FGSS FALL 2017 COURSES

FGSS 1940 A Global History of Love
TR 11:40-12:55 D. Ghosh GLO, LGBT
By posing seemingly simple questions such as what is love and who has the right to love, this introductory-level lecture course surveys how love has been experienced and expressed from the pre-modern period to the present. Through case studies of familial and conjugal love in Africa, Asia, the US, Europe, and South and Latin America, the course will examine the debates about and enactments of what constitutes the appropriate way to show love and affection in different cultures and historical contexts. Among the themes we will explore are questions of sexuality, marriage, kinship, and gender rights. A final unit will examine these themes through modern technologies such as the Internet, scientific advances in medicine, and a growing awareness that who and how we love is anything but simple or universal.

FGSS 2010 Introduction to Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies
TR 10:10-11:25 K. McCullough
Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies is an interdisciplinary program focused on understanding the impact of gender and sexuality on the world around us and on the power hierarchies that structure it. This course provides an overview of key concepts, questions, and debates within feminist studies both locally and globally, focusing mainly on the experiences, historical conditions, and concerns of women as they are shaped by gender and sexuality. We will read a variety of texts--personal narratives, historical documents, and cultural criticism--across a range of disciplines, and will consider how larger structural systems of both privilege and oppression affect individuals' identities, experiences, and options. We will also examine forms of agency and action taken by women in the face of these larger systems.

FGSS 2090 The Salem Witchcraft Crisis of 1692
MW 2:55-4:10 M. B. Norton
The Salem Witchcraft Crisis of 1692. Even though many books have been written about this endlessly fascinating episode in American history, numerous aspects of it remain unexplored. After reading some of the latest books and articles on the subject, as well as contemporary accounts of other New England witchcraft cases, students will focus on researching and writing their own original interpretations of some aspect of the 1692 crisis that interests them. The best papers in the course will have the opportunity to be “published” on the Cornell witchcraft collection website. (Some student papers from past years have been cited in recent Salem scholarship.) (pre-1800)
FGSS 2421 Sex and Gender in Cross-Cultural Perspective  
TR  8:40-9:55       L. Ramberg       GLO, ISO  
An introduction to the anthropology of sex, sexuality and gender, this course uses case studies from around the world to explore how the worlds of the sexes become gendered. In ethnographic, ethnohistorical and contemporary globalizing contexts, we will look at: intersexuality & ‘supernumerary’ genders; physical & cultural reproduction; sexuality; and sex- & gender-based violence & power. We will use lectures, films, discussion sections and short field-based exercises.

FGSS 2516 Gender, Sexuality, and Social Change in the Middle East  
TR  10:10-11:25      S. Yilmaz       GLO  
This course introduces students to basic themes and topics in the history of women and gender in Middle Eastern societies by exploring the forces of social change that influenced the lives of women (and men) in this region between the eighteenth and twentieth centuries. It will concentrate on selected themes such as modernity, nationalism, and colonization in order to encourage students to challenge preconceived assumptions about Middle Eastern women, discuss some of the many roles they have played in social change, and think comparatively about gender, history, and social life. Students will be introduced to a wide array of literature produced in Western Europe and elsewhere pertaining to the Middle Eastern societies and cultures for a critical analysis of how knowledge and discourses about gender roles had been constructed in the course of the nineteenth century. In addition, students will learn about the ways in which Islamic law and legal institutions defined and managed the issues in relation to women’s status as well as sexuality and marriage as social institutions. We will investigate how historical and contemporary political and social forces such as nationalism, colonialism, and revolutions operated in the course of the twentieth century, shaping both women’s movement and advocating for women’s rights before the law, access to education and family issues. Finally, this course will introduce students to the debates on “gender as a useful category” by connecting it to the recent and growing scholarship on masculinity and queer studies in the Middle East. By doing so, we will analyze relationality of women, men, and transgender categories and their political and social implications in the past and the present.

FGSS 2577 American Jewish Women and the Body of Tradition  
T   7:30-9:25       C. Rock-Singer      ISO  
Since the 1970s, Jewish women have remade American Judaism by putting their bodies front and center. In the face of a largely male rabbinic elite, they have created new models of ritual, communal leadership, and textual interpretation both within and
outside existing Jewish institutions and denominations. How have women mobilized embodied practice and knowledge in efforts to reinterpret, reclaim, and reinvent Judaism? How have these changes reverberated in communities that explicitly reject feminism? And what can these women teach us about religion, gender, and sexuality in America more broadly? This course will engage the fields of religion; gender, sexuality, and the body; textual and material culture; and feminism within the context of American Jewish life. The course will focus the contemporary United States, but will also explore layers of Jewish tradition from ancient to modern times and will consider women's practices in Israel as well. Key themes will include the relationships between gender and power; bodies, texts and objects; individual Jewish practices and communal identity; biology and theology; secularism and spirituality; and the intersectionality of race, gender, sexuality, and conversion. Exploring how competing visions of Judaism reflect alternative understandings of gender and sexuality, we will probe the meaning of gender equality, how the Jewish experience compares to that of members of other faiths in America, and the challenge that these diverse Jewish projects pose to the American project of secularism.

FGSS 3000 Feminist Theory
TR 2:55-4:10 L. Ramberg
Prerequisite: FGSS 2010. This course will work across and between the disciplines to consider what it might mean to think 'as a feminist' about many things including, but not limited to 'gender', 'women' and 'sexuality'. We will approach theory as a tool for analyzing relations of power and a means of transforming ways of thinking and living. In particular, we will investigate the cultural, social, and historical assumptions that shape the possibilities and problematics of gender and sexuality. Throughout we will attend to specific histories of class, race, ethnicity, culture, nation, religion and sexuality, with an eye to their particular incitements to and challenges for feminist thinking and politics.

FGSS 3230 Gender and Global Change
MW 8:40-9:55 L. Leonard ISO, GLO
This course examines men’s and women’s lives and the impacts on them of incorporation into global economic and political systems. It asks how inequalities within and across gender categories are created in the process of social change, how gender intersects with class, race, and culture to shape the way change is experienced, and how institutions and social spaces become gendered. The course begins with the study of theoretical approaches or gender planning models to promote gender equality in policies and programs. We then turn to specific substantive areas of social life to consider how gender operates in different spaces, and we consider prospects for
change beyond gender planning models in the form of social movements, politics, and the law.

**FGSS 3331 Gender & Sexuality in Southeast Asian Cinema**  
**TR 2:55-4:10 A. Fuhrman GLO, ISO, LGBT**  
This course examines the new cinemas of Southeast Asia and their engagement with contemporary discourses of gender and sexuality. It pays special attention to the ways in which sexuality and gendered embodiment are at present linked to citizenship and to other forms of belonging. Focusing on globally circulating Southeast Asian films of the past 15 years, the course draws on current writings from feminism, Buddhist studies, affect theory, queer studies, postcolonial theory, and film studies to ask what new understandings of subjectivity might emerge from these cinemas and their political contexts. Films will be drawn from both mainstream and independent cinema and will include the work of directors such as Apichatpong Weerasethakul, Danny and Oxide Pang, Nguyen Tan Hoang, Yau Ching, Thunska Pansittivorakul, Garin Nugroho, and Jean-Jacques Annaud.

**FGSS 3350 Beyoncé Nation**  
**TR 11:40-12:55 R. Richardson ISO**  
Beyoncé’s trajectory from Houston, Texas as a member of the group Destiny’s Child to international fame and superstardom and a successful career as a solo singer, actress, clothing designer and entrepreneur holds important implications for critical dialogues on the U.S. South and national femininity. Her iconicity illustrates the region’s profound impact on the nationalization and globalization of black femininity in popular and political contexts. This course examines themes related to her intersectional identity as a model of black and Southern womanhood that have recurred in her song lyrics, performances and visual representations, which have also been foundational for her development of more recent productions, including “Formation” and the larger Lemonade album, which we will examine in this course. We will also consider Beyoncé’s early career in Destiny’s Child, including the impact of projects such as “Independent Women, Part II” and popular icons such as Farrah Fawcett in shaping Beyoncé’s Southern discourse. We will carefully trace Beyoncé’s journey to global fame and iconicity and the impact of the music business, social media, fashion, and film in her development. We will also consider her impact on politics and contemporary activist movements, as well as her engagement of black liberation discourses from the Civil Rights Movement to the Black Panther Party. Furthermore, we will consider Beyoncé’s impact in shaping black feminism, along with her impact on constructions of race, gender, sexuality, marriage, family, and motherhood. In addition to her body of work in film and video, we will draw on popular essays and critical writings on Beyoncé that have been produced from journals to books, along with visual materials.
and several biographies. In addition, we will explore texts such as I, Tina and Dreamgirls: My Life As a Supreme that have paved the way to the rise of her artistic empire and productions in which Beyoncé has been involved in the popular arena.

FGSS 3580 Theorizing Gender and Race in Asian Histories and Literatures
TR 11:40-12:55  N. Sakai  GLO, ISO
For a long time area studies have overlooked the questions of gender, race/ethnicity, and social class in fields related to East Asia and the trans-Pacific regions. Little attention has been paid to how to conceptualize gender and race/ethnicity; how to analyze the mutual implication of sexism, racism, and class essentialism (some call it “class racism”); and how to understand the relationships of these topics to the broader contexts of colonialism, imperialism, and nationalism. This course is designed to offer a series of discussions about the following problems: (1) the historically specific modes of sexism and racism in social spaces related to Japan and other places in the trans-Pacific; (2) the mutual implication of sexism, racism, and social class in various contexts including those of colonialism, imperialism, and nationalism; (3) the roles of gender, race, and social class in the United States’ knowledge production about East Asia in general; and (4) the conceptions of gender and race in the social formations particular to East Asia. The assigned readings include both English and Japanese materials; students in ASIAN 3388 are exempt from reading the materials in Japanese.

FGSS 3681 Telling to Live: Literary Testimonio
MW 2:55-4:10  E. Diaz  ISO
Testimonio is a type of writing known in Latin America and integral to U.S. Latina and Chicana traditions. The testimonio usually tells a story in a collective mode, or offers an individual's story as representative of a people and, more specifically, a community. In this course, we consider both the literary, visual, and performative versions of testimonio in order to investigate how individual experiences can represent a group and resonate powerfully beyond geopolitical and cultural borders. We will also contemplate the end result or outcome of the testimonio. In other words, do testimonies change lives? Do they change laws? Do they help people heal and live?

FGSS 3747 Staging Faith
W 10:10-12:05  J. Gainor and C. West  ISO
Religious beliefs, practices, and conflicts shape our world and influence global politics. Yet mediatized depictions of religion can be reductive and polarizing. Moreover, these depictions may be different from what people experience in their everyday lives. In the contemporary theatre, we have the opportunity to

Updated 4/17/2017
consider representations of individuals’ lived religion, the complex questions of belief, and challenges to faith from within and outside religious communities. Through close readings of plays and related materials engaging with Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Sikh and other faith traditions, we will explore and discuss together the religious motivations, tensions, and dilemmas facing us today. Our texts include, among others, Jesus Christ Superstar, Disgraced, Angels in America, and Harry Potter and the Cursed Child.

**FGSS 3754 Spoken Word, Hip-Hop Theater, and the Politics of Performance**

TR 1:25-2:40  
K. Jaime

In this course, we will critically examine the production and performance of race, ethnicity, sexuality, and gender through literature and contemporary performance genres such as spoken word, slam poetry, and hip-hop theatre.

**FGSS 3990 Undergraduate Independent Study**

TBA TBA Staff

Individual study program intended for juniors and seniors working on special topics with selected reading or research projects not covered in regularly scheduled courses. Students select a topic in consultation with a FGSS faculty member who has agreed to supervise the independent study. Prerequisites: FGSS 2010 or FGSS 3000, and one additional 3000-level FGSS course. 1-4 credits.
Visions of bodily corruption preoccupy ruler and ruled alike and prompt campaigns for moral, medical, and legal reform in periods of both stability and revolution. This seminar explores the links between political, sexual, and scientific revolutions in early modern and modern Asia. The focus is on China and Japan, with secondary attention to South Asia and Korea. Interaction with the West is a major theme. Topics include disease control, birth control and population control, body modification, the history of masculinity, honorific violence and sexual violence, the science of sex, normative and stigmatized sexualities, fashion, disability, and eugenics. The course begins with an exploration of regimes of the body in “traditional” Asian cultures. The course then turns to the medicalization and modernization of the body under the major rival political movements in Asia: feminism, imperialism, nationalism, and communism.

Feminist media arts continuously proliferate. These rich and varied practices include video, net art, networked performance, video games, remix, installation, biotech art, artificial life and robotics. While some of these works address traditional feminist concerns such as the female body, identity, representation, feminist history and consumerism, others directly engage with recent theoretical currents on the Anthropocene, posthumanism and new materialisms that view humans and non-humans as co-dependent. Non-humans include environmental factors, animals, plants, bacteria, and machines. This seminar will examine work by contemporary artists engaged with posthumanist perspectives in relation to a body of relevant theoretical texts and previous feminist media arts. Is feminism compatible with posthumanism? What do feminist art and theory add to current understandings of the posthuman?

Black women first began to shape the genre of autobiography during the antebellum era slavery. They were prolific in developing the genre of autobiography throughout the twentieth century, to the point of emerging as serial autobiographers in the case of Maya Angelou. Significantly, I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings, the first autobiography of six by Angelou, along with autobiographies by a range of other black women writers, helped to launch the renaissance in black women’s literature and criticism in African American literature during the 1970s. In this course, we will focus on how black women have continued to write and share their personal stories in the new millennium by examining autobiographies that they have produced in the first years of the twenty-
first century, and more broadly, the impact of this writing on twenty-first century African American literature. In the process, we will draw on a range of critical and theoretical perspectives, including Sidonie Smith and Julia Watson, Angela Ards, and Frances Smith Foster, Joanne M. Braxton, among others. Among the works that we will examine are Saidiya Hartman, Lose Your Mother: A Journey Along the Atlantic Slave Route, Jennifer Teege, My Grandfather Would Have Shot Me: A Black Woman Discovers Her Nazi Past; Margo Jefferson, Negroland: A Memoir; Elizabeth Alexander, The Light of the World: A Memoir; Misty Copeland, Life in Motion: An Unlikely Ballerina; Janet Mock, Redefining Realness: My Path to Womanhood, Identity, Love & So Much More; Bettina Aptheker, Intimate Politics: How I Grew Up Red, Fought for Free Speech and Became a Feminist Rebel; Angela Nissel, Mixed: My Life in Black and White; Beverly Johnson, The Face that Changed it All: A Memoir; Nene Leakes, Never Make the Same Mistake Twice: Lessons on Love and Life Learned the Hard Way; and Phaedra Parks, Secrets of the Southern Belle: How to Be Nice, Work Hard, Look Pretty, Have Fun, and Never Have an Off Moment. Students will have opportunities to produce research related to autobiography as well as the opportunity to do some autobiographical writing. The impact of transgender women such as Janet Mock, along with transracial women such as the Rachel Dolezal, the cross-cultural and popular impact of Piper Kerman’s Orange is the New Black: My Year in a Women's Prison, and the autobiographical song lyrics of Beyoncé in projects such as Formation and Lemonade, will also help us to ponder the innovative, distinct and diverse body of work shaping black women’s autobiography.

**FGSS 4333 The Velvet Underground Archive**  
M 1:25-4:25 J. Peraino LGBT  
From 1965 to 1970 the Velvet Underground revitalized rock ‘n’ roll as streetwise outsider art. Sponsored by Andy Warhol and inspired by the social world of the Factory, VU’s lyrics tell of hard drugs, hustlers, and queer and transgender lives, while the music ranges from experiments in noise and minimalism to edgy pop tunes. The first segment of this course will delve into music, lyrics, and the performance art of the Velvet Underground as an archive of underground and dissident art and identities; the second segment of the course will be devoted to working with Cornell’s substantial Velvet Underground Archive of rare photographs, recordings and ephemera to think about pop culture archives, and to develop student projects.

**FGSS 4458 Women, Girls and Gender in Education**  
T 1:25-4:25 S. Villenas GLO, ISO  
This course explores the rich and diverse history of women’s participation in the motion picture industry. Focusing on women directors within a global context from the silent era to the present, this class considers the historical, cultural, and industrial factors that shape their films’ production, distribution, and exhibition. Students will
consider the political, aesthetic, stylistic, and formal qualities of films directed by women while placing them within national, cultural, institutional, and economic contexts. By watching, analyzing, and reading about films directed by women, students will gain a deeper knowledge of film history, feminist film culture, and feminist theory and criticism.

**FGSS 4460 Women in the Economy**

**MW 2:55-4:10 F. Blau**

Examines the changing economic roles of women and men in the labor market and in the family. Topics include a historical overview of changing gender roles, the determinants of the gender division of labor in the family, trends in female and male labor-force participation, gender differences in occupations and earnings, the consequences of women's employment for the family, and a consideration of women's status in other countries.

**FGSS 4491 Feminism and Philosophy**

**W 10:10-12:05 K. Manne**

Feminist approaches to questions in metaphysics, epistemology, language, and value theory. Prerequisite: one philosophy course or one course in feminist theory (FGSS). Enrollment limited to sophomores and up.
FGSS 4990 Senior Honors Thesis I
TBA  TBA  Staff
Students must submit a completed Honors Thesis Application within the first week of classes before they will be allowed to enroll in the course. To graduate with honors, a major must complete a senior thesis under the supervision of a Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies faculty member and defend that thesis orally before an honors committee. To be eligible for honors, students must have at least a cumulative grade point average of 3.3 in all course work and a 3.5 average in all courses applying to their Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies major. Students interested in the Honors program should consult the DUS late in the spring semester of their junior year or very early in the fall semester of their senior year.

FGSS 6153 Topics in Feminist Media Arts
M  7:30-9:25  M. Fernandez
Feminist media arts continuously proliferate. These rich and varied practices include video, net art, networked performance, video games, remix, installation, biotech art, artificial life and robotics. While some of these works address traditional feminist concerns such as the female body, identity, representation, feminist history and consumerism, others directly engage with recent theoretical currents on the Anthropocene, posthumanism and new materialisms that view humans and non-humans as co-dependent. Non-humans include environmental factors, animals, plants, bacteria, and machines. This seminar will examine work by contemporary artists engaged with posthumanist perspectives in relation to a body of relevant theoretical texts and previous feminist media arts. Is feminism compatible with posthumanism? What do feminist art and theory add to current understandings of the posthuman?

FGSS 6331 Gender and Sexuality in Southeast Asian Cinema
TR  2:55-4:10  A. Fuhrmann  GLO, ISO, LGBT
This course examines the new cinemas of Southeast Asia and their engagement with contemporary discourses of gender and sexuality. It pays special attention to the ways in which sexuality and gendered embodiment are at present linked to citizenship and to other forms of belonging. Focusing on globally circulating Southeast Asian films of the past 15 years, the course draws on current writings from feminism, Buddhist studies, affect theory, queer studies, postcolonial theory, and film studies to ask what new understandings of subjectivity might emerge from these cinemas and their political contexts. Films will be drawn from both mainstream and independent cinema and will include the work of directors such as Apichatpong Weerasethakul, Danny and Oxide Pang, Nguyen Tan Hoang, Yau Ching, Thunska Pansittivorakul, Garin Nugroho, and Jean-Jacques Annaud.

Updated 4/17/2017
FGSS 6333 The Velvet Underground Archive
M 1:25-4:25 J. Peraino LGBT
From 1965 to 1970 the Velvet Underground revitalized rock ‘n’ roll as streetwise outsider art. Sponsored by Andy Warhol and inspired by the social world of the Factory, VU’s lyrics tell of hard drugs, hustlers, and queer and transgender lives, while the music ranges from experiments in noise and minimalism to edgy pop tunes. The first segment of this course will delve into music, lyrics, and the performance art of the Velvet Underground as an archive of underground and dissident art and identities; the second segment of the course will be devoted to working with Cornell’s substantial Velvet Underground Archive of rare photographs, recordings and ephemera to think about pop culture archives, and to develop student projects.

FGSS 6580 Theorizing Gender and Race in Asian Histories and Literatures
TR 11:40-12:55 N. Sakai GLO, ISO
For a long time area studies have overlooked the questions of gender, race/ethnicity, and social class in fields related to East Asia and the trans-Pacific regions. Little attention has been paid to how to conceptualize gender and race/ethnicity; how to analyze the mutual implication of sexism, racism, and class essentialism (some call it “class racism”); and how to understand the relationships of these topics to the broader contexts of colonialism, imperialism, and nationalism. This course is designed to offer a series of discussions about the following problems: (1) the historically specific modes of sexism and racism in social spaces related to Japan and other places in the trans-Pacific; (2) the mutual implication of sexism, racism, and social class in various contexts including those of colonialism, imperialism, and nationalism; (3) the roles of gender, race, and social class in the United States’ knowledge production about East Asia in general; and (4) the conceptions of gender and race in the social formations particular to East Asia. The assigned readings include both English and Japanese materials; students in ASIAN 3388 are exempt from reading the materials in Japanese.

FGSS 6990 Topics in Feminist, Gender, & Sexuality Studies
TBA TBA Staff
Independent reading course for graduate students on topics not covered in regularly scheduled courses. Students develop a course of readings in consultation with a faculty member in the field of Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies who has agreed to supervise the course work.
FGSS 7458 Women, Girls and Gender in Education
T  1:25-4:25  S. Villenas  GLO, ISO
This course explores the rich and diverse history of women’s participation in the motion picture industry. Focusing on women directors within a global context from the silent era to the present, this class considers the historical, cultural, and industrial factors that shape their films’ production, distribution, and exhibition. Students will consider the political, aesthetic, stylistic, and formal qualities of films directed by women while placing them within national, cultural, institutional, and economic contexts. By watching, analyzing, and reading about films directed by women, students will gain a deeper knowledge of film history, feminist film culture, and feminist theory and criticism.

FGSS 7587 American Jewish Women and the Body of Tradition
T  7:30-9:25  C. Rock-Singer  ISO
Since the 1970s, Jewish women have remade American Judaism by putting their bodies front and center. In the face of a largely male rabbinic elite, they have created new models of ritual, communal leadership, and textual interpretation both within and outside existing Jewish institutions and denominations. How have women mobilized embodied practice and knowledge in efforts to reinterpret, reclaim, and reinvent Judaism? How have these changes reverberated in communities that explicitly reject feminism? And what can these women teach us about religion, gender, and sexuality in America more broadly? This course will engage the fields of religion; gender, sexuality, and the body; textual and material culture; and feminism within the context of American Jewish life. The course will focus the contemporary United States, but will also explore layers of Jewish tradition from ancient to modern times and will consider women’s practices in Israel as well. Key themes will include the relationships between gender and power; bodies, texts and objects; individual Jewish practices and communal identity; biology and theology; secularism and spirituality; and the intersectionality of race, gender, sexuality, and conversion. Exploring how competing visions of Judaism reflect alternative understandings of gender and sexuality, we will probe the meaning of gender equality, how the Jewish experience compares to that of members of other faiths in America, and the challenge that these diverse Jewish projects pose to the American project of secularism.