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Office: JO 4.128
Hours: after class & by appt.

Fall 2017
GR 4.204
Monday 4 – 6.45 pm
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Gender in Western Thought GST 3302 / HIST 3302

“... for just as the young of mutilated parents are sometimes born mutilated and sometimes not, so also the young born of a female are sometimes female and sometimes male instead. For the female is, as it were, a mutilated male ...”
-- Aristotle

“And whereas it is said, *I permit not a Woman to speak, as saith the Law*: But where Women are led by the Spirit of God, they are not under the Law; for Christ in the Male and in the Female is one; and where he is made manifest in Male and Female, he may speak; for *he is the end of the Law for Righteousness to all them that believe.*”
-- Margaret Fell

“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights; that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.”
-- American Declaration of Independence

“The true man wants two things: danger and play. For that reason he wants woman, as the most dangerous plaything.”
-- Nietzsche

“Gender is the knowledge that establishes meanings for bodily differences”
-- Joan Scott

“Nobody can give you freedom. Nobody can give you equality or justice or anything. If you’re a man, you take it.”
-- Malcolm X

In this class we will explore what people have thought and written about gender and gender roles from Homer’s time until the present, and situate those ideas in a historical context. We will explore how gender has been constructed, and what people have claimed as the source and function of gender and gender differences. We will also outline the major recent schools of thought on what gender is and does and what it should be and do and sort through the main debates between them.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

- Students will be able to recognize and describe gendered aspects of western thought from antiquity to today.
- Students will be able to contextualize changing conceptions of gender and relate them to major social, political and cultural shifts in western history.
- Students will be able to identify major elements of recent and current trends in gender studies and demonstrate a grasp of the major areas of agreement and conflict between different theorists and theories.
- Students will be able to analyze and critically evaluate primary sources and construct effective arguments about those sources verbally and in writing.

REQUIRED READINGS:

Linda Nicholson, ed., *The Second Wave*. London; New York: Routledge, 1997. (TSW)

Texts on electronic reserve – Online Course Packet (OCP) at

<https://genderedthought.wordpress.com/>

ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING:

Participation and class discussion 10%, Thesis sentence 5%, précis 15%, reading responses 25%, midterm 15%, abstract 5%, final paper/book review = 15% (text with motivation, final paper), final exam 10%.

In class discussion: We will work together interpreting and analyzing the various texts, trying to understand the historical context in which they were written and what they say. This is a collaborative intellectual process that requires active participation. Remember that we are trying to understand the texts, not determine who is right or wrong.

Thesis sentence: Most weeks you will be asked to submit a one sentence thesis statement for one of the readings for that week. The sentence should follow the format “In this text, AuthorName discusses and argues/claims that” The assignments are graded on a high pass/pass/fail scale. There is no make-up for these assignments. This exercise should help you think about what is most important and, often, what is most difficult within each reading. Check the website tab Weekly Posts for discussions to help you think about the argument in each reading <https://genderedthought.wordpress.com/blog/>

Reading responses: 5 short (1 page) papers on weekly readings. Due **by noon** on the dates listed on the course schedule. Submit your papers in eLearning as attachments. The title should identify the reading and author. The first paragraph should be a summary, stating the claim (thesis) of the text and giving a few sentences that identify the main points of the document. The second and third paragraph should expand on the argument and the evidence used to support the argument (factual evidence, personal experience, other texts, divine authority, tradition, reason, etc) in the document. Both the kind of evidence and the way it is used should be covered. The following two or so paragraphs should analyze and discuss the text and situate the ideas in a historical and cultural context. The focus should be on the gendered aspects or implications of the text.

Article précis: 3 précis (concise summaries) of a source, two pages in length each. The first précis will be over the segment from *Symposium* by Plato. The second précis will be over *On Marriage and Concupiscence* by St. Augustine, and the third on excerpt from “Two Treatises on Government”.

Midterm: Mainly IDs and short answer questions.

Final paper: 4-5 page book review of a text by one of the authors listed on the website (<https://genderedthought.wordpress.com/instructions-2/list-of-authors/>). When you submit the text you want to write on, please also explain in a paragraph or so why you picked that text and how you think it is might be helpful (or not) to understanding some particular way of thinking about gender.

Final exam: Fill in the blanks and multiple choice.

For further details on assignments see the instructions online.

COURSE & INSTRUCTOR POLICIES:

- This is a reading intensive class. You will be expected to come to class having read the assignment for that day at least once. Look up words you do not understand and take notes as you read.
- You can be absent twice with no questions asked. More than two absences, persistent tardiness, or failure to actively participate in discussions will lower your final grade.
- All components of the course must be completed in order to pass the course.
- No late assignments will be accepted unless agreed upon IN ADVANCE or caused by extraordinary circumstances.
- Play nice. We are all responsible for making the classroom a safe and constructive arena for discussion. Engagement with the material is necessary, animated discussion is encouraged; rudeness is unacceptable.
- The syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor. If you miss class, please contact a classmate to find out what was discussed and what assignments were handed out.
- **Some of the readings are controversial; some contain explicit material, graphic language and ideas that may appear odd or disturbing. We are reading these texts not to be persuaded by them, but to understand what the authors believed and why. If you have concerns, talk to me about them.**

CLASS SCHEDULE:

See the website <https://genderedthought.wordpress.com/>

These descriptions and timelines are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.

Excerpt of UTD Policies and Procedures below.

Full version at <http://provost.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies/>

Sharing Confidential information

Students considering sharing personal information in email, in person, or within assignments or exams should be aware that faculty members and teaching/research assistants are required by UT Dallas policy to report information about sexual misconduct to the UT Dallas Title IX Coordinator. Per university policy, faculty have been informed that they must identify the student to the UT Dallas Title IX Coordinator. Students who wish to have confidential discussions of incidents related to sexual harassment or sexual misconduct should contact the Student Counseling Center (972-883-2527 or after hours 972-UTD-TALK or 972-883-8255), the Women's Center (972-883-8255), a health care provider in the Student Health Center (972-883-2747), the clergyperson (or other legally recognized religious advisor) of their choice, or an off-campus resource (i.e., rape crisis center, doctor, psychologist). Students who are sexually assaulted, harassed, or victims of sexual misconduct, domestic violence, or stalking, are encouraged to directly report these incidents to the UT Dallas Police Department at 972-883-2222 or to the Title IX Coordinator at 972-883-2218. Additional information and resources may be found at <http://www.utdallas.edu/oiec/title-ix/resources>.

Student Conduct & Discipline

It is the responsibility of each student and each student organization to be knowledgeable about the rules and regulations which govern student conduct and activities. General information is contained in the UT Dallas online catalogs (<http://catalog.utdallas.edu>).

The University of Texas at Dallas administers student discipline within the procedures of recognized and established due process. Procedures are defined and described in the Student Discipline and Conduct, UTDSP5003 (<http://policy.utdallas.edu/utdsp5003>). Copies of these rules and regulations are available to students in the Office of the Dean of Students, where staff members are available to assist students in interpreting the rules and regulations (SSB 4.400, 972-883-6391) and online at <http://www.utdallas.edu/deanofstudents>.

A student at the university neither loses the rights nor escapes the responsibilities of citizenship. He or she is expected to obey federal, state, and local laws as well as the Regents' Rules, university regulations, and administrative rules. Students are subject to discipline for violating the standards of conduct whether such conduct takes place on or off campus, or whether civil or criminal penalties are also imposed for such conduct.

Academic Integrity

The faculty expects from its students a high level of responsibility and academic honesty. Because the value of an academic degree depends upon the absolute integrity of the work done by the student for that degree, it is imperative that a student demonstrate a high standard of individual honor in his or her scholastic work.

Academic dishonesty can occur in relation to any type of work submitted for academic credit or as a requirement for a class. It can include individual work or a group project. Academic dishonesty includes, plagiarism, cheating, fabrication and collaboration/collusion. In order to avoid academic dishonesty, it is important for students to fully understand the expectations of their professors. This is best accomplished through asking clarifying questions if an individual does not completely understand the requirements of an assignment.

Additional information related to academic dishonesty and tips on how to avoid dishonesty may be found here:

<http://www.utdallas.edu/deanofstudents/maintain>.

Copyright Notice

As a UT Dallas student, you are required to follow UT Dallas' copyright policy (UTDPP1043 at

<http://policy.utdallas.edu/utdpp1043>) and the UT System's policy at

<http://www.utsystem.edu/ogc/intellectualproperty/copyrighthome.htm>.

Email Use

UTD furnishes each student with a free email account that is to be used in ALL communication with university personnel.

Class Attendance

Regular and punctual class attendance is expected. Students who fail to attend class regularly are inviting scholastic difficulty. Absences may lower a student's grade where class attendance and class participation are deemed essential by the instructor. In some courses, instructors may have special attendance requirements; these should be made known to students during the first week of classes.

Withdrawal from Class

The administration of this institution has set deadlines for withdrawal of any college-level courses. These dates and times are published in that semester's course catalog. Administration procedures must be followed. It is the student's responsibility to handle withdrawal requirements from any class. In other words, I cannot drop or withdraw any student. You must do the proper paperwork to ensure that you will not receive a final grade of "F" in a course if you choose not to attend the class once you are enrolled. The fall 2016 academic calendar is available here

<http://www.utdallas.edu/academiccalendar/files/AcademicCalendarFall2016.pdf>

Student Grievance Procedures

Procedures for student grievances are found in university policy UTDSP5005 (<http://policy.utdallas.edu/utdsp5005>). In attempting to resolve any student grievance regarding disputes over grades, application of degree plan, graduation/degree program requirements, and thesis/and dissertation committee, advisor actions and/or decisions, evaluations, and/or other fulfillments of academic responsibility, it is the obligation of the student first to make a

serious effort to resolve the matter with the instructor, supervisor, administrator, or committee with whom the grievance originated.

Incomplete Grade Policy

As per university policy, incomplete grades may be given, at the discretion of the instructor of record for a course, when a student has completed at least 70% of the required course material but cannot complete all requirements by the end of the semester. An incomplete course grade (grade of 'I') must be resolved completed within the time period specified by the instructor, not to exceed eight (8) weeks from the first day of the subsequent long semester. Upon completion of the required work, the symbol 'I' may be converted into a letter grade (A through F). If the grade of Incomplete is not removed by the end of the specified period, it will automatically be changed to F.

AccessAbility Services (OSA)

It is the policy and practice of The University of Texas at Dallas to make reasonable disability-related accommodations and/or services for students with documented disabilities. However, written notification from the Office of Student AccessAbility (OSA) is required (see <http://www.utdallas.edu/studentaccess>). If you are eligible to receive disability-related accommodations and/or services and to ensure accommodations will be in place when the academic semester begins, students are encouraged to submit documentation four to six weeks in advance. Contact the Office of Student AccessAbility at: SSB 3.200 (3rd Floor in SSB), 972-883-2098 for a confidential discussion. I will be happy to make accommodations, but remember that it is the student's (your) responsibility to notify his/her professor (me) of their needs.

Religious Holy Days

The University of Texas at Dallas will excuse a student from class or other required activities for the travel to and observance of a religious holy day for a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property tax under Section 11.20, Tax Code, Texas Code Annotated.

The student is encouraged to notify the instructor or activity sponsor as soon as possible regarding the absence, preferably in advance of the assignment. The student, so excused, will be allowed to take the exam or complete the assignment within a reasonable time after the absence: up to a maximum of one week.