WOMEN'S & GENDER STUDIES

Yi-Chun Tricia Lin
Director
Professor of Women's & Gender Studies
Engleman B 229
Tel (203) 392-6133 or (203) 392-6864
Fax (203) 392-6723
liny4@SouthernCT.edu
The department offers the following:

Minor in Women's & Gender Studies
WGS 100 - Dynamics of Gender, Race, and Class
Examines the intersections of gender, race, and class from the perspective of women’s studies.
Last Offered: Spring 2021
3 credits

WGS 150 - Women, Gender, Community, and Technology
This course examines (1) the past, present, and future of women’s critical employment of technologies in the shaping and building of communities and (2) the gender dynamic in the digital age. The perspectives will be interdisciplinary, intersectional, global, and comparative.
Last Offered: Spring 2021
3 credits

WGS 215 - Women & Gender in Society
Problems of women’s roles in society. Comparative perspectives on the status of women across social institutions. An exploration of feminism and consideration of its goals and methods.
Last Offered: Spring 2021
3 credits

WGS 240 - The Non-Western World: Women, Gender, Culture, and Displacement
Read, analyze, and critique works & voices, critical and creative, from the Americas (including the Caribbean), Asia, the Pacific, and Africa. Offers an opportunity to explore the relationships between women and culture, women and displacement, culture and displacement, and finally women's writing of culture and displacement through women's cultural productions and performances. Speaking from their historical and geopolitical locales, these women's voices question, challenge, resist the forces that have shaped their personal, political experiences. They collectively form articulations for the emancipation of the mind.
Last Offered: not yet offered
3 credits

WGS 280 - Human Sexuality
Exploration of the biological, psychological, sociological and philosophical aspects of human sexuality. Experience in therapeutic effects of dialogue about sex and values.
Last Offered: Spring 2021
3 credits

WGS 294 - Women's and Gender Studies Tier 3 Capstone
No Description Available
Prerequisite(s): 6 of 8 Tier 2 categories, and prior or concurrent completion of all Tier 1 courses.
Last Offered: not yet offered
3 credits

WGS 298 - Special Topics
Examination of developments, issues, and/or creative work in the field of women’s studies.
Last Offered: Spring 2021
3 credits

WGS 309 - Women and Religion: The Old and New Eve
Influence of religion on women’s image, role and status in western culture; cross-cultural comparisons; contemporary liberation theology; new roles in church and synagogue; sex and marriage.
Prerequisite(s): 3 credits in PHI, junior status, 6 of 8 Tier 2 complete (Honors Coll.: 15 cr. HON or 45cr. total), and prior or concurrent completion of all Tier 1 (Honors Coll.:T1MC and T1QR only).
Last Offered: Fall 2020
3 credits
WGS 310 - Women, Gender, Philosophy and Science
Examines philosophical issues relating to women with an emphasis on the philosophy of science. Surveys works of women philosophers from ancient to contemporary.
Prerequisite(s): Tier 1 Critical Thinking.
Last Offered: Spring 2021
3 credits

WGS 314 - Who Built America? 1929-present
History of workers and work in America from the Depression through present. Focus is on the momentous changes in the socio-economic landscape since the 1930's and the efforts of diverse groups of workers to cope with and adapt to them. Examines the rise of the AFL-CIO as well as radical alternatives, the rise and fall of the industrial workplace, the onset of the service- and-technology-sector jobs, and the efforts of working people to achieve broader racial and gender equality. Includes a close analysis of the categories of gender, race, sexuality, and class that define women's lives.
Prerequisite(s): 9 credits in History.
Last Offered: not yet offered
3 credits

WGS 311 - Who Built America? 1500-1928
History of workers and work in America from 1500 up to the Great Depression. Focus is on the experiences of different groups of workers and labor regimes, including indentured servitude, slavery, 'women's work' and wage work. Origins and rise of capitalism as well as rise of the labor movement are also analyzed. Includes a close analysis of the categories of gender, race, sexuality, and class that define women's lives.
Prerequisite(s): 9 credits in History.
Last Offered: not yet offered
3 credits

WGS 312 - Communication and Gender
Explores communication and gender including masculine and feminine communication styles as well as stereotypes of men’s and women’s communication; and gender patterns in communication across a variety of personal and professional contexts.
Prerequisite(s): COM 225.
Last Offered: Fall 2020
3 credits

WGS 315 - Sociology of Gender
A critical examination of the social construction of gender. Analysis of the impact of gender's traditionally binary treatment. Theoretical insights on gender and its intersectionality with sexuality, race and ethnicity, social class and (dis)ability.
Prerequisite(s): SOC 100 and 3 additional SOC credits, or 9 credits in HON.
Last Offered: Spring 2021
3 credits

WGS 318 - Women in American History 1620-1890
Examines the variety of experiences of groups of American women and presents a broad outline of major social, economic, political, legal and cultural changes in women's lives from the seventeenth through the late nineteenth centuries. Includes a close analysis of the categories of gender, race, sexuality, and class that define women's lives.
Prerequisite(s): 9 credits in HIS.
Last Offered: not yet offered
3 credits
WGS 319 - Women in American History 1865 - Present
Examines the variety of experiences of groups of American women and presents a broad outline of major social, economic, political, legal and cultural changes in women's lives from the late nineteenth century to the present. Includes a close analysis of the categories of gender, race, sexuality, and class that define women's lives.
Prerequisite(s): 9 credits in HIS.
Last Offered: not yet offered
3 credits

WGS 325 - Representations of (M)otherhood
Analysis of the concept of (m)otherhood as a cis-gendered social construction. Investigates representations and realities of motherhood are shaped by intentional public policies and social, economic, political, and cultural forces in the United States and globally. Not all women have the biological possibility for pregnancy and childbirth, and not all women become mothers, and for those who do (as well as those who cannot or choose not) the choice as well as the experience are profoundly shaped by multiple factors and forces, including race, ethnicity, class, and sexual orientation. This course considers the representations of motherhood in historical contexts, through religion, art, business and the media, as well as contemporary policy and politics that shape the experiences of mothers and the ways we interpret and judge their lives and needs.
Last Offered: not yet offered
3 credits

WGS 350 - Women’s Health Consciousness: Ages 18-40
Exploration of health issues specifically related to women aged 18-40: fertility control and behavior, alternatives in childbirth, and medical self-care.
Last Offered: Spring 2021
3 credits

WGS 356 - Maternal and Child Health
Study of maternal child health and social program in the U.S. with emphasis on the needs and problems of mothers, and patterns of health services.
Last Offered: not yet offered
3 credits

WGS 360 - Romance to Ruin: Media and Relationships
A study of culturally created ideologies, concerning intimate relationships including attraction, romance, intimacy, sexuality, commitment, power, and gender roles as systematic and mediated constructions.
Prerequisite(s): Sophomore status.
Last Offered: Spring 2021
3 credits

WGS 365 - Hawaiian History
Survey of the ancient and contemporary indigenous cultures of Hawaii and Hawaiian interactions with colonial and imperialist powers over time. Topics include ancient Hawaiian society and culture, the rise of the Hawaiian monarchy, and the formation of Hawaii as an American territory and state.
Prerequisite(s): 9 credits in HIS.
Last Offered: not yet offered
3 credits

WGS 372 - Sex, Gender, and Sexuality
Looks at the biology of sex differences in humans and how culture influences gender roles and identity. Explores the intersecting identities within the LGBT+ community. Topics include sexual health, sexuality, gender and violence, transgender and non-binary identities, intersex conditions, and body image.
Last Offered: not yet offered
3 credits
WGS 380 - The Anthropology of Women, Gender and Health

Anthropological analysis of local to global processes impacting women’s health around the world. Ethnographic case studies that look at social organization, kinship, marriage, race, class, religion, etc. that contribute to the well-being of women. Exploration of non-Western healing techniques employed by women through time and space.
Prerequisite(s): ANT 101 or ANT 205 or SOC 100.
Last Offered: Fall 2020
3 credits

WGS 404 - Gender and the Law

Survey course for the non-law student. Basic overview of the American legal system with emphasis on 19th and 20th century case law affecting women, including constitutional protections for equity, Title VII (including sexual harassment and comparable worth), and Title IX (including Educational and Sports equivalents).
Prerequisite(s): Any 300 level course in history, political science, sociology, women’s and gender studies or equivalent.
Last Offered: Spring 2021
3 credits

WGS 412 - Psychology of Women

Psychological assumptions about women and how these assumptions are being questioned or verified by recent experimental studies.
Prerequisite(s): 12 credits in psychology.
Last Offered: Spring 2021
3 credits

WGS 415 - Contemporary Feminist Theories

Seminar on recent feminist thought, including sexual rationalism, socialist and radical feminism and analysis of the patriarchal state. Relationship to other sociological, psychological, and political thinking.
Prerequisite(s): HIS 213 or PSC 320 or SOC 215.
Last Offered: Spring 2021
3 credits

WGS 435 - Women’s & Social Movements: Gender and Resistance

This course takes a close look at women’s roles in social movements, then and now, in the U.S. and globally, and their central concerns and issues. We aim to cover a broad spectrum of gender and resistance and ask what gaps/injustices need to be addressed today. Among the topics for a close examination are the Native American women’s influence on early and contemporary American women’s movements, movements for black lives, and the Title IX.
Prerequisite(s): 3 credits in WGS, 6 of 8 Tier 2 complete (Honors Coll.: 15cr. HON or 45cr. total), and prior or concurrent completion of all Tier 1 (Honors Coll. :T1MC and T1QR only).
Last Offered: Fall 2020
3 credits

WGS 498 - Advanced Special Topics

Examination of developments, issues, and/or creative work in the field of women’s studies.
Prerequisite(s): Specific to the section.
Last Offered: not yet offered
3 credits

WGS 499 - Independent Study

Provides students with an opportunity for independent study and in-depth research on selected topics on women’s studies issues.
Prerequisite(s): Departmental permission.
Last Offered: not yet offered
3 to 6 credits

WMS 100 - Dynamics of Gender, Race and Class

Examines the intersections of gender, race, and class from the perspective of women’s studies.
Last Offered: Summer 2020
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Last Offered: Spring 2017
3 credits

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Last Offered: Fall 2018
3 credits
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Overview of women’s and men’s roles in society. Sociological perspectives and data on gender role formation, interaction, conflict, and change across social institutions. Theoretical insights on gender from a wide range of perspectives.
Prerequisite(s): SOC 100, and 3 additional SOC credits.
Last Offered: Spring 2020
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