

**History
329**

**Women in American
History,
1865 to present**

**Spring
2006**

Section 01, MWF 10:00
Mary Foust Hall
Office Hours MWF 9:00-10:00 am

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Welcome to this class! In History 329, I hope to familiarize you with all the major topics in Women's History since the end of the Civil War. To do so we will focus on diverse subjects such as politics, race, gender, economics and culture, all the while attempting to understand how historical events touched the lives of women. We will view History not as a random list of dates and events, but more of a narrative of inter-related events.

Required Texts:

**Women in the American Experience* by Nancy Woloch, second edition.

**Women and Power in American History, from 1870*, by Kathryn Sklar, second edition.

Both should be available at the University bookstore, or check Amazon for bigger bargains.

Grading Policies and Breakdown:

Two Term Exams 50% (25% each)

Assignments & Presentations 30%

Class Participation & Attendance 20%

As this is a three-hundred level class, the basis of the course will be *your* interpretations of the class material. Each student will give two presentations during the semester on an assigned topic and/or reading. A short paper will be handed in at each presentation. Class discussion is also vital at this level, and I will expect students to participate at all times! This topic is open to much interpretation, and I assure you, all opinions will be valued and discussed.

More conventionally, the two term exams will be a combination of short answer and short essay. They will be based both on the lectures and the assigned readings.

Attendance Policy:

As this is a discussion format course, class attendance is essential. Attendance will be taken each class session by sign up sheet. Class participation points will be a combination of both your attendance and your participation in lecture discussions. No points will be deducted for four (4) unexcused absences; beyond that your participation grade will suffer a ten-point deduction for each class missed. After seven unexcused absences, I reserve the right to drop you from the course for non-attendance.

Course Schedule

On the flipside of the page is an outline of our schedule, with corresponding readings for each lecture. This is just a planned schedule—we may fall behind or jump ahead.

Date	Class discussion topic	Readings
January 9	Intro & Discussion	
January 11	Discussion— <i>Issues in Women’s History</i>	Thurner article
January 13	Power as a Theme in Women’s History	Sklar, Intro., Freedman essay
<i>Week Two</i>		
January 16	Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday	Enjoy!
January 18, 20	Reconstruction of Women’s Work	Woloch, Chapter 5
<i>Week Three</i>		
January 23, 25	Racial Problems, Gender Problems	Gilmore essay
January 27	Philanthropy as a political expression	Borden Essay
<i>Week Four</i>		
January 30, Feb. 1, 3	The Progressives and Club Women	Woloch, Chp. 6, Sklar essay (pg. 52)
<i>Week Five</i>		
February 6, 8	Suffrage Movements	Woloch, Chapter 7
February 10	Peace, War & Women	Orleck essay
<i>Week Six & Seven</i>		
Feb 13, 15, 17, 20, 22	Class Presentations	<i>Good luck!</i>
<i>Week Seven</i>		
February 24	The fight over Birth Control	Woloch, Chapter 8, Gordon Essay, Rodrigue Essay
<i>Week Eight</i>		
February 27	Midterm review	
March 1	Midterm Exam	<i>Good luck!</i>
March 3	No class—re-group after exam	
March 6-10	Spring Break	<i>Enjoy!</i>
<i>Week Ten</i>		
March 13, 15	The Twenties “New Woman”	Sklar essay (pg. 154)
March 17	Suffrage Realized	Terborg-Penn Essay
<i>Week Eleven</i>		
March 20	Hard Times: The Depression	Woloch, Chapter 9
March 22, 24	Eleanor Roosevelt’s Government	<i>(additional reading)</i>
<i>Week Twelve</i>		
March 27, 29	WACS, WAVES & Rosies	Milkman essay
March 31	At War, at Home	
<i>Week Thirteen & Fourteen</i>		
April 3, 5, 7, 10, 12	Class Presentations	<i>Good luck!</i>
April 14	Spring Holiday-no class	<i>Enjoy!</i>
<i>Week Fifteen</i>		
April 17, 19	The Myth of the Fifties	Woloch, Chapter 10
April 21	Civil Rights	
<i>Week Sixteen</i>		
April 24, 26	Women in the Movement	<i>Payne Essay</i>
April 28	What’s Next?	<i>Woloch, Chapter 11</i>
May 1	Wrap Up and Final Assignment	
May 5 @ NOON	Final Exam	

Questions? Please feel free to ask!!