions or feel unsure about any class material, see me after class or during office hours as soon as you realize a problem. We will work together to find a solution. DON'T wait until the end of the semester. Please realize that my goal as an instructor is not just to grade, evaluate, and test, but to help you gain a valuable life perspective to carry outside the class, into whatever you do.

Note: The Anthropology Department does not discriminate on the basis of an individual's disability as required by the Americans With Disabilities Act. Our program provides academic adjustments or help to individuals with disabilities in its programs and activities. Attempts will be made to meet all certified requirements.

Plagiarism and Cheating. The department of anthropology does not tolerate plagiarism, cheating, or helping others to cheat. Students suspected of any of these will be provided the opportunity for a hearing; a guilty finding will merit an automatic "F" in the course. In addition, I reserve the right to pursue further disciplinary action within the UNT legal system, which may result in dismissal from the university. Plagiarism is defined as misrepresenting the work of others (whether published or not) as your own. It may be inadvertent or intentional. Any facts, statistics, quotations, or paraphrasing of any information that is not common knowledge, should be cited. For more information on paper writing, including how to avoid plagiarism, and how to use citations, see <http://www.unt.edu/anthropology/writing.htm>. For information on the University's policies regarding academic integrity and dishonesty, see the UNT Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities, <http://www.unt.edu/csrr/>.

COURSE SCHEDULE AND READING ASSIGNMENTS

WEEK	DATE	LESSON	ASSIGNMENT READINGS	ASSIGNMENT DUE DATE
WEEK 1	1/18 – 1/24	Introduction to Course, Introduction to Anthropology	Galloway Conkey	Discussion post: Introductions DUE: Sunday, 1/24 11:59pm
WEEK 2	1/25 – 1/31	Biology, Gender, and Human Evolution	Ehrenberg Scheper-Hughes Hewlett	Quiz: DUE: Sunday, 1/31 11:59pm

WEEK 3	2/1 – 2/7	The Cultural Construction of Gender and Personhood: Masculinities	Gilmore Alter Herdt Film: Tough Guise	Film Discussion: Sunday, 2/7 11:59pm Quiz: Sunday, 2/7 11:59pm
WEEK 4	2/8 – 2/14	The Cultural Construction of Gender and Personhood: Femininities and “Others”	Watson Lamb Nanda Film: Intersexed	Film Discussion: Sunday, 2/14 11:59pm Quiz: Sunday, 2/14 11:59pm
WEEK 5	2/15 – 2/21	Equality and Inequality: Subsistence Sexual Division of Labor, and Gender Stratification	Advasio, et al. Griffin and Griffin Lepowsky Rasmussen	Quiz: Sunday, 2/21 11:59pm
WEEK 6	2/22 – 2/28	Kinship, Marriage and Household organization	Cable Hicks-Bartlett Prior Film: Dadi’s Family	Film Discussion: Sunday, 2/28 11:59pm Quiz: Sunday, 2/28 11:59pm
WEEK 7	2/29 – 3/6	Domestic and Public Spheres	Murcott Townsend Weismantle	Quiz: Sunday, 3/6 11:59pm
WEEK 8	3/7 – 3/13	Domestic and Public Spheres, continued	Article: Houses without Kitchen Optional: Pellow Film: A Female Cabbie	No Film Discussion Quiz: Sunday, 3/13
WEEK 9	3/14– 3/20		SPRING BREAK	
WEEK 10	3/21 – 3/27	The Politics of Reproduction	Van-Hollen Davis-Floyd Ragoné	Research Proposal due Friday, March 25
WEEK 11	3/28 – 4/3	Gender, Power, and the State: Controlled bodies and bodies of control	MIDTERM MONDAY Film: Made in Dagenham	(Dr. J out of town 3/30 – 4/1)

WEEK 12	4/4 – 4/10	Gender, Power, and the State: Controlled bodies and bodies of control	Finish Made in Dagenham Klein Cairolì <i>or</i> Constable Gruenbaum	Film Reflection: Sunday, 4/10 11:59pm No Quiz
WEEK 13	4/11 – 4/17	Performing Gender: Religion, Ritual and Resistance	McCarthy-Brown Gutchow Jeffrey Film clip: Nuns of Ladakh	Quiz: Sunday, 4/17
WEEK 14	4/18 – 4/24	Performing Gender: Consuming and reproducing Stereotypes of Masculine and Feminine	Runkie Urla and Swedlund Seizer Film clips	Quiz: Sunday, 4/24
WEEK 15	4/25 – 5/1	Performing Gender: Sports, Role-paying, and “Fronts” PAPERS ARE DUE IN CLASS	Sherry Malcolm	Sunday, 5/1 11:59pm
WEEK 16	5/2 – 5/8	Last Day of Class 5/4	Reading Day 5/6	No items due
WEEK 17	5/9-5/11	FINAL EXAM – WEDNESDAY		

***This syllabus is subject to change or revisions*