

University of Texas at El Paso Syllabus **
Women's & Gender Studies

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Office Hours: M, 11-12, 1:20-2; Wed. 11-12 & and by appointment.

Course Title: WS 3384,: **Gender Issues In The Social Sciences**
M/W 12:00 – 1:20 p.m.

Course Description: We will examine how gender affects the production, and distribution of media. We will explore entertainment media industries at large from multiple perspectives – primarily cultural, economic, technological, and institutional. *focusing throughout on the Hollywood media industry as a “culture industry.” Dominant mode(s) of production, distribution, and exhibition are analyzed.*

Course Outcomes: Students will gain a broad foundation of theory, influences, issues, and behind-the-scenes processes on the intersection of gender and media industries. Outcomes will include utilizing critical media analyses methods, media literacy, gaining experience in quantitative and qualitative research tools, and participating in community engagement.

Course Requirements

Grading Scale:

<u>Point Range</u>	<u>Letter Grade</u>
100-90	A
89-80	B
79-70	C
69-60	D
59-50	F

Evaluation: Your grade will be determined by performance in the following categories

	<u>Grade (%)</u>
Exam 1	20 %
Exam 2	15 %
Journal	25 %
Homework & Presentations	15 %
Final Project	15 %
Attendance & Participation	10%
Community service/engagement	(to be addressed in class)

Course Policies:

Meetings with the Instructor:

Students are encouraged to meet with the instructor as needed. A few minutes with her can often eliminate confusion or anxiety concerning an assignment.

Classroom Courtesy & Electronic Devices

Students are expected to conduct themselves in a courteous manner. This also applies to the usage of cell phones, mobile devices, mp3 players, laptops, and others, which must be turned off and stowed away during class time. You may be asked to leave if your cell phone disrupts classroom activities. UTEP supports the use of technology to enhance learning, however, the inappropriate uses of laptops, cell phones, and texting, are disruptive to the learning process and disrespectful to your fellow classmates and professor. Please turn off your cell phones or place them on vibrate/silent mode while in class. No texting is permitted during lectures and class discussions. Avoid embarrassment in front of your peers for disruptive and unacceptable classroom behavior.

Participation:

Participation is a critical element in any Women's & Gender Studies course. Students are encouraged to participate in all lectures/discussions. When students share their experiences with the class, the course material often becomes more interesting and comprehensible.

Attendance:

Students are expected to attend all class sessions. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class. Please be on time to avoid being counted absent. Two unexcused absences may result in the student being dropped from the course.

Drops:

It is the student's responsibility to initiate withdrawal from the course during the appropriate time period specified in the class Bulletin.

PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING: It is expected that you will write all of your own papers and that you will know how to cite sources and quote people appropriately (using APA style for this course). If you are not familiar with APA style, the Tutoring and Learning Center located in the UTEP library can help you. Plan ahead for your written assignments. It is very important that all written work and oral presentations be in your own words and of your own creation. Quotations or paraphrasing are acceptable, but they must be accompanied by the appropriate citation. To plagiarize means:

“To steal and pass off (the ideas or words of another) for one's own use without crediting the source” (Webster's Dictionary, 1989).

Plagiarism consists of submitting someone else's work under your name or not citing the source of your information

IMPORTANT: Any indication that you are submitting someone else's work, or that you are adopting statements or ideas of another person without appropriate acknowledgment (plagiarism), will have serious repercussions. Any plagiarism, cheating, or collusion to cheat observed in this class will be reported to the Dean of Students who will initiate disciplinary proceedings. Do not risk your good name and your future based on anxiety about grades, peer pressure, lack of time management, or feeling overwhelmed. Instead schedule an appointment with me about any problems or concerns you have about the course, course assignments, course material, etc.

Students With Disabilities

As per Section 504 of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, if a student needs an accommodation then the Office of Disabled Student Services located at UTEP needs to be contacted. If you have a condition which may affect your ability to perform successfully in this course, you are encouraged to discuss this in confidence with the instructor and/or the director of the Disabled Student Services. You may call 915-747-5148 for general information about the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the rights that you have as a UTEP student with a disability.

Individuals with disabilities have the right to equal access and opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor and [The Disabled Student Services Office](#) at The University of Texas at El Paso.

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.