

**GENDER ROLES & SOCIETY
COURSE SYLLABUS
Fall 2016**

Course Number: SOCI3370 (14272)

Time: Mon/Wed 11:30 – 12:50

Location: Liberal Arts 306

Instructor: Angela Frederick

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Office Hours: Mon/Wed 1:30 – 2:30 and by appointment.

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Office Hours: Monday 830a.m.-10:30 a.m. & Wednesday 8:30a.m.-10:30a.m. or by appointment.

Office: Old Main 213

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COURSE OVERVIEW AND REQUIREMENTS

Course Overview. In this course we will explore gender as a social construct and a central organizing principle of our social world. We will become familiar with the major sociological theories that attempt to explain gender inequality in institutions such as the family, the workplace, and politics. We will also examine how the social construction of masculinities and femininities shape our individual lives and life chances. Throughout the semester we will pay particular attention to the ways in which gender inequality interacts with other forms of oppression, including racism, classism, heteronormativity, and ableism.

Learning Objectives. Students who complete this course should achieve the following objectives:

- Demonstrate a thorough understanding of the major sociological theories of gender.
- Articulate how gender socialization and gendered institutions have shaped your own life and the lives of others.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the ways gender oppression intersects with other forms of marginalization, including racial and economic inequality, heteronormativity, and ableism.

Required Readings. The following books are required for the course. All other readings will be emailed weekly. Reading assignments will vary in length and level of difficulty. Please plan accordingly.

- Bettie, Julie. 2014. *Women Without Class: Girls, Race, & Identity*, 2nd ed. Berkeley: University of California Press.
- Kuttai, Heather. 2010. *Maternity Rolls: Pregnancy, Childbirth, and Disability*. Halifax, Nova Scotia: Fernwood Publishing.
- Rios, Victor. 2011. *Punished: Policing the Lives of Black and Latino Boys*. New York: NYU Press.

Requirements. Grades for this course are distributed as follows:

- 1 Reflection Paper – 5%. You will submit a reflection paper on gender during the first week of the semester.
- **2 Papers – 20% each.** You will submit two five-page papers on assigned topics.
- **2 Exams – 15% each.** You will complete a mid-term and a final exam.
- Quizzes – 15%. Ten quizzes will be given throughout the course of the semester. The two lowest grades will be dropped, and the eight remaining grades will be averaged. Make-up quizzes for unexcused absences will not be granted. Make-up quizzes for excused absences will consist of a one-page reflection on the day's reading; the deadline will be determined by the instructor.
- **Class Participation – 10%.** This portion of your grade will be determined by the frequency and quality of your participation in class discussions. To earn high marks for this portion of your grade, you should prepare to participate in every class discussion and demonstrate that you are engaging thoroughly with course readings and concepts.

Grading Scale. The grading scale in this course is as follows:

- A = 90%-100%**
- B = 80%-89%**
- C = 70%-79%**
- D = 60%-69%**
- F = 0%-59%**

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week 1: Introductions

Week 2: Doing Gender

Week 3: Challenging the Gender Binary

Week 4: Gendered Institutions

Week 5: Gender & Childhood

Week 6: Gender & Adolescence, Part I

Week 7: Gender & Adolescence, Part II

Week 8: Gender & Disability

Week 9: Midterm Exam / Gender Crime & Punishment, Part I

Week 10: Gender Crime & Punishment, Part II

Week 11: Gender Crime & Punishment, Part III

Week 12: Gender & Higher Education

Week 13: Gender & Work

Week 14: Paper / Thanksgiving

Week 15: Course Wrap-Up