

Sociology 138: Sociology of Gender

Spring 2011

University of Wisconsin-Madison

Lecturer: Julie C. Keller

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Lecture: MWF 8:50-9:40am, 6104 Sewell Social Sciences

Office Hours: MW 10-11am, 2452 Sewell Social Sciences

“But if gender in these respects is harmful, it is in other respects a source of pleasure, creativity and other things we greatly value...The joys, tensions and complications of gender relations are among the most potent sources of cultural creation.” Raewyn Connell, *Gender*, 2002, p.143

Course Description

What is the sociology of gender? Which approaches do sociologists use to study gender? What explains current patterns of gender inequality? How and why are social structures and institutions gendered? This course will investigate these questions and more, as we draw from classic and contemporary works of gender studies. We will use the lens of intersectionality to study gender; that is, we will not assume that gender exists in a vacuum, but we will focus on and interrogate its intersections with other social markers of difference, such as race, ethnicity, class, sexuality, citizenship, ability, place and age. Much of this course focuses on patterns of gender relations in the United States, but many readings take a transnational approach to understanding gender. These works engage with processes of migration and their effects on gender relations. This course is an introduction to the sociology of gender, meaning that it is geared toward those at the freshman and sophomore levels. Those seeking a more advanced gender course should consider taking Sociology 623 in the Fall, or advanced courses offered in the Gender and Women’s Studies Department.

Required Texts

- 1) Pascoe, C.J. 2007. *Dude You’re a Fag*.
Available at A Room of One’s Own Bookstore, 307 W. Johnson St. Tel (608) 257-7888
- 2) Course Pack: Available at the Social Sciences Print Center, 6120 Sewell Social Sciences.
These readings are marked in the schedule as “CP.”

Reserve: Pascoe and the course pack are on reserve at College Library, Helen C. White.

Learn@UW: I will post important announcements and hand-outs on Learn@UW where you can access them if you miss class. Lecture power point slides will also be posted here.

Special Needs: Please let me know if you require special accommodations in the curriculum or instruction procedures so that you may participate fully. The McBurney Center on campus provides assistance for physical, learning, sensory, or psychological disabilities: 263-2741; 702 W. Johnson St., www.mcburney.wisc.edu

Evaluation: Your final grade will be based on the following:

Midterm Exam 1: 15%

Midterm Exam 2: 15%

Final Exam: 20%

Paper 1: 15%

Paper 2: 15%

Paper 3: 15%

Mini Paper: 5%

100%

Course grading scale:

A	93-100	AB	88-92	B	83-87		
BC	78-82	C	70-77	D	60-69	F	below 60

Attendance: Regular attendance in lecture will be essential to performing well on the exams.

Exams: There are three exams for this course. Exam format will consist of short answers and essay questions and they will cover material from lectures, films and readings. *If you must miss an exam, I will need a documented excuse (e.g., medical) before I will grant a make-up exam.*

Papers: You are required to write three 5-6 page papers for this course. Detailed assignments will be distributed in class. There are no make-ups or rewrites for written work. Please adhere to the following format for all written assignments: 1-inch margins on all sides, 12-point Times New Roman font, double-spaced, pages numbered, and stapled. In addition to handing in a hard copy in lecture, you will be required to submit your papers to the online dropbox at Learn@UW.

Writing Center: The campus Writing Center is an excellent resource. If you are having trouble beginning a writing assignment, please consider visiting the center to take advantage of the helpful assistance they provide. <http://writing.wisc.edu/>

Cheating and Plagiarism: Plagiarism will not be tolerated. In my years teaching I have caught several students plagiarizing. This is awkward for me and embarrassing for students. I use anti-plagiarism software on all assignments submitted, so please think twice before you break University policies. Remember that “patchwork paraphrasing” constitutes plagiarism. Please visit this link to the Writing Center: http://writing.wisc.edu/Handbook/QPA_paraphrase.html

Extra Credit: Throughout the semester, there will be opportunities to earn extra credit. You are to attend a talk or event which I will announce in advance, and write a 750-word essay response. Include the title and author of the talk/event, describe what you learned/observed, and make connections between what you learned/observed and course material from Sociology 138. You will submit your essay to me in lecture within one week after the seminar/event. Questions to address in your essay, if you like: 1) What was the most intriguing aspect of this talk/event? 2) Did the talk/event make you think about gender differently than you had previously? 3) How can you link this talk/event to what you have been learning in Soc 138? 4) Would you recommend this talk/event to others if they wanted to learn about gender studies? Why or why not?

COURSE SCHEDULE

I. WEEK 1: INTRODUCTORY CONCEPTS

W 1/19 Introduction to the Course

F 1/21 Laying the Foundation: Sociology, Biology, Gender as System and Power

*CP, C. Wright Mills, "The Promise of Sociology," from *The Sociological Imagination*, pp.1-5

*CP, A. Johnson, "Patriarchy, the system: an It, not a he, a them or an us," pp.27-50 (from *The Gender Knot*)

*CP, R. Connell, "The Question of Gender," pp.1-10 (from *Gender*, 2002)

*CP, A. Fausto-Sterling, "The Five Sexes: Why Male and Female Are Not Enough," pp.468-473

II. WEEK 2: CONCEPTS (CONTINUED), WORK & THE ECONOMY

M 1/24 Performance, "Doing Gender" and Intersectionality

*CP, M. Messner, "Barbie Girls vs. Sea Monsters: Children Constructing Gender," pp.87-100

*CP, M. Trautner, "Doing Gender, Doing Class: The Performance of Sexuality in Exotic Dance Clubs," pp.771-786

*CP, K. Crenshaw, "Demarginalizing the Intersection of Race and Sex," pp.139-148 & pp.166-7

W 1/26 Resources, the Wage Gap and the Mommy Tax

*CP, A. Rich, "Compulsory Heterosexuality" (excerpt), pp.631-643

*CP, "The Gender Wage Gap," National Committee on Pay Equity

*CP, Crittenden, "The Mommy Tax," pp.601-609

F 1/28 Carework and Housework

*CP, E. Nakano Glenn, "Creating a Caring Society," pp.84-93

*CP, K. Natalier, "'I'm not his wife': doing gender and doing housework in the absence of women," pp.253-267.

III. WEEK 3: EDUCATION

M 1/31 Gender in Schools

*CP, "First Grade cartoon," *The Sociologist's Book of Cartoons*

*CP, Peggy Orenstein, "Learning Silence: Girls and Boys in School," pp.120-127

*CP, P. Tyre, "The Trouble With Boys," *Newsweek*, pp.1-5

*Pascoe book, Chapter 1 (pp.1-24)

W 2/2 "Institutionalizing Heterosexuality & Masculinity" in School

*Pascoe book, Chapter 2 (pp.25-51)

F 2/4 Homophobia in Schools

*Pascoe book, Chapter 3 (pp.52-83)

IV. WEEK 4: POLITICS & SOCIAL MOVEMENTS

M 2/7 Political Representation and Social Policy

- *CP, F. Jalalzai and M.L. Krook, "Beyond Hillary and Benazir: Women's Political Leadership Worldwide," pp.5-21.
- *CP, M. Leyenaar, "Challenges to Women's Political Representation in Europe," pp.1-7
- *CP, A. Gouws, "Obstacles for Women in Leadership Positions: The Case of South Africa," pp.21-27

W 2/9 Guest Speaker Taylan Acar, *DUE*: PAPER 1

- *CP, M. Navarro, "The Personal is Political" Las Madres de Plaza de Mayo," pp.241-258

F 2/11 Multiple Feminisms & Other Gendered Social Movements

- *CP, J. Simmons, "Minority" poem, pp.93-95(from *Conditions: Five: The Black Women's Issue*)
- *Learn@UW--B. Roth, "Introduction: Emergence & Development of Racial/Ethnic Feminisms," pp.1-23 (from *Separate Roads to Feminism*)
- *CP, M. Kimmel and A. Ferber, "'White Men Are This Nation': Right-Wing Militias and the Restoration of Rural American Masculinity," pp.59-80

V. WEEK 5: CITIZENSHIP & MIGRATION

M 2/14 Concepts and Overview

- *CP, P. Hondagneu-Sotelo, "Introduction: Gender & Contemporary US Immigration," pp.565-75
- *CP, E. Parrado & C. Flippen, "Migration and Gender among Mexican Women," pp.606-630
- *CP, P. Hondagneu-Sotelo, "Doméstica," pp.183-194

W 2/16 Gender & New Immigrant Destinations

- *CP, L. Schmalzbauer, "Gender on a New Frontier: Mexican Migration in the Rural Mountain West," pp.747-765

F 2/18 Film: TBA

VI. WEEK 6: PLACE & THE RURAL

M 2/21 Gender, Agriculture, and Women Farmers

- *CP, C. Sachs and M. Alston, "Global Shifts, Sedimentations, and Imaginaries: An Introduction to the Special Issue on Women and Agriculture," pp.277-286
- *CP, "East Africa: Women Farmers Get \$8 million AGRA Fund," *East African Business Week*

W 2/23: MIDTERM EXAM 1

F 2/25 Rural Masculinities/Rural Femininities

- *CP, "Gunrack cartoon," *The Sociologist's Book of Cartoons*
- *CP, H. Campbell, M. Bell, and M. Finney, "Masculinity and Rural Life: Introduction," pp.1-21
- *CP, D. Bell, "Cowboy Love," pp.164-179
- *CP, M. Bell, "New Farms, New Selves," pp.201-216 (from *Farming For Us All*)

VII. WEEK 7: FAMILIES

M 2/28 Concepts, Statistics & Interrogating the “Normal” Family

*CP, S. Coontz, “The American Family,” pp.172-178

*CP, A. Roschelle, “Gender, Family Structure and Social Structure: Racial Ethnic Families in the United States,” pp.311-335 (from *Revisioning Gender*)

W 3/2 Gender and the Work-Family Balance

*CP, “Motherhood cartoon,” *The Sociologist’s Book of Cartoons*

*CP, S. Bianchi et al., “Parenting: How Has it Changed?” pp.1-18

*CP, P. Stone, “The Rhetoric and Reality of ‘Opting Out’,” pp.14-19

*CP, K. Gerson, “No Man’s Land: Men’s Changing Commitments to Family and Work,” pp.277-294

F 3/4 Queer and Transnational Families

*CP, K. Weston, “Kinship and Procreation,” pp.33-41 (from *Families We Choose*)

*CP, Lionel Cantu, “A Place Called Home: A Queer Political Economy,” pp.382-393

*CP, N. Ojeda de la Pena, “Transborder Families and Gendered Trajectories of Migration and Work,” pp.327-339

VIII. WEEK 8: HEALTH & MEDICINE

M 3/7 History of Women’s Health, Reproductive Justice & Current Patterns in Health

(In-Class Film segment: La Operacion)

*CP, J. Silliman et al. “Chapter 1: Women of Color and their Struggle for Reproductive Justice,” pp.1-24 (from *Undivided Rights: Women of Color Organize for Reproductive Justice*)

*CP, L. Ross, “The Color of Choice: White Supremacy and Reproductive Justice,” (from *Color of Violence*)

*CP, J. Read and B. Gorman, “Gender and Health Inequality,” pp.371-383

W 3/9, Gender, Migration and Health, *DUE*: PAPER 2

*CP, B. Gorman et al., “Gender, Acculturation, & Health among Mexican Amer.,” pp.440-457

*CP, N. Walter et al., “Masculinity and Undocumented Labor Migration,” pp.1159-1167

F 3/11 The Birth Control Pill (Film: The Pill)

*CP, “Male Birth Control Pill Soon a Reality,” MSNBC

SPRING BREAK: March 12-20

IX. WEEK 9: REPRESENTATION & MEDIA

M 3/21 Gender and Race Representations in the Media

*CP, “Alisa Valdes-Rodriguez Takes to Social Media to Fight *Dirty* Adaptation,” pp.1-3 (from Racialicious blog)

*CP, bell hooks, “Selling Hot Pussy,” pp.113-128

W 3/23 Fair Inclusion or Tokenism?

*CP, S. Walters, "The Love that Dares to Speak Its Name," pp.3-21 (from *All the Rage*)

F 3/25 Film: *Killing Us Softly*

*CP, S. Bordo, "'Material Girl': The Effacements of Postmodern Culture," pp.245-275

*CP, "A Handy Guide to Popular Lady-Image Cliches," pp.2-4 (Jezebel blog)

*CP, "Self Editors Explain Covers Aren't Supposed to Look Realistic" (Jezebel blog)

X. WEEK 10: THE BODY & EMBODIMENT

M 3/28 Gender, Bodies and Disability

*CP, Raewyn Connell, "Making Gendered People: Bodies, Identities, Sexualities," pp.549-555

*CP, K. Toombs, "The Lived Experience of Disability," pp.31-46

*CP, C. Panzarino, "A Night in the Chair," pp.172-175 (from *The Me in the Mirror*)

W 3/30: MIDTERM EXAM 2

F 4/1 Latina/o Constructions of the Body

*CP, R. Parrini et al., "Migrant Bodies: Corporality, Sexuality, and Power," pp.62-72

*CP, D. Paredez, "Becoming Selena, Becoming Latina," pp.477-491

*CP, M. Beltran, "The Hollywood Latina Body as Site of Social Struggle," pp.71-84

XI. WEEK 11: SPORTS & RECREATION

M 4/4 Gender, Sexuality, Race & Sports

*CP, Leo Tolstoy, *Anna Karenina*, pp.683-684 (excerpt)

*CP, M. Messner, "Becoming 100% Straight," pp.349-353

*CP, T. Oates and M. Durham, "The Mismeasure of Masculinity," pp.301-320

*CP, Shakib et al., "Title IX Facts and Figures"

*CP, T. Migliaccio and E. Berg, "Women's Participation in Tackle Football," pp.271-285

W 4/6 Leisure and Recreation

*CP, C. Enloe, "On the Beach: Sexism and Toursim," pp.19-30

*CP, E. Cabell Gathman, "Real Girls Don't: The Invisible Minority of Female Video Game Players" (blog)

F 4/8 Film: TBA

XII. WEEK 12: DATING, SEXUAL RELATIONSHIPS & MARRIAGE

M 4/11 Dating and Sexual Relationships

*CP, "Sex and Gender Cartoon," *The Sociologist's Book of Cartoons*

*CP, Sonia Sanchez, "Blues" poem, p.37 (from *Like the Singing Coming Off the Drums*)

*CP, L. Hamilton and E. Armstrong, "Gendered Sexuality in Young Adulthood," pp.589-613

*CP, L. Leblanc, "The punk guys will really overpower what the punk girls have to say," pp.167-172

*Pascoe book, Chapter 4 (pp.84-114)

W 4/13 Guest Speaker: Jason Orne, “Queer Interracial Relationships”

*CP, Cheryl Clarke, “What Goes Around Comes Around...” p.58 (from *Living as a Lesbian*)

*CP, C. Patterson, “Family Relationships of Lesbians and Gay Men,” pp.271-274 (excerpt)

F 4/15 The Institution of Marriage and Challenges to It: Film, TBA

*CP, N. Naples, “Queer Parenting in the New Millennium,” pp.679-683

XIII. WEEK 13: VIOLENCE & CRIME

M 4/18 Concepts and Overview

*CP, Sonia Sanchez, “Blues Haiku” poem, p.69 (from *Like the Singing Coming Off the Drums*)

*CP, E. Madriz, “Nothing bad happens to good girls: Fear of crime in women’s lives,” pp.332-45

*CP, A. Bhattacharjee, “The Public/Private Mirage: Mapping Homes & Undomesticating Violence Work in the South Asian Immigrant Community,” pp.308-329 (from *Feminist Genealogies, Colonial Legacies, Democratic Futures*)

*CP, K. Crenshaw, “Mapping the Margins: Intersectionality, Identity Politics, and Violence Against Women of Color,” pp.1241-1250 (excerpt)

W 4/20 Guest Speaker: Sabra Katz-Wise, “LGBs and Victimization,” *DUE*: PAPER 3

*CP, D. Valentine, “The Calculus of Pain: Violence, Narrative and the Self,” pp.204-213 (from *Imagining Transgendered*)

F 4/22 Deviance: Female Offenders & Women in Prison

*CP, E. MacDonald, “Kim Hyon Hui,” pp.33-40 (from *Shoot the Women First*)

*CP, Collica, “Surviving Incarceration: Two Prison-Based Peer Programs Build Communities of Support for Female Offenders,” pp.314-322 (excerpt)

XIV. WEEK 14: GLOBALIZATION

M 4/25 Concepts and Issues at Stake

*CP, “Globalization Cartoon,” *The Sociologist’s Book of Cartoons*

*CP, G. Ritzer, “The McDonaldization of Society,” pp.151-161

*CP, J. Collins, “On the Shop Floor in Aguascalientes,” pp.126-159

*CP, “Today at Brown: Rhacel Parrenas,” (<http://today.brown.edu>)

W 4/27 The Global Cycle of Reproductive Labor

*CP, R. Parrenas, *Servants of Globalization*, selected pages

*CP, A. Hochschild, “Love and Gold,” pp.15-30 (from *Global Woman*)

F 4/29 Film: TBA

XV. WEEK 15: FUTURES-- CHALLENGING PROBLEMATIC GENDER RELATIONS

M 5/2 Everyday Challenges to Problematic Gender Relations

*CP, J. Halberstam, "Perverse Presentism," pp.45-49 (from *Female Masculinity*)

*Pascoe book, Chapter 5 (pp.115-155) and Chapter 6 (pp.156-174)

W 5/4 What Do Efforts Toward Gender Equality Look Like Today?

*CP, J. Silliman et al., "The Colorado Organization for Latina Opportunity and Reproductive Rights," pp.265-282 (from *Undivided Rights: Women of Color Organize for Reproductive Justice*)

*CP, UNIFEM, website

F 5/6 Last class Wrap-Up, *DUE*: MINI PAPER

FINAL EXAM (Code 03): Wednesday, May 11, 2011, 5:05-7:05pm, Place TBA