IDEAS AND METHODS IN THE STUDY OF GENDER
WAGS 300
Tuesday 2:00- 4:00 pm

Professor Basu
301 Cooper House
Office hours: Wednesdays 2-4 pm
Email: abasu@amherst.edu
Phone: x 2942

Course Materials:

The following books should be purchased from the Food for Thought Bookshop in Amherst:

Brooke Ackerly and Jacqui True, Doing Feminist Research in Political and Social Science, (2010)

Joey Sprague, Feminist Methodologies (2005)


All the other readings have been placed on E-Reserve. If you would like to purchase a hardcopy of the e-reserve readings, please fill out the online form:
https://www.amherst.edu/academiclife/departments/womens_gender_studies/forms/multilithorderform by Friday, February 3rd. Please note: you will be charged a fee for this service that is separate from the copyright fee for the course.

Course Requirements:

• Regular attendance (please inform me by email if you have to miss a class)
• Informed class participation
• Response papers on the talks and readings by guest speakers and on two other classes should be submitted on the Monday after the class at which they speak.
• Research proposals, papers and presentations. The due dates are as follows:

  Feb. 20th research paper proposals
  April 24th drafts of research papers
  May 1st, May 8th class presentations on research
  May 14th final papers

Your final grade will be determined by:

50% Research paper
10% presentation of research in class
Course Outline

1. **January 24th Introduction**
   
   Joan Scott, “Gender: A Useful Category of Analysis” (E)
   Anne Fausto-Sterling, “The Bare Bones of Sex” (E)

2. **Jan. 31st Feminist Epistemologies**

   Sprague, *Feminist Methodologies*, chapters 1, 2, 3 (P)
   
   

3. **February 7th Feminist Methods**

   Sprague, *Feminist Methodologies*, chapters 4, 5 (P)
   
   
   Meeting with Gretchen Gano, Research Librarian

4. **Feb. 14th Research Design**

   Brooke and True, *Doing Feminist Research*, chapters 1, 3-5, 7-10, 13 (P)
   
   Library visit

5. **Feb. 21st Interviewing and Field Work**

   Sprague, *Feminist Methodologies*, chapter 6 (P)
   
   Devault, “Talking and Listening,” in *Feminist Perspectives on Social Research* (E)
   

6. **Feb. 28th Film**
Film screening: Alfred Hitchcock, *Vertigo*

Guest Speakers: Amelie Hastie and Krupa Shandilya


"Feminism and Film: Critical Approaches," *Camera Obscura*, Fall 1976 (E)

Sigmund Freud, “Female Sexuality” *Sexuality and the Psychology of Love*, 184-201(E)

7. **March 6th Literature**

   Guest Speaker: Biddy Martin, Amherst College

   Readings TBA

8. **March 13th History**

   Guest Speaker: Margaret Hunt, Amherst College

   Kathleen Blee, *Women of the Ku Klux Klan* (E)

   Old Bailey Online (oldbaileyonline.org)

9. **March 27th Science**

   Guest Speaker: Banu Subramaniam, University of Massachusetts, Amherst


   Helen Verran, “Postcolonial Moment in Science Studies,” *Social Studies of Science*, (E)

10. **April 3rd Ethnography and Oral History**

    Guest Speaker: Kirin Narayan, University of Wisconsin, Madison
Ravina Aggarwal, Traversing Lines of Control: Feminist Anthropology Today. *Annals, AAPSS* 571:14-21 (E)

Lila Abu-Lughod, *Writing Women’s Worlds*, pp. Xi-viii, 1-42 (E)

Kirin Narayan, “Ethnography and Fiction: Where is the Border?,” *Anthropology and Humanism* (E)


11. April 10th Economics

Guest Speaker: Nancy Folbre, University of Massachusetts at Amherst

Folbre, “The Rise and Decline of Patriarchal Capitalism.” (E)


12. April 17th Political Science

Tickner, “Gendering a Discipline: Some Feminist Methodological Contributions to International Relations” *Signs*, 2005 (E)

“Contributions of Women Political Scientists to a More Just World,” *Politics & Gender* (E)

13. April 24th Dilemmas and Challenges of Feminist Research


14. May 1st Student Presentations

15. May 8th Student Presentations