



## WGSS 6301: Feminist Theory and Methodologies

Spring 2023 - Tuesdays 5:30-8:30pm (class # 13559)

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### **Course Description**

This course introduces graduate-level students to feminist theory and methodology from a variety of disciplinary perspectives. The aim is to provide students with a historiography of feminist theory that is useful to their own scholarly work. The course begins with a broad overview of key literature in women's studies and students will examine many of the major contributors, as well as past and present debates. Through these course readings students learn to interrogate issues of gender, race, and heteropatriarchy and think more effectively about how power and privilege functions in US and transnationally.

We will engage in weekly student-led interdisciplinary discussions about groundbreaking articles in women's, gender, and sexuality studies and consider their impact on and relationship to a diverse scope of scholarship today. Students will apply what they learn throughout the semester to the development of research in their own disciplines and consider how feminist theory, in particular women of color feminism, and queer theory, and transnational feminist methodologies, can advance their work. Along with film and video texts, guest speakers and related community events will be built into the semester.

Students are expected to come to the course open to reading extensively and discussing in depth issues of race, class, gender, sexuality, disability and more. They should be interested in acquiring new knowledge in these subject areas, and prepared to challenge themselves, learn from others and educate their peers from their disciplinary perspective. We will cultivate a diverse intellectual community—putting into practice the type of engagement across difference that feminist theorists have long fought for!

*Taught each spring semester, this course is a requirement for the WGSS graduate certificate.*