

GEO 4412: GEOGRAPHY AND GENDER

Office: SIPA 319
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Hours: T/TH 3:30-4:45
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About the Course

Both gender and geography are dynamic constructs that shape our experience of the world at multiple scales, from the intimate level of the body to our place in the global economy. In this course we will use a gender lens to examine how power, difference and inequality are spatially organized, structured and contested. How are gender politics (re)produced in spaces such as the home, the workplace, the city, nation states and through imperial ties? How do we address the contradiction between social constructions and norms based on binary categories of male and female and the fluidity and flexibility of gender identities? How is geography implicated in this?

Our purpose in this course is to create a dynamic, focused, and inclusive intellectual environment in which learning is a collective process. To that end, we will analyze, critique, question and debate the weekly readings. My mantra is this: there is no "royal road" to knowledge—that is, there is no easy path—only through careful reading, taking notes, questioning and engaged discussion does the material contained in the texts become part of your intellectual repertoire. The course is designed as a seminar in which participation comprises a significant portion of the course grade. There will be little formal lecturing on my part. Instead, class time will be spent in open discussion and the use of a modified Socratic question and response method.

Learning Outcomes

Students will develop awareness of how and why particular spaces and practices are gendered and develop an understanding of the differential impacts and consequences entailed by the gendering of spaces and practices.

Students will be able to analyze a range of issues with respect to gendered processes operating across various scales.

Students will demonstrate engagement with key debates about the role of gender in geographic processes.

Course Grading and Requirements

1) Participation & Assignments	50%
2) Exam One	25%
3) Exam Two	<u>25%</u>
	100%

Required Text

Mona Domosh & Joni Seager. 2001. *Putting Women in Place: Feminist Geographers Make Sense of the World*. New York: The Guilford Press.

We will make extensive use of readings posted on Blackboard, articles accessed via the FIU library and newspapers available on-line. Therefore, make sure that your FIU library card is activated!!

Important Dates

Paper One	January 31
Paper Two	February 21
Exam One	February 28
Paper Three	April 18
Exam Two	April 25

Course Content

Please note that all required readings should be completed before class. All students should complete all readings.

WEEK 1: JANUARY 8/10/ INTRODUCTIONS—PLACING GEOGRAPHY

FILM: *WHO'S COUNTING: MARILYN WARING ON SEX, LIES, AND GLOBAL ECONOMICS*

WEEK 2: JANUARY 15/17: HOME

READING: DOMOSH & SEAGER, PREFACE & CHAPTER 1: HOME

WEEK 3: JANUARY 22/24: WORK & PERFORMATIVITY

READING: DOMOSH & SEAGER, CHAPTER 2: WOMEN AT WORK; SALZINGER, LESLIE. 2001. MAKING FANTASIES REAL: PRODUCING WOMEN AND MEN ON THE MAQUILA SHOP FLOOR. *NACLA REPORT ON THE AMERICAS* 34(5): 13-19; PERRONS, DIANE. 2015. GENDERING THE INEQUALITY DEBATE. *GENDER & DEVELOPMENT* 23(2): 207-222 AND *NEW YORK TIMES* ARTICLES.

WEEK 4: JANUARY 29/31: THE CITY

READING: DOMOSH & SEAGER, CHAPTER 3: THE CITY; DAY, KRISTEN. 2001. CONSTRUCTING MASCULINITY AND WOMEN'S FEAR IN PUBLIC SPACE IN IRVINE, CALIFORNIA, *GPC* 8:2, 109-127; KOSKELA, HEIDI. 1997. 'BOLD WALK AND BREAKINGS': WOMEN'S SPATIAL CONFIDENCE VERSUS FEAR OF VIOLENCE. *GPC* 4(3); KATZ, C. 2008. BAD ELEMENTS: KATRINA AND THE SCOURED LANDSCAPE OF SOCIAL REPRODUCTION. *GPC* 15(1): 15-29. RITTERBUSCH, AMY. 2016. MOBILITIES AT GUNPOINT: THE GEOGRAPHIES OF (IM)MOBILITY OF TRANSGENDER SEX WORKERS IN COLOMBIA. *ANNALS OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF GEOGRAPHERS* 106(2): 422-433.

WEEK 5: FEBRUARY 5/7: BODIES & MOBILITIES

READING: DOMOSH & SEAGER, CHAPTER 4: ON THE MOVE & DOAN, PETRA. 2010. THE TYRANNY OF GENDERED SPACES. *GPC*; HANSON, SUSAN. 2010. GENDER AND MOBILITY: NEW APPROACHES FOR INFORMING SUSTAINABILITY. *GPC*; SWANSON AND TORRES. 2016. CHILD MIGRATION AND TRANSNATIONALIZED VIOLENCE IN CENTRAL AND NORTH AMERICA. *JOURNAL OF LATIN AMERICAN GEOGRAPHY* 15(3): 22-48.

WEEK 6: FEBRUARY 12/14: NATIONS AND EMPIRES

READING: DOMOSH & SEAGER, CHAPTER 5: NATIONS AND EMPIRES; MOUNTZ AND HYNDMAN, FEMINIST APPROACHES TO THE GLOBAL INTIMATE; FARIA, CAROLINE. 2014. STYLING THE NATION: FEAR AND DESIRE IN THE SOUTH SUDANESE BEAUTY TRADE. *TRANSACTIONS OF THE INSTITUTE OF BRITISH GEOGRAPHERS*; FARIA, CAROLINE. 2014. "I WANT MY CHILDREN TO KNOW SUDAN": NARRATING THE LONG DISTANCE INTIMACIES OF DIASAPORIC POLITICS. *ANNALS OF THE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN GEOGRAPHERS*.

WEEK 7: FEBRUARY 19/21: NATIONALISM/MANLINESS/MASCULINITY

READING: BEDERMAN (1995) THE WHITE MAN'S CIVILIZATION ON TRIAL, IN *MANLINESS & CIVILIZATION*; CYNTHIA ENLOE, 2014, NATIONALISM AND MASCULINITY, IN *BANANAS, BEACHES AND BASES*.

WEEK 8: FEB. 26/28: REVIEW/EXAM ONE

WEEK 9: MARCH 5/7: INTERSECTIONALITY

COLLINS AND BILGE. 2016. INTERSECTIONALITY, CHAPTERS 1, 3, & 4. CAMBRIDGE: POLITY PRESS. MOLLETT AND FARIA. 2018. THE SPATIALITIES OF INTERSECTIONAL THINKING: FASHIONING FEMINIST GEOGRAPHIC FUTURES. *GENDER, PLACE, & CULTURE: A JOURNAL OF FEMINIST GEOGRAPHY* 25(4): 565-577. JUDITH BUTLER, CH. 1 FROM *GENDER TROUBLE*.

WEEK 10: SPRING BREAK!! MARCH 11-16

WEEK 11: MARCH 19/21: BEYOND BINARIES

READING: FAUSTO-STERLING. 2000. *SEXING THE BODY: GENDER POLITICS AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF SEXUALITY*, CHAPTERS 1, 2, & 4; FAUSTO-STERLING. 2012. SEX/GENDER: BIOLOGY IN A SOCIAL WORLD. CHAPTERS 1, 2, 5, 8, 9, & 10. NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SPECIAL ISSUE: GENDER REVOLUTION.

WEEK 12: MARCH 26/28: WOMEN AND/IN SCIENCE

HARDING, S. 1986. FROM THE WOMAN QUESTION IN SCIENCE TO THE SCIENCE QUESTION IN FEMINISM, IN *THE SCIENCE QUESTION IN FEMINISM*, CORNELL UNIVERSITY PRESS 15-29; HARAWAY, D. 1988. SITUATED KNOWLEDGES: THE SCIENCE QUESTION IN FEMINISM AND THE PRIVILEGE OF THE PARTIAL PERSPECTIVE. *FEMINIST STUDIES* 14(3): 575-599; EMILY MARTIN. 1991. THE EGG AND THE SPERM: HOW SCIENCE HAS CONSTRUCTED A ROMANCE BASED ON

STEREOTYPICAL MALE-FEMALE ROLES. *SIGNS* 16(3): 485-501. SCHIEBINGER, LONDA (1 PAGE ON GENDER & SCIENCE) AND INTRO TO SPECIAL ISSUE OF SIGNS: FEMINISM INSIDE THE SCIENCES; ALSO CHOOSE ONE OF 3 ARTICLES ON SCIENTIFIC DISCIPLINES: ARCHEOLOGY, PHYSICS, OR EVOLUTIONARY BIOLOGY IN *SIGNS* 2003. 28(3).

WEEK 13: APRIL 2/4: THE ENVIRONMENT & “DEVELOPMENT”

READING: DOMOSH & SEAGER, CHAPTER 6: THE ENVIRONMENT; O'REILLY, K. 2016. “FROM TOILET INSECURITY TO TOILET SECURITY: CREATING SAFE SANITATION FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS.” *WIRES WATER* 3: 19-24; SEAGER, J. 2001. THE 6-BILLIONTH BABY: DESIGNATED GREEN SCAPEGOAT. *ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING A* 32: 1711-1712; SEAGER, J. 2003. RACHEL CARSON DIED OF BREAST CANCER: THE COMING OF AGE OF FEMINIST ENVIRONMENTALISM. *SIGNS* 28(3): 945-972.

WEEK 14: APRIL 9/11: FEMINIST POLITICAL ECOLOGY/FEMINIST ACTIVISM

READINGS: TBA

WEEK 15: APRIL 16/18: DISCUSSION/REVIEW

FINALS WEEK: EXAM TWO ON THURSDAY, APRIL 25 @ 12:00

Assignments

- 1) Paper One. (Due February 2). The first paper asks you to summarize, analyze and synthesize the readings thus far and to complement your synthesis with your personal observations and experience of space, place, and work. 5 pages double-spaced (minimum). 10% of grade.
- 2) Paper Two (Due February 23). In the second paper, you will bring your summary, analysis and synthesis up to date with the readings and then select from current events a topic or series of related topics and subject them to a gendered geographic analysis. 5 pages double-spaced (minimum). 10% of grade.
- 3) Paper Three (Due April 18). The third paper addresses a topic of your choice that relates to the course material. This is a longer paper that draws on both course readings and additional materials, including articles, books, and other sources. (Eight to ten pages, double spaced) 20% of grade.

A Note on Requirements

Attendance and participation is a very important part of this class. **Complete all assigned readings before class.** All lectures and discussion will assume a familiarity with the assigned readings. You are expected to come to all classes having completed all reading assignments, to be prepared to discuss the reading material, and to be able to participate in the class activities by sharing your thoughts, views and questions. Read critically! Make sure that you understand not only the content of the assigned readings but the significance and validity of the argument and analysis presented. You are responsible for all information, materials, and instructions disseminated during the class period. Lectures, films and readings are complementary but not identical, and the exams will be based on all sources. Therefore, attendance is essential to doing well in this class. At various times throughout the semester I will take attendance at the beginning of class.

Electronic Devices

Cell phones must be off for the duration of the class. Laptop use is permitted ONLY for the purpose of taking notes.

Make-Up Policy

No make up exams without either 1) a note from a doctor that a student was incapable of attending for medical reasons or 2) documentation of a death in the immediate family.

Policy on Plagiarism

Plagiarism is cheating. Don't do it. The disciplinary action that will be taken in the case of plagiarism is explained in the section on "Academic Misconduct" in the *Student Handbook*. If you are uncertain about what constitutes plagiarism, check out the FIU library website:

<http://library.fiu.edu/assistance/plagiarism>. In addition, we will spend time in class demonstrating and discussing proper use and citation of sources.