

# POSC 260/WOST 260: Critical Gender Studies, Spring 2016

## Commonplace Book Course

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Office hours:  
Wednesdays 3:30 to 4:30;  
Thursdays 2:45 to 3:45;  
and by appointment.

Books for sale at the Moravian College Bookstore:

- 1) Judith Butler, *Gender Trouble: Feminism and the Subversion of Identity* (Routledge, 1990)
  - 2) Peggy Orenstein, *Cinderella Ate My Daughter: Dispatches from the Front Lines of the New Girlie-Girl Culture* (Harper, 2011)
  - 3) Michael Kimmel, *Angry White Men: American Masculinity at the End of an Era* (Nation Books, 2013)
- Additional readings may be assigned.

Course goals:

- 1) To acquire a theoretical lexicon of gender
- 2) To gain comfort and skill in argumentative discussion
- 3) To deepen textual interpretation skills
- 4) To practice disciplined note-taking (commonplace book)
- 5) To develop scholarly writing practices

Calendar	✓	Assignments
1) January 20		Introduction
		Syllabus
2) January 27		Selections (copies) from Catherine R. Stimpson and Gilbert Herdt, <i>Critical Terms for the Study of Gender</i>
		Commonplace book entry #1
3) February 3		Judith Butler, <i>Gender Trouble: Feminism and the Subversion of Identity</i> , pages 1 to 46
		Commonplace book entry #2
4) February 10		<i>Gender Trouble</i> , pages 47 to 106
		Commonplace book entry #3
5) February 17		<i>Gender Trouble</i> , pages 194 to 203
		Commonplace book entry #4
6) February 24		Peggy Orenstein, <i>Cinderella Ate My Daughter: Dispatches from the Front Lines of the New Girlie-Girl Culture</i> , pages 1 to 94
		Commonplace book entry #5
Friday, February 26		<b>PAPER 1 due to Mrs. Deitch in Comenius 206 by 2:30 p.m.</b>
7) March 2		<i>Cinderella Ate My Daughter</i> , pages 95 to 192 (end)
March 9		<b>SPRING RECESS – NO CLASS</b>

8) March 16		Michael Kimmel, <i>Angry White Men: American Masculinity at the End of an Era</i> , pages 1 to 97
		Commonplace book entry #6
9) March 23		<i>Angry White Men</i> , pages 99 to 198
		Commonplace book entry #7
10) March 30		<i>Angry White Men</i> , pages 199 to 285 (end)
<b>Friday, April 1</b>		<b>DRAFT of PAPER 2 due to Mrs. Deitch in Comenius 206 by 2:30 p.m.</b>
11) April 6		Class to be designed by Sakura Bolte
12) April 13		Class to be designed by Hanan Alharbi
13) April 20		Class to be designed by Rosemary Roberts
14) April 27		Class to be designed by Molly Lokitis Final class and class evaluations
<b>Wednesday, May 4</b>		<b>FINAL VERSION of PAPER 2 due to Mrs. Deitch in Comenius 206 by 2:30 p.m.</b>

## Evaluation

Assignment	% of final grade	Date	Details
Engagement	25%	Ongoing	See below
Commonplace Book	25%	Ongoing	See instructions
Paper 1	20%	Friday, 2/26	<i>Gender Trouble</i>
Paper 2, draft	10%	Friday, 4/1	---
Paper 2	20%	Wednesday, 5/4	Comparison or application

## Evaluation of Engagement

A: Critical, innovative and careful reading of all assignments; substantial notes or written preparation for discussion; frequent text-based contributions; contribution of discussion-shaping questions; careful engagement of the arguments of others; support of positive discussion dynamics.

B: Complete and careful readings; consistent notes or written preparation for discussion; lively, substantial, and argumentative text-based contributions; contribution of independent questions; engagement of the arguments of others.

C: Incomplete or superficial readings; minimal notes or written preparation for discussion; regular (at least once per meeting) discussion participation.

D: Incomplete or missing readings; lack of notes or written preparation for discussion; mostly passive presence.

F: Persistent, vegetative state; low-level trance; slightly elevated body temperature.

## **A special note to POSC/WOST 260, Spring 2016:**

Welcome to Critical Gender Studies!

We have a small group of very dedicated students and have a lot of freedom to shape this course according to our interests. You already know how the political theory classroom works: we study the text, we take notes, we ask questions, and we respond to others in the service of developing our interpretation of the texts and of forming our own thoughts. Please get comfortable with your voice in my course. That comfort is a main goal of my pedagogy. Please be present and prepared in class. This course also meets once per week so please avoid absences. Support your fellow students by listening carefully and by engaging their comments and questions. Drinks are welcome, but food isn't. One absence is excused without grade penalty. For the sake of equity, please do not ask for special treatment. You are always welcome in my office hours.

### **College Policies**

Plagiarism will result in failure of the assignment or the course. Please see Moravian College Student Handbook for an account of academic honesty. See <http://www.moravian.edu/studentlife/handbook/academic2.htm>

Students who wish to request accommodations in this class for a disability should contact Ms. Laurie Roth or Ms. Dana Wilson, Assistant Director of Academic and Disability Support located in the lower level of Monocacy Hall, or call (610) 861-1401.

Accommodations cannot be provided until authorization is received from the Academic Support Center.

*This syllabus is subject to change.*