

Introduction to Masculinities

The University of Texas at El Paso

Spring 2023, online

Office Hours: Mon. 4:30-5:30pm & by appointment

J. A. Waggoner, PhD

jawaggoner@utep.edu

This course will offer students an overview of understandings and debates around masculinities using the tools of history and interdisciplinary women's and gender studies. Students will discuss and explore: historical, multiple, contradictory and contested, and non-normative masculinities. Students will analyze primary and secondary sources, engage in academic writing and discussion, and think critically.

Important Dates

Academic Calendar

Quiz 1:

Quiz 2:

Final Paper:

Evaluation

Unit Video Discussion 10%

Final Paper 20%

Quizzes 20% (2*10%)

Discussions & Reading Checks 50%

Required Materials

Paschoe, C.J. and Tristan Bridges. *Exploring Masculinities: Identity, Inequality, Continuity and Change*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2016. ISBN-13: 978-0199315673

[Amazon](#); [Barnes and Noble](#); (~\$50 used; ~\$75 new)

All other required readings and videos will be available free online and/or through the UTEP library online.

Student Responsibilities

Students are required to acquire and read the textbook. Students should complete assigned readings and learning activities on time, ask questions, participate in online discussions, and take ownership of their success in the course. Participation and engagement are required and essential. Students who “disappear” (that is, fail to complete assignments, discuss, and answer emails) may be dropped. Importantly, this course comes with the expectation that students can read and write at a college level, use educational technology tools, and have the discipline to read and work independently. Learning outcomes and grades will vary; students who fulfill these responsibilities will usually learn more and earn a better grade. Please note that the Purdue Online Writing Lab (OWL) has resources related to academic writing and citing sources properly, and the UTEP Writing Center offers in-person and online consultations. Contact the instructor if you need help.

§ Discussions & Checks for Reading: Students will complete frequent check-for-reading assignments and discussion boards based on the textbook and other supplemental readings and videos. For full credit, students must post twice, reference and comment on the course content, and interact with their peers.

§ Unit Discussions: Students will participate in at least one recorded video discussion with peers addressing the themes and content of the unit.

§ **Final Paper:** Students will complete a final reflective paper between 1250 and 1700 words in length (not including footnotes) following Turabian/Chicago formatting style. This paper includes a process component (ie. peer review, feedback meeting). Depending on the student's choice for the paper (and cross-list status), it may also require research, an extracurricular experience, or other activity.

§ **Quizzes:** Two quizzes will include a variety of questions related to class readings and activities. Late completion is permitted only on a case-by-case basis with proof of extreme circumstances. Students may consult the course materials but must work independently. The instructor reserves the right to add check-for-understanding quizzes without prior notice.

Online Modality

This class is classified asynchronous online with the understanding that students will work independently and collaboratively and participate online. The frequent, capable use of an internet-equipped computer is required. Occasional synchronous meetings are required, but students will have great flexibility in scheduling. Students will use Blackboard Ultra to access and submit class assignments and participate in virtual discussion. Students needing technology support should contact the UTEP Helpdesk where assistance is available via chat, email, or phone. Due to the frequent use of media provided by the UTEP Library, students are encouraged to connect through the UTEP Virtual Private Network (VPN). Students should report dead links to the instructor. In the event that Blackboard is malfunctioning and an assignment is due, please email the assignment to jawaggoner@utep.edu by the deadline.

Other Policies

§ The instructor will make every effort to respond to emails (jawaggoner@utep.edu) within 24 hours, excluding weekends and holidays.

§ The instructor will provide rubrics for major assignments. Unless otherwise specified, assignments will be submitted and graded via Blackboard. Students should monitor their grades and report any problems, confusions, or challenges immediately.

§ Students should exercise academic integrity. Students who cheat or plagiarize will be reported to the Office of Student Conflict & Conflict Resolution. Don't cheat. Ask for help.

§ Please complete work in academic English. Exceptions may be made for students majoring in Spanish or for certain academic projects. If you need help with writing or English, contact the instructor. Si requieres apoyo adicional, no dudes en ponerte en contacto con el instructor.

§ The instructor will make reasonable accommodations to foster the success of all students. The Assistive Technology Lab offers support for anyone needing assistive technology. Students with disabilities may contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services on the first floor of the student union (915-747-5148 Voice/TTY). It is the student's responsibility to register for and schedule services and communicate their needs to the instructor.

§ The instructor aims to create an inclusive, respectful, supportive, and rigorous learning environment. Students should report behavior that undermines that goal to the instructor immediately. Students may also access counseling services on campus.

§ The instructor retains the right to make changes to this document and/or to the class schedule. Exceptions to these class policies are rare and made on a case-by-case basis.

Diversity and Inclusion: Women's and Gender Studies supports an inclusive learning environment in which diversity and individual differences are understood, respected, and appreciated. We believe that all students benefit from training and experiences that will help them to learn, lead, and serve in an increasingly diverse society. All members of our program must accept the responsibility to demonstrate civility and respect for the dignity of others. Expressions or actions that disparage a person's race, ethnicity, nationality, culture, gender, gender identity, religion, sexual orientation, age, veteran status, or disability are contrary to the mission of our program. All our faculty and staff are responsible for promoting inclusive spaces for all, including students with children and breastfeeding mothers. While a Women's and Gender Studies student, you will be given an equitable opportunity to contribute and succeed. The diversity of lived experiences and knowledge that you bring to our courses are considered a resource, strength, and benefit. Thank you for the diversity you bring to our program!

Policy on Children in Class: It is our belief that if we want diversity in academia, that we should also expect parents and children to be present in some form. Currently, the university does not have a formal policy on children in the classroom. The policy described here is thus a reflection of Women's and Gender Studies' commitment to student, staff and faculty parents. If you are breastfeeding or are the guardian of a child, feel free to bring them to class if there is a gap in childcare. You may sit near the door, and we understand if you must step out occasionally to meet their needs.

Furthermore, I would like to create a learning environment for my students that supports a diversity of thoughts, perspectives and experiences, and honors your identities. To help accomplish this:

- If you have a name and/or set of pronouns that differ from those that appear in your official UTEP records, please let me know.
- I (like many people) am still in the process of learning about diverse perspectives and identities. If something was said in class (by anyone) that made you feel uncomfortable, please talk to me about it.