GENDER, SEXUALITY & WOMEN’S STUDIES (GSWS)

GSWS 002 Gender and Society
This course will introduce students to the ways in which sex, gender, and sexuality mark our bodies, influence our perceptions of self and others, organize families and work like, delimit opportunities for individuals and groups of people, as well as impact the terms of local and transnational economic exchange. We will explore the ways in which sex, gender, and sexuality work with other markers of difference and social status such as race, age, nationality, and ability to further demarcate possibilities, freedoms, choices, and opportunities available to people.
For BA Students: Society Sector
One-term course offered either term
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit
Notes: Requirement for Gender, Sexuality and Women’s Studies major

GSWS 003 Introduction to Sexuality Studies and Queer Theory
This course will examine major ideas in the field of queer studies. Relying upon theoretical, historical, and cultural studies texts, we will consider the representation and constructions of sexuality-based identities as they have been formed within the contemporary United States. We will explore the idea of sexuality as a category of social identity, probing the identities of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender to try and understand what they really mean in various cultural, social, and political milieus. In doing so, we will ask: What does it mean to study queerness? What do we mean by “queer studies”? How do institutions - religious, legal, scientific - shape our understandings of queer identities? In what ways do sexuality and gender interact, and how does this interaction inform the meanings of each of these identity categories? How do other social categories of identification - race, ethnicity, class, etc. - affect the ways in which we understand expressions of queerness? What does studying queerness tell us about the workings of contemporary political, cultural, and social life? What is normal and who/what is it that defines and controls normalcy?
Course usually offered in fall term
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit

GSWS 004 The Family
Historical and cultural development of the family, analysis of sexual codes; discussion of role difference between men and women; factors involved in mate selection and marital adjustment; analysis of family disorganization with both individual and societal implications.
For BA Students: Society Sector
Taught by: Harknett
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: SOCI 004
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit

GSWS 007 Population and Society
The course serves as an introduction to the study of population and demography, including issues pertaining to fertility, mortality, migration, and family formation and structure. Within these broad areas we consider the social, economic, and political implications of current trends, including: population explosion, baby bust, the impact of international migration on receiving societies, population aging, racial classification, growing diversity in household composition and family structure, population and environmental degradation, and the link between population and development/poverty.
For BA Students: Society Sector
Taught by: Flippen, Harknett, Kohler, Zuberi
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: SOCI 007
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit

GSWS 008 Critical Speaking Seminar
American political discourse, especially since September 11th, has often depicted Islam as an oppressive force from which both Muslims and non-Muslims, particularly women and gender/sexual minorities, must be saved. In this CWIC critical speaking seminar, we will investigate how oral and written narratives-such as political rhetoric, apologetics and historical sources - claim to establish unassailable "facts" about Islam, Muslims and the Middle East. We will also investigate how the notion of empire-both in its traditionally understood form in Islamic and European history, as well as in its iterations as US Military and soft power-privileges certain voices over others, and how we can reclaim the voices of the marginalized in both contemporary discourse as well as historical oral traditions.
Taught by: Rafii
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: COML 014, NELC 008
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 009 Critical Writing Seminar In Women's Studies
This is a critical writing seminar. It fulfills the writing requirement for all undergraduates. As a discipline-based writing seminar, the course introduces students to a topic within its discipline but throughout emphasizes the development of critical thinking, analytical, and writing skills. For current listings and descriptions, visit the Critical Writing Program's website at www.writing.upenn.edu/critical.
For BA Students: Writing Requirement Course
One-term course offered either term
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 010 Freshman Seminars
Freshmen seminars are small, substantive courses taught by members of the faculty and open only to freshmen. These seminars offer an excellent opportunity to explore areas not represented in high school curricula and to establish relationships with faculty members around areas of mutual interest. See www.college.upenn.edu/admissions/freshmen.php
Also Offered As: LALS 107, PSCI 010
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit
GSWS 028 Introduction to Feminist Philosophy
This course is an introduction to feminist thought, both in theory and in practice. We will consider how feminist thought emerged and evolved, as well as how feminist theories respond to various intellectual, social and political challenges. Questions we will address include: What exactly is feminism? How does one’s gender identity impact one’s lived experiences? How should we revise, reformulate, or rethink traditional answers to political and ethical issues in light of feminist theories? How can feminist analyses contribute to the development of better science, and our conceptions of knowledge?
Taught by: M. Meyer
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: PHIL 028
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit
Notes: Offered through the College of Liberal and Professional Studies

GSWS 040 Womanism and Identity Politics in the Realm of Hip-Hop
This course centers on the intersections of womanism, woman of color identity development, and agency within hip-hop culture. We will touch on several topics that uncover the condition of minoritized women in hip-hop media, including creating/owning space, lyrical assault, defining womanhood, sexuality, and fetishes. In exploring music, literature, advertisements, film, and television, we will discuss the ways women of color construct understandings of self, while navigating and reimagining reality within hip-hop contexts.
Taught by: Patterson
Also Offered As: URBS 050
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 041 Topics in Sociology
Freshman Seminars. Topics vary from semester to semester. Past offerings include Society and History; The 1960’s: Preludes and Postludes; Mistakes, Errors, Accidents & Disasters; Urban Analysis with Computers; Race and Public Policy; Perspectives on Inequality; Homelessness and the Urban Crisis.
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: SOCI 041
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 045 18th-Century Novel
This survey of the novel addresses key questions about the novel’s “rise” in the eighteenth century on both sides of the Atlantic, as well as attending to the cultural conditions that attended this new literary form. How did the concurrent “rise” of the middle classes and the emergence of an increasingly female reading public affect the form and preoccupations of early novels? What role did the institutions like literary reviews, libraries, and the church play in the novel’s early reception? While reading will vary from course to course, students should expect to read such authors as Austen, Behn, Brockden Brown, Burney, Defoe, Fielding, Richardson, Rowlandson, Rowson, Scott, and Smollett. This course will be cross-listed with GSWS when the course content includes women, gender and sexuality. See the English Department’s website at www/english.upenn.edu for a complete description of the current offerings.
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: ENGL 045
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit

GSWS 048 Voicing Politics/Politicizing Voices
What does it mean to have a voice? To raise your voice? To have your voice heard? What do our voices say about us and what do they fail to communicate? How do we speak and how our voices are perceived impact our interactions in daily life, our participation in the political sphere, and our capacity to effect change through activism. This CWiC course explores the parameters by which voice is defined in the context of music and sound studies, social justice, philosophy, and media and communication studies. We will consider how voice embodies our political constitution through an examination of the vocal practices of artists such as Tanya Tagaq, Anohni, Juliana Huxtable, Laurie Anderson, Sikh Knowledge, and Lucas Silveira; the phenomena of voice-activated devices such as Apple’s Siri and Amazon’s Echo; and the collective voices of movements such as Black Lives Matter and the Standing Rock water protectors. Through individual and group presentations, discussions, and creative projects, this critical speaking seminar encourages students to develop their oral communication skills while examining what informs their individual and collective voices. No previous musical training required. Enrollment limited to 16.
Taught by: Murphy
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: MUSC 048
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit

GSWS 050 The Romantic Period
This course offers an introduction to the literature of the Romantic period (ca. 1770-1830). Some versions of this course will incorporate European romantic writers, while others will focus exclusively on Anglo-American romanticism, and survey authors such as Austen, Blake, Brockden Brown, Byron, Coleridge, Emerson, Irving, Keats, Radcliffe, Scott, Shelley, and Wordsworth. The primary for this course is ENGL-050. See the English Department’s website at www.english.upenn.edu for a description of the current offerings.
Also Offered As: ENGL 050
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit

GSWS 055 Nineteenth-Century Novel
During the nineteenth century the novel became the dominant literary form of its day, supplanting poetry and drama on both sides of the Atlantic. In this introduction to the novelists of the period, we will read the writers who secured the novel’s cultural respectability and economic prominence. Likely authors will include Austen, the Brontes, Collins, Dickens, Eliot, Hardy, Hawthorne, Melville, Poe, Thackeray, Scott, and Stowe. The course will explore the themes, techniques, and styles of the nineteenth-century novel. It will focus not only on the large structural and thematic patterns and problems within each novel but also on the act of reading as a historically specific cultural ritual in itself. See the English Department’s website at www.english.upenn.edu for a complete description of the current offerings.
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: COML 055, ENGL 055
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit
Notes: Fulfills Arts Letters Distribution
GSWS 060 Intro to Latina/o Literature: Beginnings to 1898
A survey of cultural productions by Latinas/os (i.e. people of Latin American descent who have been raised in the U.S.) that usually will focus on the twentieth century, but might at times examine earlier periods instead. The course will take a culturally and historically informed approach to a wide range of novels, poems, plays, and films, and will sometimes include visual art and music. Writers and artists might include Am?rico Paredes, Piri Thomas, Cherrie Moraga, Sandra Cisneros, Julia Alvarez, Junot Diaz, Cristina Garcia, El Teatro Campesino, John Leguizamo, Carmen Lomas Garza, the Hernandez Brothers, and Los Tigres del Norte. See the English Department's website at www.english.upenn.edu for a complete description of the current offerings.
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: ARTH 070, COML 070, ENGL 070, LALS 060
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit

GSWS 081 African-American Literature
An introduction to African-American literature, typically ranging across a wide spectrum of moments, methodologies, and ideological postures, from Reconstruction and the Harlem Renaissance to the Civil Rights Movement. Most versions of this course will begin in the 19th century; some versions of the course will concentrate only on the modern period. ENGL-081 is the primary for this course. See the English Department's website for a description of the current offerings.
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: AFRC 081, ENGL 081, MUSC 082
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit

GSWS 090 Gender, Sexuality, and Literature
This course will focus on questions of gender difference and of sexual desire in a range of literary works, paying special attention to works by women and treatments of same-sex desire. More fundamentally, the course will introduce students to questions about the relation between identity and representation. We will attend in particular to intersections between gender, sexuality, race, class, and nation, and will choose from a rich vein of authors: Mary Wollstonecraft, Jane Austen, Mary Shelley, Lord Byron, the Brontes, Christina Rossetti, George Elliot, Oscar Wilde, Henry James, Gertrude Stein, Zora Neale Hurston, E. M. Forster, Virginia Woolf, Nella Larsen, Radclyffe Hall, Willa Cather, Elizabeth Bishop, Jean Rhys, James Baldwin, Sylvia Plath, Bessie Head, Audre Lorde, Adrienne Rich, Cherrie Moraga, Toni Morrison, Michael Cunningham, Dorothy Allison, Jeanette Winterson, and Leslie Feinberg. See the English Department's website at www.english.upenn.edu for a complete description of the current offerings.
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: COML 090, ENGL 090
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit

GSWS 096 Theories of Gender and Sexuality
What makes men and women different? What is the nature of desire? This course introduces students to a long history of speculation about the meaning and nature of gender and sexuality – a history fundamental to literary representation and the business of making meaning. We will consider theories from Aristophanes speech in Platos Symposium to recent feminist and queer theory. Authors treated might include: Plato, Shakespeare, J. S. Mill, Mary Wollstonecraft, Sigmund Freud, Virginia Woolf, Simone de Beauvoir, Adrienne Rich, Audre Lorde, Michel Foucault, Gayle Rubin, Catherine MacKinnon, Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick, Judith Butler, bell hooks, Leo Bersani, Gloria Anzaldua, David Halperin, Cherrie Moraga, Donna Haraway, Gayatri Spivak, Diana Fuss, Rosemary Hennessey, Chandra Tadpole Mohanty, and Susan Stryker. See the English Department's website at www.english.upenn.edu for a complete description of the current offerings.
For BA Students: Humanities and Social Science S
Taught by: Love
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: ENGL 096
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit

GSWS 101 Study of an Author
This is an introduction to literary study through the works of a single author—often Shakespeare, but some versions of this course will feature other writers. (For offerings in a given semester, please see the on-line course descriptions on the English Department website.) We will read several works and approach them—both in discussion and in writing—from a range of critical perspectives. The author's relation to his or her time, to literary history generally, and to the problems of performance, are likely to be emphasized. This course is designed for the General Requirement; it is also intended to serve as a first or second course for prospective English majors. See the English Department's website at www.english.upenn.edu for a complete description of the current offerings.
For BA Students: Arts and Letters Sector
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: CIMS 100, COML 117, ENGL 101
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit

GSWS 102 Study of a Literary Theme
The primary for this course is the English Department. When the course content includes gender, sexuality and women's studies it will be cross-listed with GSWS. See additional information and description on the English Department's website: https://www.english.upenn.edu
For BA Students: Arts and Letters Sector
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: CIMS 112, COML 245, ENGL 102, PSYS 102
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit
GSWS 109 Women and Religion
This course looks at the contrast between the model of the virtuous woman, and the instructive power of the uncontrollable woman, from 1800 to the present in Hinduism, Christianity, and Islam. Drawing examples from a variety of historical contexts and traditions, this course will touch on issues of religious empowerment, piety, leadership, and theoretical questions involving gender, spirituality, the body, and the intersection of class status and religious performance.
For BA Students: Humanities and Social Science S
Taught by: Robb
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: FOLK 029, RELS 005
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit

GSWS 113 Major Western Religious Thinkers
Introduction to the writings of one or two significant western religious thinkers, designed for those who have no background in religious thought. Possible thinkers to be studied: Augustine, Maimonides, Spinoza, Luther, Teresa of Avila, Edwards, Mendelssohn, Kierkegaard, DuBois, Bonhoeffer, King.
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: JWST 113, RELS 113
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit
Notes: This course is crosslisted with RELS 113, a topics course when the subject matter is appropriate to Women's Studies. See current timetable.

GSWS 114 Discrimination: Sexual and Racial Conflict
This course is concerned with the structure, the causes and correlates, and the government policies to alleviate discrimination by race and gender in the United States. The central focus of the course is on employment differences by race and gender and the extent to which they arise from labor market discrimination versus other causes, although racial discrimination in housing is also considered. After a comprehensive overview of the structures of labor and housing markets and of nondiscriminatory reasons (that is, the cumulative effects of past discrimination and/or experiences) for the existence of group differentials in employment, wages and residential locations, various theories of the sources of current discrimination are reviewed and evaluated. Actual government policies and alternative policies are evaluated in light of both the empirical evidence on group differences and the alternative theories of discrimination.
For BA Students: Society Sector
Taught by: Madden
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: AFRC 112, SOCI 112
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit

GSWS 115 Before Transgender: Hermaphrodites in 19th Century Literature
This course provides a literary and cultural prehistory to contemporary discourses on transgender identity by focusing on the figure of the hermaphrodite in 19th Russia and the West. Far from a marginal subject, the hermaphrodite and intersex characters played central roles in the novels of Balzac, Tolstoy, Dostoevsky, and many others whose work we will read in this course. Interdisciplinary in nature, this course draws on 19th century discourses in medicine, psychology, opera, religious philosophy, and political theory to understand why characters who exist outside of the male/female gender binary feature so prominently in 19th century literature and cultural texts across a wide range of traditions (Anglophone, French, and Russian, and others).
Also Offered As: RUSS 115
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit

GSWS 118 Iranian Cinema: Gender, Politics and Religion
This seminar explores Iranian culture, society, history and politics through the medium of film. We will examine a variety of cinematic works that represent the social, political, economic and cultural circumstances of contemporary Iran, as well as the diaspora. Along the way, we will discuss issues pertaining to gender, religion, nationalism, ethnicity, and the role of cinema in Iranian society and beyond. Discussions topics will also include the place of the Iranian diaspora in cinema, as well as the transnational production, distribution, and consumption of Iranian cinema. Films will include those by internationally acclaimed filmmakers, such as Rakhshan Bani-Etemad, Asghar Farhadi, Bahman Ghobadi, Abbas Kiarostami, Mohsen Makhmalbaf, Dariush Mehrjui, Tahmineh Milani, Jafar Panahi, Marjane Satrapi and others. All films will be subtitled in English. No prior knowledge is required.
Taught by: Entezari
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: CIMS 118, COML 118, GSWS 418, NELC 118
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 122 The Sociology of Gender
Gender is an organizing principle of society, shaping social structures, cultural understandings, processes of interaction, and identities in ways that have profound consequences. It affects every aspect of people's lives, from their intimate relationships to their participation in work, family, government, and other social institutions and their place in the stratification system. Yet gender is such a taken for granted basis for differences among people that it can be hard to see the underlying social structures and cultural forces that reinforce or weaken the social boundaries that define gender. Differences in behavior, power, and experience are often seen as the result of biological imperatives or of individual choice. A sociological view of gender, in contrast, emphasizes how gender is socially constructed and how structural constraints limit choice. This course examines how differences based on gender are created and sustained, with particular attention to how other important bases of personal identity and social inequality—race and class—interact with patterns of gender relations. We will also seek to understand how social change happens and how gender inequality might be reduced.
For BA Students: Society Sector
Taught by: Leidner
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: SOCI 122
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit
GSWS 125 The Adultery Novel
The object of this course is to analyze narratives of adultery from Shakespeare to the present and to develop a vocabulary for thinking critically about the literary conventions and social values that inform them. Many of the themes (of desire, transgression, suspicion, discovery) at the heart of these stories also lie at the core of many modern narratives. Is there anything special, we will ask, about the case of adultery—once called "a crime which contains within itself all others"? What might these stories teach us about the way we read in general? By supplementing classic literary accounts by Shakespeare, Pushkin, Flaubert, Chekhov, and Proust with films and with critical analyses, we will analyze the possibilities and limitations of the different genres and forms under discussion, including novels, films, short stories, and theatre. What can these forms show us (or not show us) about desire, gender, family and social obligation? Through supplementary readings and class discussions, we will apply a range of critical approaches to place these narratives of adultery in a social and literary context, including formal analyses of narrative and style, feminist criticism, Marxist and sociological analyses of the family, and psychoanalytic understandings of desire and family.
For BA Students: Arts and Letters Sector
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: CIMS 125, COML 127, RUSS 125
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit
Notes: All readings and lectures in English.

GSWS 128 The Diary
Diary writing is an intimate mode of expression in which individuals seek to find meaning in their personal lives and relations, responding to the external realities in which they live. Their coping is subjected to their historical, educational and social contexts, and to the generic conventions of diary writing. This course examines the diary as a genre, exploring its functions, meanings, forms and conventions, comparing it with fictive and non-fictive autobiographical writings such as the diary novel, autobiography and the memoir, as well as comparative gender diary-writing.
Taught by: Ben-Amos
Course usually offered in fall term
Also Offered As: COML 128, ENGL 076
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit

GSWS 145 Advanced Non-Fiction Writing
Writing with a view to publication in the freelance sections of newspapers such as THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER and THE NEW YORK TIMES, in magazines such as THE ATLANTIC and THE NEW YORKER, and in the literary quarterlies and the journals of opinion. Among the areas likely to be considered are writing as a public act, issues of taste and of privacy, questions of ethics and of policy, methods of research and of checking, excerpting, marketing, and the realistic understanding of assignments and of the publishing world. Student papers will be the basis of weekly editorial sessions, with concentration on the language: how to render material literate, how to recognize and dispose of padding and self-indulgence, how to tighten structure and amplify substance. See the English Department's website at www.english.upenn.edu for a description of the current offerings.
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: ENGL 145
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit
Notes: This course is not open to freshmen. Students wishing to take this course must submit a writing sample as part of the selection process. May be repeated for credit with a different instructor.

GSWS 149 Law and Social Policy on Sexuality and Reproduction
This course will examine how statutory law, court decisions and other forms of social policy encourage or discourage various forms of sexuality, reproduction and parenting. Such issues as contraception, abortion, gay and lesbian rights, reproductive technology, family violence, and welfare and family policies will be covered.
Taught by: Tracy
One-term course offered either term
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 160 Sex and Socialism
This seminar examines classic and current scholarship and literature on gender and sexuality in contemporary Eastern Europe, and examines the dialogue and interchange of ideas between East and West. Although the scholarly and creative works will primarily investigate the changing status of women during the last three decades, the course will also look at changing constructions of masculinity and LGBT movements and communities in the former communist bloc. Topics will include: the woman question before 1989; gender and emerging nationalisms; visual representations in television and film; social movements; work; romance and intimacy; spirituality; and investigations into the constructed concepts of freedom and human rights.
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: EEUR 160, RUSS 160
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit
GSWS 162 Women in Jewish Literature
This course introduces students of literature, women's studies, and Jewish studies to the long tradition of women as readers, writers, and subjects in Jewish literature. All texts will be in translation from Yiddish and Hebrew, or in English. Through a variety of genres—devotional literature, memoir, fiction, and poetry—we will study women's roles and selves, the relation of women and men, and the interaction between Jewish texts and women's lives. The legacy of women in Yiddish devotional literature will serve as background for our reading of modern Jewish fiction & poetry from the past century. The course is divided into five segments. The first presents a case study of the Matriarchs Rachel and Leah, as they are portrayed in the Hebrew Bible, in rabbinic commentary, in pre-modern prayers, and in modern poems. We then examine a modern novel that recasts the story of Dinah, Leah's daughter. Next we turn to the seventeenth century Glikl of Hamel, the first Jewish woman memoirist. The third segment focuses on devotional literature for and by women. In the fourth segment, we read modern women poets in Yiddish, Hebrew, and English. The course concludes with a fifth segment on fiction and a memoir written by women in Yiddish, Hebrew, and English.
For BA Students: Arts and Letters Sector
Taught by: Hellerstein
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: GRMN 262, JWST 102, NELC 154
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit

GSWS 186 Gender and Sexuality in Japan
This course deals with issues which such as the cultural and historical constructions of femininity and masculinity; gendered division of education and labor; representation of gender and sexuality in literature, theater, and popular culture; and forms of activism for the rights of women and sexual minorities. This course will use films, videos, and manga, as well as readings from anthropological, historical, literary, and theoretical texts. All readings will be in English, but Japanese materials will be available to those interested.
Taught by: Kano
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: EALC 166, EALC 566, GSWS 586
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit

GSWS 199 Independent Study
One-term course offered either term
Activity: Independent Study
1 Course Unit

GSWS 203 Major Seminar in History: America Before 1800
This course is for history majors. This course will be cross-listed with GSWS when the course topic includes women, gender, and sexuality.
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: HIST 203
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 204 Major Seminar in History: America After 1800
This is a topics course in history. When the course content covers topics on women, gender and sexuality it will be cross-listed with GSWS.
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: HIST 204
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 205 Identity
The content of the course may include the following, and related, themes: what makes a human the same human over time? What constitutes our identities? Are gender, race, sexual orientation, and the like essential features of our identities, and if so, how do they become so? How do ethics, politics and identity interact? After learning this philosophical content, Penn students will develop lesson plans for introducing this content to Philadelphia public high school students. Mid way through the semester, Penn students will start to prepare the high school students to present their own original work on the philosophy of identity at a conference to be held at Penn in May 2017. Penn students will be assessed on their own written and other work for the course, and in no way on the written or oral work of the high school students. Enrollment by permit only. Please contact Professor Detlefsen detlefse@sas.upenn.edu to schedule an interview for admission to the course.
Taught by: Detlefsen
Also Offered As: PHIL 295
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 212 Women in Imperial Rome
Livia, the first empress of Rome, is a critical figure for our understanding of Roman women at the transitional moment between Republic and Empire. As the most publicly celebrated woman of Augustus' household, Livia is an opportune figure through which to examine a variety of Augustan and early imperial texts and monuments. This course will survey Livia's different literary and material representations and attempt to come to terms with the various perspectives on the first empress presented by these texts and contexts. Livia provides a key figure through whom students will be exposed to various issues surrounding the portrayal of Roman women in the early empire. Through lecture and discussion, we will relate Livia to her contemporary world, and then examine the role of imperial women through the rest of the Julio-Claudian era and beyond. We will discover Livia's influence in creating the role of the empress, and analyze the differences between her representation as an ideal and that of later imperial women. Students will write brief response papers to primary texts and present on select secondary readings that add to our understanding of the portrayal of Livia and imperial women more generally.
Taught by: Gillespie
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: ANCH 212, CLST 213
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 216 Gender and Health
Women's health is a constant refrain of modern life, prompting impassioned debates that speak to the fundamental nature of our society. Women's bodies are the tableaux across which politicians, physicians, healthcare professional, activists, and women themselves dispute issues as wide-ranging as individual versus collective rights, the legitimacy of scientific and medical knowledge, the role of the government in healthcare, inequalities of care, and the value of experiential knowledge, among many others. Understanding the history of these questions is crucial for informed engagement with contemporary issues.
Taught by: Linker
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: HSOC 216
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit
GSWS 217 CU In India - Topics Course
C.U. in India is a hybrid, domestic/overseas course series which provides students with the opportunity to have an applied learning and cultural experience in India. The 2-CU course requires: 1) 15 classroom hours at Penn in the Fall term 2) A 12-Day trip to India with the instructor during the winter break to visit key sites and conduct original research (sites vary) 3) 15 classroom hours at Penn in the Spring term and 4) A research paper, due at the end of the spring term. Course enrollment is restricted to students admitted to the program. For more information, and the program application, go to http://sites.sas.upenn.edu/cuinindia
Two terms. student must enter first term.
Also Offered As: SAST 217
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 221 Topics in Romance
This seminar explores an aspect of epic or romance intensively; specific course topics will vary from year to year. See the English Department’s website at www.english.upenn.edu for a complete description of the current offerings.
Course usually offered in fall term
Also Offered As: COML 222, ENGL 222
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 222 African Women's Lives: Past and Present
Restoring women to African history is a worthy goal, but easier said than done. The course examines scholarship over the past forty years that brings to light previously overlooked contributions African women have made to political struggle, religious change, culture preservation, and economic development from pre-colonial times to present. The course addresses basic questions about changing women's roles and human rights controversies associated with African women within the wider cultural and historical contexts in which their lives are lived. It also raises fundamental questions about sources, methodology, and representation, including the value of African women's oral and written narrative and cinema production as avenues to insider perspectives on African women's lives.
Taught by: Blakely
Course usually offered in fall term
Also Offered As: AFRC 222, AFST 221
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit

GSWS 232 World History: Africa or the Middle East
Topics vary.
Course usually offered in fall term
Also Offered As: AFRC 233, AFST 232, CIMS 233, HIST 232, NELC 282
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 234 Gender and Religion in China
This course examines gender in Chinese religious culture from ancient to contemporary times. We will explore topics including the Buddhist accommodation of Chinese family system, Chinese transformation of the bodhisattva Guanyin, female deities in Daoist and popular religious pantheons, writings about religious women, female ghosts and fox spirits in literary imagination and folk tales, and the significance of yin force in Chinese medicine and Daosi alchemy. Through the case of China, we will look at how gender plays critical and constitutive roles in religious traditions, and how religion can be used both to reinforce and to challenge gender norms.
Taught by: Cheng, H
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: EALC 230, EALC 630, GSWS 630
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit

GSWS 235 Psychology of Women
Critical analyses of the psychological theories of female development, and introduction to feminist scholarship on gender development and sexuality.
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: EDUC 235
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit

GSWS 236 Gender, Violence, and WWII: Europe, 1933-1950
This seminar explores World War II-era Europe through the lens of evolving gender norms and relations. This turbulent period in European history magnified the so-called "gender troubles" that emerged in the wake of the First World War. From the question of equality between the sexes to the liberalization of sexual mores and divergence from the proscribed roles of men and women, gender had a profound impact on the prewar, wartime, and immediate postwar European landscape. Drawing on primary and secondary sources, we will consider the following questions: How did gender and violence shape the course of World War II and the immediate postwar from Britain to the Soviet Union? How can gender and sexuality help us to understand militarization, violence, and war? How did war and occupation impact relations between and among men and women on the home- and war fronts? We will complicate these questions by probing topics such as women's support for war, masculinity in combat, everyday racial discrimination, eugenics, sexual violence and genocide and the ways in which they infiltrated the every aspect of Europeans' public and private lives. Finally, we will discuss scholarly debates and historiographies on gender during World War II that have emerged since the early 1970s.
Also Offered As: HIST 236
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 241 Topics In 18th-Century Literature
This is a topics course. If the topic is appropriate, the course is cross-listed with ENGL 241. This course explores an aspect of 18th-century literature intensively; specific course topics will vary from year to year. See the English Department’s website at www.english.upenn.edu for a complete description of the current offerings.
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: COML 239, ENGL 241
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit
Notes: Space will be reserved for English majors.
GSWS 244 Critical Methods in Sexuality Studies
This seminar examines the links between queer theory and research methods, with an emphasis on approaches that cross the division between the social sciences and the humanities. How do scholars who contribute to critical sexuality studies navigate questions related to knowledge, ethics, and practice? How do critical, transnational, and post-colonial theories inform methods in sexuality studies? Over the course of the term, students will become acquainted with a variety of methods for conducting qualitative research in the interdisciplinary field of critical sexuality studies. Introducing students to the process of doing research, we will consider such topics as: how to frame a research question, how to conduct a literature review, and how to choose appropriate tools to answer research questions. A range of methods including archival research, oral history, qualitative interviews, ethnography, cyber-ethnography, media and cultural studies will be explored. Issues of power, narration, interpretation, representation, and writing will be central to our discussion as we work through the relationships of theory and method.
Taught by: White
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: ANTH 243
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 245 Topics In The 18th-Century Novel
The primary for this course is the English Department. When the course content includes gender, sexuality and women’s studies it will be cross-listed with GSWS. See additional information and description on the English Department’s website: https://www.english.upenn.edu See the English Department’s website at www.english.upenn.edu for a complete description of the current offerings.
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: ENGL 245
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 249 Philosophy of Education
The philosophy of education asks questions about the foundational assumptions of our formal institutions for the reproduction of culture. It ranges therefore, from epistemology and philosophy of mind to ethics and political philosophy. For instance: What is the nature of learning and teaching? How is it possible to come to know something we did not know already—and how can we aid others in doing that? How, if at all, should formal institutions of education be concerned with shaping students’ moral and civic character? What is the proper relation between educational institutions and the state? We also ask questions more specific to our own time and context. For example: how, in a multicultural state, should we educate students of varied social identities, like race, gender, and religion? What is the relationship between education and justice.
Taught by: Detlefsen
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: EDUC 576, PHIL 249
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 250 Topics in 19th Century Literature
This course explores an aspect of 19th-century literature intensively; specific course topics will vary from year to year. See the English Department’s website at www.english.upenn.edu for a description of the current offerings.
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: COML 249, ENGL 251
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 252 Freud: The Invention of Psychoanalysis
No other person of the twentieth century has probably influenced scientific thought, humanistic scholarship, medical therapy, and popular culture as much as Sigmund Freud. This course will study his work, its cultural background, and its impact on us today. In the first part of the course, we will learn about Freud’s life and the Viennese culture of his time. We will then move to a discussion of seminal texts, such as excerpts from his Interpretation of Dreams, case studies, as well as essays on psychoanalytic practice, human development, definitions of gender and sex, neuroses, and culture in general. In the final part of the course, we will discuss the impact of Freud’s work. Guest lecturers from the medical field, history of science, psychology, and the humanities will offer insights into the reception of Freud’s work, and its consequences for various fields of study and therapy.
For BA Students: Humanities and Social Science S
Taught by: Weissberg
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: COML 253, ENGL 105, GRMN 253
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit
Notes: All readings and lectures in English.

GSWS 254 Japanese Theater
Japan has one of the richest and most varied theatrical traditions in the world. In this course, we will examine Japanese theater in historical and comparative contexts. The readings and discussions will cover all areas of the theatrical experience (script, acting, stage design, costumes, music, audience). Audio-visual material will be used whenever appropriate and possible. The class will be conducted in English, with all English materials.
Taught by: Kano
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: EALC 255, EALC 655, GSWS 654, THAR 485
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 255 Topics in the 19th-Century Novel
This course explores an aspect of the 19th-century novel intensively; specific course topics will vary from year to year. See the English Department’s website at www.english.upenn.edu for a complete description of the current offerings.
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: COML 261, ENGL 255, GSWS 654
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit
Notes: Spaces will be reserved for English Majors
GSWS 257 Contemporary Fiction & Film in Japan
This course will explore fiction and film in contemporary Japan, from 1945 to the present. Topics will include literary and cinematic representation of Japan's war experience and post-war reconstruction, negotiation with Japanese classics, confrontation with the state, and changing ideas of gender and sexuality. We will explore these and other questions by analyzing texts of various genres, including film and film scripts, novels, short stories, magazines, and academic essays. Class sessions will combine lectures, discussion, audio-visual materials, and creative as well as analytical writing exercises. The course is taught in English, although Japanese materials will be made available upon request. No prior coursework in Japanese literature, culture, or film is required or expected; additional secondary materials will be available for students taking the course at the 600 level. Writers and film directors examined may include: Kawabata Yasunari, Hayashi Fumiko, Abe Kobo, Mishima Yukio, Oe Kenzaburo, Yoshimoto Banana, Ozu Yasujiro, Naruse Mikio, Kurosawa Akira, Imamura Shohei, Koreeda Hirokazu, and Beat Takeshi.
Taught by: Kano
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: COML 256, EALC 151, EALC 551
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit
Notes: Fulfills Cross-Cultural Analysis

GSWS 260 Topics in The Novel
This course explores an aspect of the novel intensively, asking how novels work and what they do to us and for us. Specific course topics will vary from year to year. See the English Department's website at www.english.upenn.edu for a complete description of the current offerings.
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: AFRC 262, COML 262, ENGL 260, LALS 260
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit
Notes: Fulfills Cross-Cultural Analysis

GSWS 266 Topics in 20th C. Literature
The course explores an aspect of 20th-century literature intensively; specific course topics will vary from year to year. See the English Department's website at www.english.upenn.edu for a complete description of the current offerings.
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: COML 263, ENGL 261
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit
Notes: Spaces will be reserved for English Majors

GSWS 267 Topics In Poetry and Poetics
This course explores an aspect of poetry and poetics intensively; specific course topics will vary from year to year. See the English Department's website at www.english.upenn.edu for a description of the current offerings.
Also Offered As: ENGL 269, PSYS 269
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit
Notes: Spaces will be reserved for English Majors

GSWS 269 Topics In Modernism
This course explores an aspect of literary modernism intensively; specific course topics will vary from year to year. Past offerings have included seminars on the avant-garde, on the politics of modernism, and on its role in shaping poetry, music, and the visual arts. See the English Department's website at www.english.upenn.edu for a description of the current offerings.
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: ENGL 259
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit
Notes: Spaces will be reserved for English Majors

GSWS 270 Folklore and Sexuality
Sexuality is not only a biological act or fact, it also has a creative and aesthetic element. This course examines the folklore elements of sexuality and includes historical readings such as the Bible and the Decameron as well as a contemporary look at topics such as body art and clothing choice. A field-based paper will be required and a final examination will be given on class discussions and readings.
Taught by: Azzolina
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: FOLK 270
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit

GSWS 279 Women in Theatre and Performance
Theatre began as a form that excluded women entirely. The plays of ancient Greece and Elizabethan England were written and performed only by men, beginning a long tradition of theatre that represented women only from male perspectives. Has that tradition been so dominant for so long that women's voices on stage are still a novelty? This course focuses on a wide range of plays and performances by and about women; the work we read (and view) will evidence artistic attempts to represent women's lives, experiences and perspectives on the stage. Among the issues encountered and examined in these works are the roles of love, sexuality, friendship, career, community, marriage, motherhood, family, and feminism in women's lives - as well as the economic and political position(s) of women in society. The course will also offer contextual background on feminist theatre history, theory, and literature, the diverse (and divergent) creative efforts of female artists to use live performance as a means of creating social and political change.
Taught by: Malague
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: ENGL 356, THAR 279
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 270 Folklore and Sexuality
Folklore and Sexuality explores the role of folklore in shaping gender and sexuality. The course examines the folklore elements of sexuality and includes historical readings such as the Bible and the Decameron as well as a contemporary look at topics such as body art and clothing choice. A field-based paper will be required and a final examination will be given on class discussions and readings.
Taught by: Azzolina
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: FOLK 270
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit

GSWS 280 Feminist Political Thought
This course is designed to provide an overview of the variety of ideas, approaches, and subfields within feminist political thought. Readings will be divided into three sections: contemporary theorizing about the meaning of "feminism", the role of women in the history of Western political thought, and feminist theoretical approaches to practical political problems and issues, such as abortion and sexual assault.
For BA Students: Society Sector
Taught by: Hirschmann
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: PSCI 280
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit
GSWS 282 Gender & Development in India
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: SAST 282
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 284 Topics In 19th-Century American Literature
This course explores an aspect of 19th-century American literature intensively; specific course topics will vary from year to year. When the course content includes gender, sexuality and/or women's studies the course will be cross-listed with GSWS. See the English Department's website at www.english.upenn.edu for a complete description of the current offerings.
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: AFRC 263, ENGL 253
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 287 Topics in Africana Studies
Topics Vary See the Africana Studies Program's website at www.sas.upenn.edu/africana for a description of the current offerings.
One-term course offered either term
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit
Notes: This course will be cross-listed with GSWS when the content includes gender, sexuality, and women's studies.

GSWS 290 Topics In Gender, Sexuality, and Literature
The primary for this course is the English Department. When the course content includes gender, sexuality and women's studies it will be cross-listed with GSWS. See the English Department's website at www.english.upenn.edu for a complete description of the current offerings.
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: AFRC 290, COML 290, ENGL 290
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit
Notes: This course is not open to freshman.

GSWS 292 Topics in Film Studies
This topic course explores aspects of Film Practice intensively. Specific course topics vary from year to year. See the Cinema Studies website at <http://cinemastudies.sas.upenn.edu/> for a description of the current offerings.
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: CIMS 202, COML 292, ENGL 292
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 294 Art Now
One of the most striking features of today's art world is the conspicuous place occupied in it by the photographic image. Large-scale color photographs and time-based installations in projections are everywhere. Looking back, we can see that much of the art making of the past 60 years has also been defined by this medium, regardless of the form it takes. Photographic images have inspired countless paintings, appeared in combines and installations, morphed into sculptures, drawings and performances, and served both as the object and the vehicle of institutional critique. They are also an increasingly important exhibition site: where most of us go to see earthworks, happenings and body-art. This course is a three-part exploration of our photographic present.
Taught by: Silverman
Course usually offered in spring term
Also Offered As: ARTH 294, ARTH 694, COML 291, ENGL 059, VLST 236
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit

GSWS 296 Topics In Literary Theory
This course explores an aspect of literary theory intensively; specific course topics vary from year to year. It is an English course that is cross-listed with GSWS when the topic includes gender, sexuality and women's studies. Please check out the English Department's website for the current semester's description.
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: COML 291, ENGL 294
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 301 French Identity in the Twentieth Century
Topics vary. Please see the French Department's website for a description of the current offerings: https://www.sas.upenn.edu/french/pc
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: ARTH 301, CIMS 301, FREN 301
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 302 Queer Cinema
Queerness has often been understood as a threat to society whether social institutions like marriage or monogamy or familial practices have been characterized by increasing acceptance of gays and lesbians into mainstream society, this process has no doubt reproduced new inequalities and asymmetries - in terms of race, class and access to institutional spaces. Does "queer" still pose a threat to the mainstream or is it now part of the "normal"? Should one welcome the progressive acceptance of queer lives within the mainstream or should one reject it in the name of an indissoluble difference? In this course we will range across movies and theories that engage with these questions, particularly focusing on negative reactions to processes of assimilation. Topics will include sex and death, queerness and neoliberalism, intersections of race and sexuality. Some of the films we will watch and discuss are Paolini's Pigsty, Fassbiner's In a Year of 13 Moons, Jennie Livingstone's Paris is Burning, Cheryl Dunye's Watermelon Woman, Kimberly Peirce's Boys Don't Cry.
Also Offered As: CIMS 303, COML 303
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit
**GSWS 307 Love, Lust and Violence in the Middle Ages**

Medieval Europe was undoubtedly gruff and violent but it also gave birth to courtly culture - raw worries transformed into knights who performed heroic deeds, troubadours wrote epics in their honor and love songs about their ladies, women of the elite carved out a place in public discourse as patrons of the arts, and princely courts were increasingly defined by pageantry from jousting tournaments to royal coronations. This course will trace the development of this courtly culture from the eleventh to the sixteenth century, from its roots in Southern France to its spread to Northern France and then to various kingdoms in Europe. Central themes will include the transformation of the warrior into the knight, the relationship between violence and courtliness, courtly love, cultural production and the patronage of art, and the development of court pageantry and ceremonial. This is a class in cultural history and, as such, will rely on the interpretation of objects of art and material culture, literature as well as historical accounts.

Taught by: KUSKOWSKI
Also Offered As: COML 307, HIST 307
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit

**GSWS 310 The Medieval Reader**

Through a range of authors including Augustine, Dante, Petrarch, Galileo, and Umberto Eco, this course will explore the world of the book in the manuscript era. We will consider 1) readers in fiction-male and female, good and bad; 2) books as material objects produced in monasteries and their subsequent role in the rise of the universities; 3) medieval women readers and writers; 4) medieval ideas of the book as a symbol (e.g., the notion of the world as God's book; 5) changes in book culture brought about by printing and electroni media. Lectures with discussion in English, to be supplemented by slide presentations and a field trip to the Rare Book Room in Van Pelt Library. No prerequisites. Readings available either in Italian or English. Satisfies General Requirement in Arts and Letters.

Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: COML 310, ITAL 310
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

Notes: All Readings and Lecture in English.

**GSWS 313 Topics in East Asian Art**

Topic varies.

Taught by: Davis

Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: ARTH 313, EALC 353
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

**GSWS 318 Race, Gender, Class and the History of American Health Care**

This multidisciplinary course surveys the history of American health care through the multiple perspectives of race, gender, and class, and grounds the discussions in contemporary health issues. It emphasizes the links between the past and present, using not only primary documents but materials from disciplines such as literature, art, sociology, and feminist studies that relate both closely and tangentially to the health professions and health care issues. Discussions will surround gender, class-based, ethnic, and racial ideas about the construction of disease, health and illness; the development of health care institutions; the interplay between religion and science; the experiences of patients and providers; and the response to disasters and epidemics.

Taught by: Fairman
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: NURS 318
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

**GSWS 320 Contemporary Feminist Thought**

This course covers a broad range of feminist writers, from the pioneer thinkers of the 18th century to current feminists who focus on globalization. After examining how and why feminist thought developed, we will explore how different feminists perspectives explain gender inequality both in the US and in contemporary global contexts. Readings will also focus on how gender issues interact with race, ethnicity, sexuality, and social class. We will also focus on how feminist theory informs current social movements for gender equality.

Taught by: Kurz
Course usually offered in fall term
Prerequisites: One prior gender, sexuality and women's studies course
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

**GSWS 321 Scene Study**

Scene Study is the third level acting class, open by permission to those students who have successfully completed Introduction to Acting and Advanced Acting. Building on the work of those courses, Scene Study proceeds with an increased emphasis on the analysis and performance of the playscript. Students are given the opportunity to identify individual goals and to work on material which challenges them; they will also be encouraged to work from the circumstances of the text, to make strong character choices, and to interact in-the-moment with scene partner(s).

Taught by: Malague
Course usually offered in fall term
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

**GSWS 322 Advanced Topics in Global Gender and Sexuality Studies**

This is an advanced topics course, and the course description will vary from semester to semester.

Course usually offered in fall term
Also Offered As: CIMS 322, COML 322, SOCI 322
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit
GSWS 324 Children’s Health in the United States, 1800-2000
This course explores the impact of historical ideas, events, and actors pertaining to the history of children’s health care in the United States. Emphasis is placed on tracing the origins and evolution of issues that have salience for twenty-first century children’s health care policy and the delivery of care.
Taught by: Connolly
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: NURS 324
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit
Notes: For Benjamin Franklin Scholars Nursing Honors Students

GSWS 326 Theories in Gender and Sexuality Studies
What are queer cultural experiences and values? Many academics and social movements have noted that the radical aspirations of queer theory and activism not only disrupt but also shore up neoliberal ideologies. In this course students will explore the historical and co-emergence of queer cultures and neoliberalism by examining the promises and pitfalls of queer politics over the past quarter century. The coinage of “queer theory” by Theresa de Lauretis in 1990 was intended as a disruptive joke. Its provocation resided in joining “queer,” an appropriation of street slang bandied about among New York City activists and artists in the 1980s, to “theory,” the passport of privilege in academic life. The irreverence of her joke exemplifies a central ethic of queer experience that renders palpable the tensions between margins and centers. The course will traverse scholarship from economic and queer anthropology, history, sociology & science studies, philosophy, political theory and literary studies. This wide survey of literature will allow students to develop an understanding of the political and economic processes that have conditioned the emergence of queerness as a diverse range of ethical commitments in particular sociocultural contexts globally. Students will investigate the affective dimensions of the emergence of queer theory, studies and activism within the United States and elsewhere in the context of global neoliberal social reforms. The course is split into four units: 1) In the Place of Queer Origins; 2) Queer Values; 3) Queer Circulations and Subjectivities; and 4) Queer Temporalities.
Taught by: Keirbeck
Course usually offered in fall term
Also Offered As: AFRC 326, GSWS 526
Prerequisites: A prior course in gender, sexuality and women’s studies.
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 330 Medieval Literature
An introductory course to the literature of the French Middle Ages. French literature began in the 11th and 12th centuries. This course examines the extraordinary period during which the French literary tradition was first established by looking at a number of key generative themes: Identity, Heroism, Love, Gender. All readings and discussions in French.
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: FREN 330
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 336 "Where My Girls At?: African American Women Performers in The 20th Century"
African American women performers from blues woman Bessie Smith to Paris revue star Josephine Baker, from jazz darling Billie Holiday to rock legend Tina Turner, and from hip hop giant Lauryn Hill to millennial star Beyoncé, have constantly redefined and expanded American popular music. Using the long 20th century as our historical marker, this course will explore how African American women performers, across genres and time, have consciously and sometimes contradictorily navigated the racial and sexual limits of American popular culture in order to assert their own particular narratives of artistic and political freedom.
Taught by: Tillet
Course usually offered in spring term
Also Offered As: AFRC 335
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 338 "Sweet Little Old Ladies and Sandwiched Daughters": Social Images and Issues in our Aging Society
This course is an intensive and focused introduction to social gerontology as a trans-disciplinary lens through which to examine aspects of social structure, actions, and consequences in an aging society. A variety of sources are employed to introduce students from any field focused on human behavior and interaction to classical notions of social gerontology and current scholarly inquiry in gerontology. Field work in the tradition of thick description creates a mechanism to engage students in newly gerontological understandings of their life worlds and daily interactions. Weekly field work, observing aspects of age and representations of aging and being old in every day experiences forms, is juxtaposed against close critical readings of classical works in social gerontology and current research literature as well as viewings of film and readings of popular literature as the basis for student analysis. Student participation in the seminar demands careful scrutiny and critical synthesis of disparate intellectual, cultural, and social perspectives using readings and field work and creation of oral and written arguments that extend understandings of the issues at hand in new and substantive ways. Emphasis is placed on analysis of field work and literature through a series of media reports and a final term paper.
Taught by: Kagan
Course usually offered in spring term
Also Offered As: NURS 338
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 341 Topics in 18th Century Literature
This course explores an aspect of 18th-century British literature intensively; specific course topics will vary from year to year. This is an English course when the course topic includes gender, sexuality and women’s studies it will be cross-listed with GSWS. See the English Department’s website at www/english.upenn.edu for a complete description of the current offerings.
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: ENGL 341
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit
Notes: Benjamin Franklin Seminar
GSWS 343 Boys will be Boys: Masculinity in French Literature
Why was a portrait depicting the Renaissance king Francois I as half-man, half-woman made with royal approval, and moreover intended to represent the king as the perfect embodiment of the ideal qualities of a male sovereign? And why, in what is now regarded as the official portrait of Louis XIV, does the king prominently display his silk stockings and high heels with diamond-encrusted buckles? These are just two examples of the questions that lead us to the point of departure for this course: the idea that masculinity is not a fixed essence that has existed since time immemorial, but rather a flexible concept that changes across and even within historical periods. We will examine how masculinity has evolved from the Middle Ages and the chivalric ideal to the present day, how it has been defined, and its implications for gender relations, politics, and religion in different eras. In addition to literary works, we will study how masculinity is represented across a range of media, including visual arts, music, and film. Discussions will be in English, and assignments will be available in translation, but students who wish to receive credit in French will be able to do coursework in French.
Also Offered As: COML 341, FREN 341
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 344 Psychology of Personal Growth
Intellectual, emotional and behavioral development in the college years. Illustrative topics: developing intellectual and social competence; developing personal and career goals; managing interpersonal relationships; values and behavior. Recommended for submatriculation in Psychological Services Master's Degree program.
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: EDUC 345
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit

GSWS 349 History of Sexuality in the U.S
This course introduces students to a relatively new field of inquiry, the history of sexuality in the U.S. It explores the past to consider why sexuality has been so central to American identities, culture, and politics. Primary documents and other readings focus on the history of sexual ideology and regulation; popular culture and changing sexual practices; the emergence of distinct sexual identity and communities; the politics of sexuality; and the relationship between sexual and other forms of social difference, such as gender, race, ethnicity, age, and class. Topics include many themes with continuing relevance to contemporary public debate: among them, sexual representation and censorship, sexual violence, adolescent sexuality, the politics of reproduction, gay and lesbian sexualities and sexually transmitted diseases.
Taught by: Peiss
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: HIST 349
Activity: Recitation
1 Course Unit

GSWS 350 Introduction to Criticism
This course includes both a general survey of classic writings in Western aesthetics as well as readings on the major trends in literary criticism in the twentieth century. A recurring theme will be the literary canon and how it reflects or influences values and interpretative strategies. Among the topics covered are feminist literary criticism, structuralism and poststructuralism, Marxist criticism, and psychological criticism. Authors include Plato, Aristotle, Hume, Kant, Hegel, T.S. Eliot, Bakhtin, Sontag, Barthes, Foucault, Derrida, Virginia Woolf, de Beauvoir, Showalter, Cixous, Gilbert and Guber, Kolodny, Marx, Benjamin, and Freud.
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: COML 350
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 353 Topics In 19th-Century American Literature
This course explores an aspect of 19th-Century American literature intensively; specific course topics will vary from year to year. See the English Department’s website at www.english.upenn.edu for a description of the current offerings.
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: ENGL 353
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 359 Topics In Poetry and Poetics
This course explores an aspect of poetry and poetics intensively; specific course topics will vary from year to year. See the English Department’s website at www.english.upenn.edu for a description of the current offerings.
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: ENGL 369, PSYS 369
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 369 Topics In 19th-Century American Literature
The advanced women’s studies course in the English department, focusing on a particular aspect of literature by and about women. Topics might include: "Victorian Literary Women"; "Women, Politics, and Literature"; "Feminist Literary Theory"; and similar foci. See the English Department’s website at www.english.upenn.edu for a description of the current offerings.
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: ENGL 390
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit
Notes: Benjamin Franklin Seminar

GSWS 390 Topics in Gender, Sexuality and Literature
Topics vary. Please see the Spanish Department’s website for the current course description: https://www.sas.upenn.edu/hispanic-portuguese-studies/pc
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: SPAN 390
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 391 Introduction to Spanish American Literature
Topics vary. Please see the Spanish Department’s website for the current course description: https://www.sas.upenn.edu/hispanic-portuguese-studies/pc
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: SPAN 390
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit
GSWS 397 History of Spanish American Culture
Topics vary. Please see the Spanish Department’s website descriptions for a description of the current offerings. http://ccat.sas.upenn.edu/roml/spanish/undergraduate/courses.html
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: LALS 398, SPAN 397
Prerequisite: Spanish 219
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 400 Senior Seminar
This course is for senior undergraduate Women's Studies majors who will be completing their thesis. The seminar helps students decide on the most appropriate methodologies to use and topics to include in their thesis. Other topics include thesis organization and drawing conclusions from primary and secondary sources of data.
Taught by: Kurz
Two terms. student must enter first term.
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 414 Family Ties: Function and Ideology
Families serve as the basic building blocks of societies. Besides helping to distribute economic resources within a society, families reflect societies' values, norms, tensions and power dynamics through their structure. Furthermore, changes in the family's values, functions and structures mirror changes in women's roles and experiences, both inside and outside the home. Finally, families also serve as the repository for memories from generation to generation. In this course, we will explore some central debates and issues in the history of the family from primary and secondary sources of data.
Taught by: Rabberman
Course not offered every year
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 420 Witchcraft and Gender in the Early Modern World
From the 15th century through the 18th century, social tensions erupted in Europe and the colonies in the witch craze, a period when intense cultural concern over witchcraft was expressed through religious treatises and sermons, popular literature like pamphlets and broadsides, legal accusations, trials, and, in some cases, executions. Although scholars argue vehemently about the total number of people executed during the witch-hunts, their importance in understanding early modern beliefs and responses to social tensions is clear. In this class, we will explore historians' understandings of the causes underlying this cultural phenomenon. With special attention to gender, social position, and religious belief, we will join academic debates about the causes of these persecutions. We will also read some primary sources from the medieval through the early modern periods, including trial transcripts, sermons, and pamphlets. Were women the main target of witchcraft accusations and executions, and if so, was misogyny their most important cause? What role did sexual norms and beliefs have in the way that accusations were framed? Were there different patterns of accusation and executions across time and region, and if so, what social and cultural factors might explain them?
Taught by: Rabberman
Course not offered every year
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit
Notes: Master in Liberal Arts course

GSWS 422 History of Sexuality
In this course, rather than simply debating changes in sexual practices over time, we will discuss the ways in which different societies in the past and present constructed sexual norms and understood normality and deviance in sexual terms. We will focus special attention on the following questions: To what extent are sexual identities constructed by different cultures, rather than simply being determined biologically? What influence do social, economic, and political conditions have on social constructions of sexuality? How have different societies used sexual norms to mark "natural" practices from "deviant" ones, and how are these norms connected to societies' power structures? We will explore case studies from Classical Greece through the contemporary United States. Our readings will explore topics such as medieval and modern views of the body, gender, sexuality, and science; prostitutes in medieval and Victorian England; same-sex relationships from classical Greece to medieval Europe to the contemporary United States; expectations for sexuality within and outside marriage; hermaphrodites; and sexual deviants, among others. Students will be expected to participate actively in class discussions, and to complete short response papers and a longer research paper.
Taught by: Rabberman
Course usually offered in spring term
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit
Notes: Master in Liberal Arts course
GSWS 423 Gendered Constructions of Other Cultures in Western Travel Literature
Descriptions of peoples from foreign lands and faraway places have captured the imaginations of Europeans for centuries. Pilgrims and merchants, explorers and conquistadores, Victorians taking their Grand Tour and 21st century travelers have preserved their observations, both in written form, in ethnographies and diaries, novels and travel narratives, and in visual form, in maps, illuminated manuscripts, engravings, and photographs. Through these media, these travelers have not simply captured their memories, but have also helped to shape Western representations of the people they encountered. In the process, these travelers often have justified Western political, economic, cultural, and social dominance, although instead some travelers have critiqued the West. And in all these depictions, gender and sexuality have played central roles in the creation of these identities and relationships.

Taught by: Rabberman
Activity: Online Course
1 Course Unit

GSWS 432 Family Dramas, Family Players
Though families have been the subject of literary scrutiny at least since Oedipus Rex, Eugene O'Neil's magisterial Loong Day's Journey Into Night was arguably the first American work to look unflinchingly at the darker side of family life. In this course, we will read twentieth-century novels, plays, stories and poems (as well as some nonliterary theoretical works on gender) that show the family as a whole, albeit a fragmented whole. We will read stories by the Irish writers William Trevor and Edna O'Brien who show marriage in various stages of decay, as well as two short novels by the American Jane Smiley whose family survives their crises. We'll look at the relationship of neighborhood and family through stories by the African-American writers John Edgar Wideman and Toni Cade Bambara. Arthur Miller's "Death of a Salesman" and poems from Life Studies by Robert Lowell will let us examine family through the lens of America's obsession with success. Finally, we'll look at families with traditional homes, through Barbara Kingsolver's "The Bean Trees" and Marilynne Robinson's "Housekeeping." Several of the works on the list have been made into excellent films, and we will watch at least two. Brief weekly response papers will encourage all to participate in discussion. There will be a final comparative paper, and no exam.

Taught by: Burnham
Course not offered every year
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 434 The Politics of Ugly
Venus was the God of Beauty and Love yet she was married to Hephaestus, the mangled, grumpy and for all intents and purposes, ugly god. Why juxtapose such distinct figures? Are they doing the same job? The course discusses the interplay between ugliness and politics with focus on a number of central concepts such as race, social conflict, nationalism, ideology, dictatorship, propaganda and autonomy. Emphasis is put on the double role of the deployment of ugliness, as reinforcement of ideological and political ideas and as a force of social criticism. How does the state justify its own existence by the use of aesthetic narratives? How does the State identify undesirables? This class highlights how groups who feel somatically alike behave, and how their boundaries form and change over time. The focus will be interdisciplinary and multi-national, with case studies from past and present. The class will have a digital media focus as we will delve into issues of representation particularly with respect to race. For example, we will delve into the aesthetic discussion of northern and southern Sudanese as well and Hitler's Germany.

Taught by: Carelock
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: ANTH 434
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 485 Topics in Gender Theory
This course seeks to assemble some of the philosophical evidence for feminist claims that traditional political theories are fundamentally inadequate because they have not, and presumably cannot, deal with basic facts of gender and the oppression of Women. We will begin by examining the nature of the distinction between sex and gender. This will take us through discussions of: the meaning and significance of categories being socially constructed, the possibility that sexual differences (and inequalities) are in some sense natural and what normative force this has. We will then consider various attempts to describe the nature of women's oppression. What is it? How does it manifest itself in the lives of women? This will take us through discussions of freedom, constrained choice, ideology, "consciousness raising", androcentrism and the relation between, and methodological importance of, ideal and non-ideal theory. Along the way we will be constructing a version of the feminist framework known as the dominance approach and seeing how it analyzes three presumed sites of oppression: sexuality, reproduction and work/family. Among the authors we will be reading are: Elizabeth Anderson, Marily Frye, Sally Haslanger, Rae Langton, Anthony Laden, Catherine MacKinnon, and Susan Okin. The prerequisite for UNDERGRADUATES taking this course is: two philosophy courses (ONE of which is in moral or political philosophy) OR ONE of the following Gender Studies courses: GSWS/PHIL 028, GSWS/PoliSci 280, GSWS 320. There will be one short paper (6-8 pages) with revision, a longer final paper (15 pages) and weekly one-page reflections on a topic from the previous week's discussion.

Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: PHIL 485
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit
GSWS 488 Topics: Culture, Sexuality and Global Health
What does it mean to claim that “Homosexuality is un-African”? This course explores the linked histories of race, nation, gender and sexuality in Africa that such an ideological claim invokes, yet effaces. The polemics that produce statements like this play out through the disciplinary tensions that exist between African and sexuality/queer studies. These tensions have as much to do with the role played by the relation between sexuality and race within cultures of European colonization, as they have with the role of gender and sexuality within postcolonial power relations in Africa. Such antagonisms are sustained through the marginalization of gender and sexuality perspectives within postcolonial scholarship on Africa, as well as the bracketing of African perspectives in queer and feminist studies. This course will deconstruct these impasses by exploring scholarship at the margins of each area of study. Students will be encouraged to ask questions about how issues of race, ethnicity, nation, gender and sexuality are produced as suppressed presences in a range of texts, films and other materials. The course will include readings from postcolonial, gender, sexuality and African studies, anthropology, history, literary studies and Marxism, giving students a grounding in historical and contemporary perspectives at the intersection of African, queer and feminist studies.
Course usually offered in fall term
Also Offered As: AFRC 488, ANTH 488, SOCI 488
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 499 Independent Study
One-term course offered either term
Activity: Independent Study
1 Course Unit

GSWS 503 Hyst/Patho of the Fem
This seminar traces hysteria as a uniquely female malady from Hippocrates, to nineteenth century France and Jean-Martin Charcot, from Sigmund Freud in Vienna 1900, to French feminist reflections on hysteria in the 1970s, such as Luce Irigaray’s “La Mysterique,” up until more recent reimaginations of the figure, ending with a consideration of what today’s hysteria looks like and the women who are “afflicted.” Through hysteria, we will consider the ways in which illness has been feminized and women have been pathologized not only in the past, but in the 21st century. Furthermore, we will consider the sick feminine beyond gender binaries and consider how that which is sick is feminine -- weak, inferior, passive -- even when not biologically female. The course will draw from a variety of texts (literary, historical, scientific, and psychological), film, and recent media (from newspapers and magazines to blogs, twitter, Facebook, etc.).
Taught by: Adley
Course not offered every year
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit
Notes: Master in Liberal Arts course

GSWS 508 Gender, Sexuality and International Development
In recent decades, girls’ education and empowerment has emerged as a key site for investment and advocacy. Girls are often represented as have the potential to solve wide-ranging societal issues, from poverty to terrorism, especially in the context of the global South. It is argued that if girls can obtain schooling, they will marry at a later age, delay childbearing, participate in the wage-based economy, and ultimately bring their nations out of abject poverty and violence. This course interrogates this current focus on girls in international development regime by examining its cultural politics. We ask: What kinds of knowledge about people in the global South are produced in/through girl-focused campaigns? What is highlighted and what is erased? What are the consequences of such representations for international development policy and practice? Our examination takes us into an exploration of the different theories of ‘girl,’ ‘culture,’ ‘empowerment,’ ‘rights,’ and ‘citizenship’ that are operative in this discourse. We situate girl-focused development campaigns within the broader politics of humanitarianism, and ask critical questions about conceptualizations of ‘freedom’ and the constitution of the ‘human’ subject. Our course concludes with an engagement with qualitative studies conducted with girls in the global South. These cases enable us to sharpen our analytics and illuminate the radical specificity of the lives of girls in the global South, calling for similarly nuanced approaches to development.
Taught by: Suess
Course not offered every year
Corequisite: Undergraduates need permission
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 509 Jewish Women Writers
“Jewish Women Writers” is a graduate seminar also be open to advanced undergraduates. Based in the Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures, this course will be cross-listed with Comparative Literature, English, and Jewish Studies.
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: COML 509, GRMN 509, JWST 509, YDSH 509
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 516 Public Interest Workshop
This is a Public Interest Ethnography workshop (originally created by Peggy Reeves Sandy - Department of Anthropology) that incorporates an interdisciplinary approach to exploring social issues. Open to graduate and advanced undergraduate students, the workshop is a response to Amy Gutmann’s call for interdisciplinary cooperation across the University and to the Department of Anthropology’s commitment to developing public interest research and practice as a disciplinary theme. Rooted in the rubric of public interest social science, the course focuses on: 1) merging problem solving with theory and analysis in the interest of change motivated by a commitment to social justice, racial harmony, equality, and human rights; and 2) engaging in public debate on human issues to make research results accessible to a broader audience. The workshop brings in guest speakers and will incorporate original ethnographic research to merge theory with action. Students are encouraged to apply the framing model to a public interest research and action topic of their choice. This is an academically-based-community-service (ABCS) course that partners directly with Penn’s Netter Center Community Partnerships.
Taught by: Suess
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: AFST 516, ANTH 516, URBS 516
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit
GSWS 517 Sociology of Work
The thinkers whose work formed the foundations of sociological theory considered the nature of the relationship between work and identity key to understanding social solidarity, power, and historical change. In recent years, the division of labor, structures of work, and employment relations have all been undergoing rapid change, necessarily affecting the possibilities for constructing identity through work. This seminar examines how changes in the nature and organization of work have reshaped the relationship between work and identity.
Taught by: Jacobs, Leidner
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: SOCI 517
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 518 Nursing and the Gendering of Health Care in the United States and Internationally, 1860-2000
This course examines changing ideas about the nature of health and illness; changing forms of health care delivery; changing experiences of women as providers and patients; changing role expectations and realities for nurses; changing midwifery practice; and changing segmentation of the health care labor market by gender, class and race. It takes a gender perspective on all topics considered in the course. A comparative approach is used as national and international literature is considered. This focus is presented as one way of understanding the complex interrelationships among gender, class, and race in health care systems of the United States and countries abroad.
Taught by: Wall
Course usually offered in spring term
Also Offered As: NURS 518
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit

GSWS 524 Chaucer
An advanced introduction to Chaucer's poetry and Chaucer criticism. Reading and discussion of the dream visions, Troilus and Criseyde, and selections from Canterbury Tales, from the viewpoint of Chaucer's development as a narrative artist.
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: COML 522, ENGL 525
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 525 The Trouble with Freud: Psychoanalysis, Literature, Culture
For professionals in the field of mental care, Freud's work is often regarded as outmoded, if not problematic psychologists view his work as non-scientific, dependent on theses that cannot be confirmed by experiments. In the realm of literary and cultural theory, however, Freud's work seems to have relevance still, and is cited often. How do we understand the gap between a medical/scientific reading of Freud's work, and a humanist one? Where do we locate Freud's relevance today? The graduate course will concentrate on Freud's descriptions of psychoanalytic theory and practice, as well as his writings on literature and culture.
Taught by: Weissberg
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: GRMN 526
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 526 Theories: Gender, and Sexuality Studies
Theories in Gender and Sexuality: Objects, Ideas, Institutions foregrounds new works in feminist thinking which circumvent and resist stale modes of teaching, in learning and knowing difference and "the woman question." Our aim is to interrogate the normative directionality of feminist "waves" and additive and intersectional models of suturing gender and sexuality to minoritarian politics. We will conceptualize feminism as relational to studies of affect, object oriented ontology animality, feminist science, and aesthetics.
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: COML 525, ENGL 590
Prerequisites: A prior course in gender, sexuality and women's studies
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 527 Race, Gender and Auto/Biography
PRING 2017: Market Women, Madames, Mistresses & Mother Superior studies ender, labor, sexuality, and race in the Caribbean. In our historical xamination of primary source documents alongside literature, and popular edia, we will question some of the iconic representations of Caribbean and Latin American women in order to understand the meaning, purpose and usages these women s bodies as objects of praise, possession, obsession and/or ridicule by communities, governments and religions within and outside of the region. Beginning in the late-18th century and ending with contemporary igration narratives, this course considers the relationship between slave ocity and colonial pasts on gender performance in the modern Caribbean, atin America, and their diasporas. In our interrogation of gender meanings, we will consider the ways Caribbean women and men define themselves and each other, while considering the intersections of color, class, religion and culture on the political and social realities of the Caribbean and the region. The geographic scope of the course will extend to Haiti, the Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Cuba, Puerto Rico, Costa Rica and Trinidad & Tobago. The following interrelated questions will anchor our exploration of each text: How have representations of Caribbean and Latin American women informed historical constructions and rhetoric of the region and national identity? What political and social strategies have Caribbean women and men used to define themselves in their countries and throughout the region? How do the history and contemporary conditions of a post-colonial nation impact the gender construction of Caribbean identities? What is the relationship between modern Caribbean gender identities and the regional racial and economic politics?
Taught by: Sanders
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: AFRC 527, LALS 527
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 528 Gender and Science
With a special focus on methods, this course explores the rich literature on gender and technical knowledge.
Taught by: Lindee
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: HSSC 528
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit
GSWS 532 Gender, the Labor Force and Labor Markets
Drawing from sociology, economics and demography, this course examines the causes and effects of gender differences in labor force participation, earnings and occupation in the United States and in the rest of the developed and developing world. Differences by race and ethnicity are considered. Theories of labor supply, marriage, human capital and discrimination are explored as explanations for the observed trends. Finally, the course reviews current labor market policies and uses the marriage, theories of labor supply, marriage, human capital and discrimination to men. evaluate their effects on women and men.
Taught by: Madden
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: DEMG 541, SOCI 541
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 536 The Novel and Marriage
Historians have argued that early novels helped shape public opinion on many controversial issues. And no subject was more often featured in novels than marriage. In the course of the 18th and the 19th centuries, at a time when marriage as an institution was being radically redefined, almost all the best known novels explored happy as well as unhappy unions, individuals who decided not to marry as well as those whose lives were destroyed by the institution. They showcased marriage in other words in ways certain to provoke debate. We will both survey the development of the modern novel from the late 17th to the early 20th century and study the treatment of marriage in some of the greatest novels of all time. We will begin with novels from the French and English traditions, the national literatures in which the genre first took shape, in particular Laclos’ DANGEROUS Liaisons, Austen’s PRIDE AND PREJUDICE, Bronte’s JANE EYRE, Flaubert’s MADAME BOVERY. We will then turn to works from the other European traditions such as Goethe’s ELECTIVE AFFINITIES and Tolstoy’s ANNA KARENINA. We will begin the course by discussing the novel often referred to as the first modern novel, THE PRINCESS DE CLEVES. This was also the first novel centered on an exploration of questions central to the debate. We will begin the course by discussing the novel often referred to as the first modern novel, THE PRINCESS DE CLEVES. This was also the first novel centered on an exploration of questions central to the debate about marriage for over two centuries - everything from the question of whether one should marry for love or for social position to the question of adultery. Each week, we will discuss the changing definitions of the word “marriage” in various European languages. We will also discuss the laws governing marriage as a civil and as a religious institution were evolving in various European countries. All readings will be in English. Opened to advance undergraduates with the permission of the instructor.
Taught by: DeJean
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: COML 546, ENGL 546, FREN 537, HIST 537
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 539 Medieval and Early Modern Women Visionaries
This graduate seminar will examine the works of women visionaries of the Christian tradition in the medieval and early modern periods, including Hildegard of Bingen, Catherine of Siena, Teresa of Avila, and others. All readings will be available in English. A research paper will be required from each student.
Taught by: Matter
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: RELS 539
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 542 Work and Gender
This seminar examines the relevance of gender to the organization and experience of paid and unpaid work. Combining materialist and social constructionist approaches, we will consider occupational segregation, the relation of work and family, gender and class solidarity, the construction of gender through work, race and class variation in work experiences, and related topics.
Taught by: Leidner
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: SOCI 542
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 544 Science of Sex & Sexuality
The author of a New York Times article entitled "On Being Male, Female, Neither or Both" concluded her comments with the following statement: "The definition of sex was (and is) still up for grabs." In our post-modern world, we have become accustomed to the malleability of gender identity and sexuality. We are also aware that individuals undergo sex reassignment surgeries but by and large we assume that transgender people are transitioning from one discrete category to another. Queer activists certainly challenge this assumption, preferring to envision sex, gender, and sexuality on a continuum, but these days even scientists don't concur about a definitive definition of sex. Should sex be defined chiefly by anatomy? Chromosomes? The body's ability to produce and respond to hormones? If the boundaries of biological categories can be contested, what are the implications for culturally constructed ideas about gender identity and sexuality.
Prerequisite: This is an advanced seminar for MLA students
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 546 Feminist Theory
Feminist activists and academics have posed fundamental challenges to existing approaches to social theory. This seminar explores the development of feminist theory since the 1960s, focusing on approaches that have the most relevance for social science. The relations among feminist theorizing, research, and activism will be emphasized.
Taught by: Leidner
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: SOCI 546
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit
GSWS 550 Topics 17th Century
The specific topics of the seminar vary from semester to semester, depending on the instructor and his/her choice. When the topic includes gender, sexuality or women's studies it will be cross-listed with GSWS. Please see the French Department website for a description: https://www.sas.upenn.edu/french/pc
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: COML 549, ENGL 537, FREN 550
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 553 British Women Writers
A study of British women writers, often focusing on the women authors who came into prominence between 1775 and 1825. See the English Department's website at www.english.upenn.edu for a complete description of the current offerings.
Taught by: Bowers
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: COML 554, ENGL 553
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 555 Women and Incarceration
This elective course will afford students the opportunity to develop and implement health education workshops for incarcerated women in the Philadelphia jail system. Students will explore the social and historical framework and trends in the incarceration of women, as well as the needs of this population, and will identify specific areas that need to be addressed by particular disciplines or professions. Students will have direct contact with the jail system, its staff, and female inmates.
Taught by: Brown, K.; Guidiera; Durain
Course usually offered in fall term
Also Offered As: NURS 555
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit

GSWS 556 Topics in Nineteenth Century Literature
This course covers topics in nineteenth-century British Literature, its specific emphasis varying with the instructor. See the English Department's website at www.english.upenn.edu for a complete description of the current offerings.
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: ENGL 556
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 557 African-American Literature
This course treats some important aspect of African-American literature and culture. Some recent versions of the course have focused on the emergence of African-American women writers, on the relation between African-American literature and cultural studies, and on the Harlem Renaissance. This course is cross-listed with the English Department. See the English Department's website at www.english.upenn.edu for a complete description of the current offerings.
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: AFRC 570, ENGL 570
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 558 Language and Gender
This course traces the development of research on language and gender, introducing key theoretical issues and methodological concerns in this area. Participants will consider how gender ideologies shape and are shaped by language use, with particular attention to how research findings can be applied to educational and other professional settings.
Taught by: Pomerantz
Course usually offered in spring term
Also Offered As: EDUC 572
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit

GSWS 559 Topics in American Literature
This is a topics course where the primary is English. When the topic is Gay/Lesbian/Queer Studies and 19th Century American Literature or African American and Chicana Feminism, this course will be cross listed with women's studies. See the English Department's website at www.english.upenn.edu for a complete description of the current offerings.
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: AFRC 569, ENGL 569
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 560 Advanced Psychology of Women
A critical analysis of psychological theories about women and sex differences, a thorough examination of "psychology of women" research articles, and class-initiated research. Among the issues to be covered are: sex role socialization; class, race and gender connections; women and work; employment discrimination, assertiveness training; women's responses to injustice: domestic violence, rape, discrimination; the family and the "new right"; perceptions of women; sexuality, disability and objectification; reproductive rights, sex roles, androgyny and new role prescriptions; mental health and aging.
Taught by: Stanley
Course usually offered summer term only
Also Offered As: EDUC 581
Prerequisite: A course in general psychology
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit

GSWS 561 Topics in Literature and the Law
See the English Department's website at www.english.upenn.edu for a complete description of the current offerings.
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: COML 566, ENGL 566
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 562 Topics in American Literature
This is a topics course where the primary is English. When the topic is Gay/Lesbian/Queer Studies and 19th Century American Literature or African American and Chicana Feminism, this course will be cross listed with women's studies. See the English Department's website at www.english.upenn.edu for a complete description of the current offerings.
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: AFRC 569, ENGL 569
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 563 Topics in Nineteenth Century Literature
This course covers topics in nineteenth-century British Literature, its specific emphasis varying with the instructor. See the English Department's website at www.english.upenn.edu for a complete description of the current offerings.
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: ENGL 556
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit
GSWS 584 Political Philosophy
An examination of basic theoretical problems of political science divided into three parts. First, specific features of social sciences will be examined and three most important general orientations of social sciences (analytical, interpretative and critical) will be compared and analyzed. Second, basic concepts of social and political sciences will be studied: social determination, rationality, social change, politics, power, state, democracy. Third, the particular focus on value judgments will be considered: Is there a rational, objective method for the resolution of conflicts in value judgments? Is morality compatible with politics? Taught by: Hirschmann
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: PSCI 584
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 588 The Politics of Women's Health Care
This course will utilize a multidisciplinary approach to address the field of women's health care. The constructs of women's health care will be examined from a clinical, as well as sociological, anthropological and political point of view. Topics will reflect the historical movement of women's health care from an obstetrical/gynecological view to one that encompasses the entire life span and life needs of women. The emphasis of the course will be to undertake a critical exploration of the diversity of women's health care needs and the past and current approaches to this care. Issues will be addressed from both a national and global perspective, with a particular focus on the relationship between women's equality/inequality status and state of health.
Taught by: Durain, McCool
Course usually offered in spring term
Also Offered As: NURS 588
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit

GSWS 589 Recent issues in Critical Theory
This course is a critical exploration of recent literary and cultural theory, usually focusing on one particular movement or school, such as phenomenology, psychoanalysis, the Frankfurt School, or deconstruction. Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: COML 590, ENGL 590, LALS 590
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 590 Gender and Education (ELD)
This course is designed to provide an overview of the major discussions and debates in the area of gender and education. While the intersections of gender, race, class, ethnicity, and sexuality are emphasized throughout this course, the focus of the research we will read is on gender and education in English-speaking countries. We will examine theoretical frameworks of gender and use these to read popular literature, examine teaching practices and teachers with respect to gender, using case studies to investigate the topics.
Taught by: Schultz; Kuriloff
Course usually offered in spring term
Also Offered As: EDUC 590
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit

GSWS 594 Topics in Contemporary Art
Topics vary. The primary for this course is the Art History Department. For a course description please see their website: http://www.sas.upenn.edu/arthistory/courses
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: ARTH 593, CIMS 590, COML 599
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 599 Independent Study
One-term course offered either term
Activity: Independent Study
1 Course Unit

GSWS 608 Gender and Sexuality in Hinduism
Issues related to gender and sexuality occupy a complex, often contradictory place in Hinduism. Sexual desire, sexual activity, and the body are simultaneously celebrated, manipulated, controlled, and restricted. This fundamental ambiguity is at the core of this course, which concerns itself with religious perspectives on the body, gender and sexual activity in Hinduism. Topics include: dharma, morality, and sexual practice; menstruation; pregnancy and childbirth; Bhakti and Tantra; same-sex relations; masculinities; hijras and the notion of the "third sex"; eroticism in the literary, visual, and performing arts; colonialism; and somatic nationalism.
Taught by: Sonej, D.
Also Offered As: SAST 607
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 610 Topics in American History
Reading and discussion course on selected topics in American history. Course usually offered in fall term
Also Offered As: HIST 610
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 612 Interactional Processes with LGBT Individuals
In the past quarter century, the awareness of the unique issues facing lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) individuals has expanded and become essential knowledge in our work as educators, providers of psychological services, and other service provision fields. This course provides a contextual and applied understanding the interactional processes facing LGBT individuals. Course usually offered summer term only
Also Offered As: EDUC 612
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit

GSWS 630 Gender and Religion in China
This course examines gender in Chinese religious culture from ancient to contemporary times. We will explore topics including the Buddhist accommodation of Chinese family system, Chinese transformation of the bodhisattva Guanyin, female deities in Daoist and popular religions, pantheons, writings about religious women, female ghosts and fox spirits in literary imagination and folk tales, and the significance of yin force in Chinese medicine and Daoist alchemy. Through the case of China, we will look at how gender plays critical and constitutive roles in religious traditions, and how religion can be used both to reinforce and to challenge gender norms.
Taught by: Cheng
Course usually offered in fall term
Also Offered As: EALC 230, EALC 630, GSWS 234, RELS 237
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit
GSWS 640 Studies in the Renaissance
Topics vary. This course will be cross-listed with GSWS when the topic includes, Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies. Please see French department's website for current course description: https://www.sas.upenn.edu/french/pc
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: COML 643, FREN 640
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 654 Japanese Theater
Japan has one of the richest and most varied theatrical traditions in the world. In this course, we will examine Japanese theater in historical and comparative contexts. The readings and discussions will cover all areas of the theatrical experience (script, acting, stage design, costumes, music, audience). Audio-visual material will be used whenever appropriate and possible. The class will be conducted in English, with all English materials.
Taught by: Kano
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: EALC 255, EALC 655, GSWS 254
Prerequisites: Reading knowledge of Japanese and/or previous coursework in literature/theater will be helpful, but not required.
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 670 Topics in Trans Regional History
What do historians gain by approaching the past with an awareness of the body as a material and historically contingent entity? In this course we consider several different ways of imagining historical bodies and the body in history. Our readings will explore how events and new social, racial, economic and political formations influence how contemporaries imagined and described bodies and their capacities. We will also explore whether the body itself might be a dynamic source of historical change. Among the topics we will discuss are: medical theories about bodies, epidemics and their impact; sensory capacities; capacities for physical labor; cultures of violence; reproductive capacities and politics; coerced immigration; fashion, beauty, and grace; and the state's interest in mobilizing bodies to serve imperial, economic, and military agendas.
Taught by: Brown
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: AFRC 670, HIST 670
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 682 Topics: Literature and Film
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: CIMS 682, COML 680, ITAL 682
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 705 Seminar in Ethnomusicology
This seminar in Ethnomusicology is cross-listed with GSWS when the topic includes gender, sexuality and women's studies.
Course usually offered in fall term
Also Offered As: AFST 705, ANTH 705, COML 715, FOLK 715, MUSC 705
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit
Notes: Open to graduate students from all departments

GSWS 735 Shakespeare
An advanced seminar, usually focused on Shakespeare, treating the literature and culture of the late 16th- and early 17th-centuries. See the English Department's website at www.english.upenn.edu for a complete description of the current offerings.
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: COML 637, ENGL 735
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 740 Research Seminar in Middle Eastern History
Research seminar on selected topics in Middle Eastern history. See the History Department's website for course description.
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: AFRC 740, HIST 740
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 751 British Women Poets
An advanced seminar in British poetry by women. This course has generally focused on the period from 1770-1830 when more than 300 women published at least one volume of poetry. See the English Department's website at www.english.upenn.edu for a complete description of the current offerings.
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: ENGL 751
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 762 Topics in: Women in South Asia
This course on women in South Asian history has several objectives. To comprehend the genres of narratives in which South Asian women between the sixteenth and twentieth centuries have spoken and have been spoken about. To gain an understanding of evolving institutions and practices shaping women's lives, such as the family, law and religious traditions. To understand the impact of historical processes -- the formation and and breakdown of empire, colonialism, nationalism and decolonization -- upon South Asian women between the sixteenth and twentieth centuries. We will read primary sources in addition to familiarizing ourselves with the historiography of women in South Asia.
Taught by: Sreenivasan
One-term course offered either term
Also Offered As: SAST 762
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 769 Feminist Theory
See the English Department's website at www.english.upenn.edu for a complete description of the current offerings.
Taught by: Loombia
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: COML 769, ENGL 769, NELC 783, SAST 769
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 771 Current Japanology
Major trends in scholarship as reflected in important recent publications, especially formative books and periodical literatures. The trajectory within certain disciplines as well as the interaction among them will be critically evaluated in terms of gains and losses. Implications of these theses in the planning of graduate and postgraduate research.
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: EALC 771
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit
GSWS 773 Modernism
An interdisciplinary and international examination of modernism, usually n to treating European as well as British and American modernists. See the English Department’s website at www.english.upenn.edu for a complete description of the current offerings.
Taught by: Mahaffey
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: AFRC 773, ENGL 773
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 778 Twentieth-Century Aesthetics
This course explores notions that have conditioned twentieth-century attitudes toward beauty: among them, ornament, form, fetish, and the artifact "women". The moves to twentieth-century fiction, art, manifestos, theory, and such phenomena as beauty contests and art adjudications. See the English Department’s website at www.english.upenn.edu for a complete description of the current offerings.
Taught by: Steiner
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: COML 778
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 790 Recent Issues in Critical Theory
The primary for this course is the English Department. When the course content includes gender, sexuality and women's studies it will be cross-listed with GSWS. See additional information and description on the English Department’s website: https://www.english.upenn.edu See the English Department’s website at www.english.upenn.edu for a complete description of the current offerings.
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: COML 790, ENGL 790
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 793 Topics in Cinema and Media
Topics vary. Please refer to the History of Art Department’s website for the course description: http://www.sas.upenn.edu/arthistory.
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: ARTH 793, CIMS 793, ENGL 797
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 806 Gender, Globalization and Media
This seminar creates a forum for debate over the ways in which the cultural politics of gender structure the historical, economic and social landscapes of media globalization. Media culture, as the course readings seek to show, provides a fertile site to examine how globalized media practices articulate gendered imaginations. Adopting a transnational feminist perspective, the seminar specifically address between and among media technologies, representations, and institutions and the complex scripting of gendered meanings and subject positions in multiple locations in the global public sphere. Course topics include globalization and transnational and postcolonial feminist theories; gender, sexuality, and media; gender and labor in globalized media industries; femininity, consumerism, and global advertising; gender, global media, and moralities; tourism, gender, and media economies; and gender, religion, and popular culture. For the major assignment, students will be expected to produce a research paper that focuses on one of the following: a critical review of a set of theories or a body of empirical work in a specific region; textual analysis of media with special attention to influences of globalization; political-economic analysis of media institutions and corporate practices.
Taught by: Teitelman
Course not offered every year
Also Offered As: COMM 806
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

GSWS 830 Conducting Research in Global Women's Health
The course focuses on critical examination of theoretical and methodological issues pertaining to research on women and girls conducted around the world across disciplines. A focused and intensive exploration of place as it pertains to women and girls in formal and informal structures of health care delivery as those needing and/or seeking health care, and as those providing health care to others. We will examine multiple dimensions and qualities of these endeavors (e.g. activity, power, control, visibility, value, and remuneration) and the intersection of gender and health - locally, globally and across borders. We will focus our examination on the implications of seeking and providing health care for women's and girls' health and well-being. By examining issues in local and global contexts and across geographical boundaries, we will have the opportunity to challenge gendered, class, political, and cultural assumptions related to women's health. Invited guest speakers will highlight examples of research in global women's health representing multiple disciplinary perspectives.
Taught by: Teitelman
Course usually offered in fall term
Also Offered As: NURS 830
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit