HISTORY 724
TWENTIETH CENTURY U.S. WOMEN’S AND GENDER HISTORY

This course will explore the field of twentieth century U.S. women’s and gender history. Students will examine how historians of women and gender have integrated race, sexuality, class, region, ethnicity, and nation into their work. They will explore the evolution of the field and contemplate new frontiers for future research.

GOALS AND LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- Reading secondary sources effectively, discerning central arguments and historiographical contributions
- Evaluating the strengths and limitations of different historical methodologies
- Acquiring the knowledge and frameworks needed to assess works in the field of U.S. women’s and gender history
- Effectively participating in oral and written scholarly discussions of historical works
- Developing clear and convincing historical arguments about secondary sources in writing and in person

COURSE REQUIREMENTS (all percentages are approximate):

Participation (40%): Everyone must come to class prepared to engage in a detailed discussion of the week’s reading. It is essential that you read thoroughly, make careful notes, and review your notes before class. You will be graded on the depth of your contributions in class as well as your ability to respond to your peers and keep the discussion focused and moving forward. Attendance in class is mandatory. More than one absence will adversely affect your grade.

Canvas Posts (35%): Before seven class periods, students will post one substantial comment about the reading. Canvas posts are due by 9pm on the Tuesday before our class but students are encouraged to post earlier. Your comment should be at least 200 words. It should demonstrate that you have read and thoroughly understand the main arguments of the assigned books and/or articles and offer some analysis in which you discuss their importance. You may discuss more than one reading or issue in your post and you do not need to connect them to each other. You must conclude by posing two or three questions for discussion.
During the first week of class, you must sign up for seven weeks. If something comes up and you find you cannot post, you may arrange to switch with someone else but you cannot move to another week arbitrarily.

All students are required to read the discussion board before class, whether or not they have posted. Students are encouraged to respond to the posts and will receive credit for engaging in meaningful discussions.

*Short Book Review (10%):* This two-page (500 word) book review should be modeled on reviews in the *Journal of American History*. You may choose one of the course readings to review.

*Final Paper (15%):* A paper that makes an argument about readings from the course. No additional reading or research required.