

HIS 329: U.S. WOMEN'S HISTORY SINCE 1865
Fall 2012
W 6:00-8:50pm
MHRA 2211

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Office Hour: W 4:45-5:45pm
and by appointment



This course will explore how women experienced life in the U.S. from 1865 to the present. We will look at the lives of poor women and middle class women, radical women, liberal women and conservative women, African American women, Native American women, Asian American women and white women, famous women and ordinary women. Questions that we will address include: What obstacles did women face and how did they react? What were some of women's achievements? What effect did women have on life in the U.S.? How does looking at U.S. history through women's lives change our understanding of the past?

After taking this class you will be able to

- Use historical thinking to contextualize and analyze primary and secondary sources representing different points of view. [Historical Analysis]
- Conduct original research by investigating and interpreting primary and secondary sources. [Historical Research]
- Use evidence-based reasoning to interpret the past coherently while developing and presenting an original argument, orally and in writing. [Historical Interpretation]
- Identify major events in women's history and explain their importance in the context of U.S. History after 1865.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

READINGS

Ellen Carol DuBois and Lynn Dumenil. *Through Women's Eyes. An American History*, 3rd ed. Boston: Bedford/St.Martin's, 2012. (TWE)[required]
Mary Lynn Rampolla. *A Pocket Guide to Writing in History*. [highly recommended]

ATTENDANCE POLICY

You may have one unexcused absence. I will only excuse absences if you notify me before class time and bring an official document stating the reason for your absence. More than one unexcused absence will lead to a final grade reduction.

Attendance is more than just being in class physically; I expect you to stay mentally alert and participate in the class discussion.

CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR

There will be no cell phones, mp3-players, PDAs, laptops or any other electronic device permitted in the classroom. If your phone rings or I catch you using it during class, I may ask you to leave and count you as absent.

You will be in class on time and stay for the entire period. If you come in late or leave early more than twice, it will count as one absence.

You may bring a beverage to class. I do not allow eating during class but you will have an opportunity for that during our break.

COMMUNICATION

I will use e-mail to contact you; therefore it is essential that you check your e-mail at least once a day. When you send me an e-mail, please include the course number and your name in the subject line. I will respond to emails within 24 hours; during university breaks and weekends it might take 48 hours. If you do not get a reply from me within this timeframe, please send me a follow-up message.

I have office hours once a week and by appointment. Please utilize these to come and talk to me if there are any problems. The earlier you contact me, the more likely it is that we find a solution.

PLAGIARISM

I take the Academic Integrity Policy very seriously and so should you. All the work you do in this course is subject to the policy. Make sure you know what is defined as plagiarism and if you are not sure, ask me! If I catch you cheating, plagiarizing or violating UNCG's Academic Integrity Policy in any way, I will not hesitate to take steps that might hurt your academic future significantly.

I also recommend reviewing the policy: <http://sa.uncg.edu/handbook/academic-integrity-policy/>

EXTRA CREDIT

You have the option of writing a two page analysis of one of the primary sources we discuss in class. This will earn you up to 3 points on your final grade. You may write up to two analysis papers. The papers are due on the day we discuss the sources in class.

GRADED ASSIGNMENTS

- **Midterm: 10/17 (20 %) & Final Exam: 12/05 (20%)**

Both of these exams will consist of identification questions and short answers. If there is a documented excuse why you are unable to take an exam on those dates, please inform me before class time and we will schedule a makeup exam.

- **Participation (15 %)**

Participation is required. In order to participate adequately you must have read all assigned reading and bring a physical copy to class. In addition I recommend taking reading notes or having an outline to bring to class.

- **Weekly reading quizzes (15%)**

Every week you will submit two separate and not related questions on blackboard. The questions are due Tuesday nights by 6 pm. After that time, everyone will have access to these questions. From all the submitted questions I will pick five as quiz questions. You may miss submitting questions three times without penalty. If you miss more than three weeks, half a letter grade will be taken off your quiz grade average per missed set of questions. I expect that you think about what kind of questions you submit, their quality will influence your participation grade.

- **Research Project (30%)**

Throughout the semester you will be working on the outline for a research project. There will be several due dates for parts of the project. At the end of the semester you will turn in the completed outline of the project.

All assignments have to be submitted as a typed and stapled hardcopy on the day they are due. There will be no exceptions besides the assignments which are expected to be submitted on blackboard.

From all late assignments one letter grade will be deducted. Please contact me if there is a documented emergency that prohibits you from turning in an assignment.

I strongly encourage every student to visit the Writing Center before submitting written work. We will have an orientation during our first meeting. If you did not attend this meeting or need more information, you can visit their website. <http://www.uncg.edu/eng/writingcenter/default.php>

Disclaimer: The course schedule, policies, and assignments in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances or by mutual agreement between the instructor and the students.

		Topic	Readings	Additional Assignments
1	8/22	Introduction – What is Women’s History? Orientation at the Writing and Speaking Center	TWE, xxv-xxxiii	-
2	8/29	Reconstructing Women’s Lives North and South, 1865-1900 9/5: Introduction to Library Databases	TWE, 320-352	Complete the PATH tutorial and submit the results via email to me before class on 8/29. https://library.uncg.edu/tutorials/index.aspx
3	9/5		TWE, 353-387	-
4	9/12	Women in an Expanding Nation: Consolidation of the West, Mass Immigration and the Crisis of the 1890s 9/12: A Guide to Citations 9/19: Introduction to UNCG Special Collections	TWE, 388-420	-
5	9/19		TWE, 421-455	Proposal due
6	9/26	Power and Politics: Women in the Progressive Era, 1900-1920 10/3: Google Sites workshop	TWE, 456-492	-
7	10/3		TWE, 493-521	-
8	10/10	Change and Continuity: Women in Prosperity, Depression, and War, 1920-1945 10/17: Mid-Term	TWE, 522-558	Sources and Thesis due
9	10/17		TWE, 559-593	Mid-Term!
10	10/24	Beyond the Feminine Mystique: Women’s Lives, 1945-1965	TWE, 594-634	Annotated Bibliography due
11	10/31		TWE, 635-671	-
12	11/7	Modern Feminism and American Society, 1965-1980	TWE, 672-708	Project Evaluation due
13	11/14		TWE, 709-741	-
14	11/21	No class! Thanksgiving break.	-	-
15	11/28	U.S. Women in a Global Age, 1980-Present	TWE, 742-808	Completed Projects due
	12/5	Final Exam 6pm-8pm		Final Exam! Critiques are due on blackboard before 6 pm

Guideline for the Research Project:

The Research Project is 30% of your final grade. All assignments add up to 100 points. You must complete all assignments to receive a passing grade for the Research Project.

I will provide you with more detailed instructions over the course of the semester.

1. Proposal (due 9/19) [10 points]

- a. Find a topic that is of interest to you and write a brief rational of how the topic relates to the class and why you are interested in the topic. (400-500 words)
- b. Think about three specific questions which you would like to find answers for.

2. Sources (due 10/10) [10 points]

Research primary and secondary sources for your topic: 3 primary, 4 secondary sources (2 books, 2 journal articles). We will have sessions on how to find primary and secondary sources at UNCG. I expect that you only use the databases that you were introduced to during these sessions. If you have questions, please contact me.

3. Thesis (due 10/10) [10 points]

Write a working hypothesis for your project.

4. Annotated Bibliography (due 10/24) [20 points]

Annotate the bibliography. We will talk about what I expect from an annotation before you have to submit this assignment.

5. Evaluation (due 11/7) [10 points]

Did you find answers to your questions? If yes, what are they? If no, what questions could be answered? Or what other questions have come up? Would you change your thesis? If yes, how? (500 words)

6. Completion (due 11/28) [30 points]

Using Google Sites you will set up a website for all members of the class to view. The layout is your choice but all parts of the project need to be included. You will have a chance to improve your work as I will return the assignments with comments.

7. Critique (due 12/5) [10 points]

You will have to look at your classmates' websites and judge their work. On Blackboard there will be a discussion board. You are required to write three original posts and comment on three posts of others. The critique should be constructive. Remark what was good and why. What could have been done differently? What did you learn from looking at the other websites? (100-200 words)