Course description:

Using a sociological perspective, this course examines how major societal institutions, including the economy, polity, medicine, religion, education and family, are structured to eliminate, maintain or reproduce gendered inequalities across the globe. Attention is given to the intersections of race/ethnicity, social class, gender and sexuality in social systems of power and privilege. Of critical importance is how gender figures in the relationship between Economic North and Economic South countries. We will elucidate how gender norms vary by culture and exert profound influence on the daily, lived experiences of women and men. The course will be informed by recent scholarship on feminism, women’s movements, and globalization.
Prereq: SOCI 112B or permission of instructor.

**Required Texts:**
*Women across cultures: A global perspective.*


**All other readings will be available via Blackboard and indicated by BB in syllabus.**

**Course requirements:**
To complete this course, you must satisfy the following requirements. Read all assigned material. Students are responsible for all materials presented in text, class notes, films or handouts. It is the student’s responsibility to obtain class notes from a fellow student for any missed classes.

**Grading:**
2 exams (60%), literature review/reflection paper (30%), and attendance & participation (10%).

Midterm and final exam will consist of T/F, multiple choice, and short essay format. Exam questions will be drawn from texts, lecture, films and other in-class materials. Short paper assignments will be announced in class and via Blackboard. In addition, you are required to write a literature review/reflection paper due towards the end of the semester.

**Attendance and Class participation**
Attendance is mandatory—**be sure to initial the in-class attendance sheet, especially if you are late to class (initial at end of class).** Please inform me beforehand if you will be absent from class (e.g. student-athlete, or commuter issue, or other issue preventing coming to class). If an exam is missed, the instructor must receive notification by email (preferably) or phone *before* the scheduled exam. Missed exams must be made up prior to the next class meeting through special arrangement with the instructor. Any students requesting a make-up exam may be required to provide documentation of extenuating circumstances that interfere with taking the exam as scheduled.

*Some themes in this course are socially sensitive. Consequently, respect towards all individuals’ viewpoints will be emphasized in the classroom.

**Also, the syllabus is subject to change (readings, assignments, etc.). To maintain the integrity of the course, the instructor reserves the right to change this syllabus. Please pay close attention to class announcements made either in class or via Blackboard.**

Other classroom guidelines:
*Please turn off your cell phone before class. My policy is if it rings during class, I answer it! Also, please keep your phone off your desk and in your bag during class (i.e., no texting!!!). *I do not allow laptops to be open during class.

**Disability Resources**

If you are a student with accommodation needs, please feel comfortable in seeing me about your needs or meeting with the coordinator of Disability Resources to arrange such accommodations.

**Course schedule and assignments**

**Week 1 (Jan. 12, 14)**

- Introductions & syllabus
- A Sociology of Gender, Inequalities and Globalization
- The F-word

Lorber/Rossi Cheatsheet on Feminist Theory
Lorber: ‘Night to His Day’: The Social Construction of Gender BB

I Was a Teenage Feminist (62 minutes)

**Week 2 (Jan. 19, 21) No class Monday-MLK Day!**

- Theories and Theorizing: Integrative Frameworks for Understanding BB

**Week 3 (Jan. 26, 28)**

Burn, Chap 1: Introduction to cross-cultural study of women’s issues
Connell: Masculinities and Globalization (BB)

Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.
~Martin Luther King, Jr.

I do not wish them to have power over men, but over themselves.
~Mary Wollstonecraft
**Week 4 (Feb. 2, 4)**

Burn, Chap 2: Economic and Political Power; Physical and Sexual Violence against Women  
Kristof, Sexual Slavery (BB)  
Biemann, Remotely Sensed: A Topography of the Global Sex Trade (BB)

God Sleeps in Rwanda (30 min)

**Week 5 (Feb. 9, 11)**

Burn, Chap 3: Reproductive rights  
Joffe: The Economic Crisis and Reproductive Health (BB)

Fire Eyes: Female Circumcision (60 min)

**Week 6 (Feb. 16, 18)**

Gender, Health and Globalization  
Farmer: Women, Poverty and HIV/AIDS (BB)  
TBA

**Week 7 (Feb. 23, 25)**

Burn, Chap 4: Lesbians in cross-cultural perspective  
*Politics and identification, Lesbian invisibility, potential losses (economic, familial, health)*  
How homosexuality became “un-african”: The case of Zimbabwe

Out in South Africa (51 minutes)

**Week 8 (March 2, 4)** Monday: Midterm Exam  
Wednesday: Burn, Chap 5 : Women’s Work
The Space Between Us, chaps 1-10

Week 9 (March 9, 11)

SPRING BREAK! SPRING BREAK! SPRING BREAK!

Week 10 (March 16, 18)

*The Space Between Us*, chaps 11-20
Hinze & Aliberti, The Feminization of Poverty
(BB)

If Women Counted (30 min.)
(Marilyn Waring)

Week 11 (March 23, 25)
Burn, Chap. 6: Women and Development
Women in development (WID) and Gender and Development approaches (GAD)

Ward, Reconceptualizing world systems theory to include women, (BB)

*The Space Between Us*, Chaps 21-25

Week 12 (March 30, April 1)
Burn, Chap. 7: Women and Globalization
Arundhati Roy’s DAM/AGE (30 min.)

Week 13 (April 6, 8)
Chang, From the Third World to the Third World Within: Asian Women Workers Fighting Globalization (BB)
Fernandez-Kelly, Maquiladoras: The View from Inside (BB)
Enloe, The Globe Trotting Sneaker (BB)
Maquilapolis (68 minutes)

**Week 14 (April 13, 15)**
- Gender and War
- TBA

**Week 15 (April 20, 22)**
- Burn, Chap 9: Women in Politics
- Beckwith et al., The Concept of Gender for Political Science

**Week 16 (April 27)**
- The Shape of Water (70 minutes)
- Burn, Chap 10: Gender Equality Movements
- What Can you Do with a Degree in WGST? (BB)

**FINAL PAPER DUE! FINAL PAPER DUE!**

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**Final exam: May 6th, 9:00-11:00**