

Introduction to Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies
SOC 298/GNDR 2110
ONLINE Syllabus

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Instructor: Barb Thompson
Course Section: 501
Office: Valencia Campus

Email: bthompson58@unm.edu
CRN: Term: Fall, 2020
Credit hours: 3

Online office hours: 9-10a Wednesday via ZOOM and by appointment.
<https://www.zoom.us/j/85038088311> enter password 760074

Office hours are optional, but recommended when you have questions about assignments or just want to talk about something on your mind. **It is possible that other students in your class may attend office hours at the same time.** If you have an issue that would best be discussed just between the two of us, please make an appointment for a time other than identified office hours.

Assignments: due by 11:59p on the assigned date

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Catalog Description:

This course introduces students to key concepts, debates, and analytical tools informing women, gender and sexuality studies. As an interdisciplinary field of study, this course employs academic perspectives from a range of disciplines and theoretical approaches. It also incorporates lived experience and social location into its object of analysis. Though content will vary according to the expertise and focus of the instructor, this course will develop tools through readings and assignments that critically analyze how gender and sexuality are shaped by different networks of power and social relations, and demonstrate how the intersection of race, class, disability, national status, and other categories identify and how differences are central to their understanding and deployment. In addition to feminist thought, areas of focus might include gender and sexuality in relation to social, cultural political, creative, economic, or scientific discourse. This class is recommended for those with a general interest in the topic area as well as for those seeking a foundational course for further study.

TEXTBOOKS/MATERIALS:

- The default text is The Sociology of Gender: A Brief Introduction, 4th Ed., by Laura Kramer and Ann Beutel. The VC bookstore supplies this text, but it can also be purchased or rented through Amazon. Please select whichever

option works best for you. **Having access to the textbook is necessary for successful completion of the course.**

- You will also need access to UNM email.
- UNM Learn for supplemental materials.

COURSE OUTCOMES/ Student Learning Outcomes (SLO):

After successful completion Sociology 298/GNDR 2110, the student will be able to:

1. Identify foundational concepts, theories, and approaches to gender and sexuality in conjunction with contemporary social justice movements such as feminism.
2. Describe the range of social and political forces that shape and are shaped by gender, sexuality, race/ethnicity, and other intersecting categories of identity
3. Demonstrate the ability to conduct intersectional analysis
4. Develop and improve skills in reading, critical thinking, academic writing, and public speaking.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS/ATTENDANCE:

Students enrolled for credit, credit/no credit, or audit are expected to complete all online assignments. Attendance will be determined by participation in online discussion.

TAKING AN ONLINE COURSE:

Some of you may not have taken an online course before, and may not know what to expect. Here are some things that might help to know.

An online course is not self-paced. There is a schedule for you to follow and deadlines to turn in assignments. Sometimes, the most important thing you learn in an online class is “don’t wait until the last minute”. If you follow the schedule and use your time well, you will be successful.

An online course is not self-directed. There is an instructor (me) who has worked really, really, really hard and long to make this class as meaningful a learning experience for you as if you were in a face to face class. I’ve made sure you will meet the learning objectives (getting your money’s worth) in ways that encourage you to think, be creative, interact with other students, and receive the feedback you need to know you have made progress. I’ll keep in contact with you throughout the course to prompt and guide you academically. Sometimes, I’ll check in with you just to see if you are doing ok as a human being...especially if I haven’t seen you check your course in a while. But feel free to follow the schedule at the time which works best for you. Your course will be available 24/7...after work, after dinner, after the kids go to bed, after your morning walk, before you shower. You can as your time allows: work for 30 min, have a snack, then start again, do laundry, and finish your class tasks. Remember to finish!

An online course is not easier than a face to face course. The type and quantity of work in an online class is EXACTLY the same as you would find in a face to face class. You will have to read, write, think, and communicate. You should absolutely find it challenging. It is easier in some respects: no fighting for a parking spot, no rushing to find your classroom, not having to be in a room with people you don't know.

It is also harder sometimes: no gentle, daily reminders of due dates, no cute person next to you to focus on, more distractions (most likely), and, when issues arise, the solution may not be immediate. There's likely to be more independent thinking and less absorbing the ideas of others. Making your brain hurt is my secret pleasure!

An online course is not scary. Ok, maybe it is for a little bit. But you will find each online course has a rhythm or a pattern, and suddenly, it isn't scary anymore. Maybe the technology is scary, but you'll get the hang of that too.

Students are expected to follow these UNM guidelines:

Academic integrity/Code of Conduct:

Students are expected to follow the following UNM guidelines:

- Academic Integrity Policy: Having academic integrity is paramount to your success in any class. This course has a zero tolerance for academic dishonesty. This includes "dishonesty in quizzes, tests, or assignments; claiming credit for work not done by you or done by others; hindering the academic work of other students..." and plagiarism-an academic theft committed when you copy an idea or any text than of more than six words from any source, including the internet, your friends, etc., without citing the source. To avoid plagiarism, you must enclose whatever you copy in quotations and cite the source. Any student suspected of academic dishonesty will be subject to the investigative and disciplinary process of UNM. This, and further information, is available at: <http://handbook.unm.edu/policies/section-d/d100.html>.
- The UNM Student Code of Conduct details behavioral rules and policies governing all students on all campuses at all activities. Each student is expected to maintain high standards of honesty in academic matters, with the University reserving the right to take disciplinary action. This, and further information is available at:
 - <http://pathfinder.unm.edu/campus-policies/student-code-of-conduct.html>
 - Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA) <http://www.cnm.edu/student-resources/academicrecords/academic-records-list/FERPA>

Grading will generally conform to the following:

A+=100-99%	B+=89-87%	C+=79-77%	D+=69-67%
A=98-94%	B=86-84%	C=76-74%	D=66-64%
A-=93-90%	B-=83-80%	C-=73-70%	D-=63-60%

Any grade below 60 will be assigned an F. According to UNM policy, (http://degrees.unm.edu/undergrad_programs/1312/degree_plans?disp_first=4+Year+Plan), the passing grade for all sociology courses is a "C". Students must complete all course requirements to earn credit for the course. Those who fail to complete the requirements will be assigned an "F". Only letter grades will be posted on your transcript. Students will earn points toward the grade of their choice in the following manner:

1. FORMATIVE ASSESSMENTS: Points for each assignment will be indicated on the Unit Task Page. Assignments are designed to provide and assess formative learning throughout the units. This means: have your read the materials, the supplement the readings, watched the videos, and completed the assignments. Are you getting the overall picture of what the material is trying to present? All assignments are due by 11:59p on the day it is due.

2. SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENTS: There will be 2 summative tests--a midterm and the final exam. You will have unlimited opportunities to take each test, with the highest score being recorded automatically. Tests are not time limited. These tests allow you to demonstrate your attention to course materials, readings, and exercises, and make connections to your personal life. Exams will be short answer. Each exam will be worth 100 points.

3. EXTRA CREDIT: There will be opportunities for extra credit. Check Blackboard for further information.

All assignments must be submitted online as **Word or .pdf documents only, presented professionally, double spaced in 12 font of Arial or Times Roman.** While this is not an English class, your work should reflect your grasp of written communication skills and be prepared in a professional manner. Too many grammatical errors will detract from your work. If you know you have difficulty with writing skills, please make use of the Writing Lab, which is available online. If I notice you have difficulty in writing clearly, I will suggest you contact the writing lab. Please do not be offended: I am only trying to help you be successful.

Please do not wait until the last days of the term to ask how to improve your grade. I will be happy to help you do your best in the class, but not at the last minute. **You should plan on at least 5 hours per week, depending on your reading speed, to complete the work needed for this class.**

Special Needs: In accordance with University Policy 2310 and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), any student who, because of a disability, may require certain special arrangements in order to meet course requirements should contact the instructor as soon as possible to make necessary accommodations. If you are a student with documented physical or learning disability, please notify me during the first week of class. If you have special needs and require accommodations in the classroom or other academic setting, it is your responsibility to contact the Office of Equal Access Services at 505-925-8560 (<http://valencia.unm.edu/about/accessibility.html>).

Veterans and active military personnel with special circumstances (e.g. upcoming deployment, drill requirements, disabilities) are welcome and encouraged to communicate these in advance, if possible, to the instructor. For additional assistance, please contact Frances Duran (Campus Branch Registrar) at 505-925-8585 or fduran@unm.edu.

Accommodations for Spiritual Tradition and/or Faith-Based Observances: Please notify me of your obligations to spiritual tradition or faith affiliation if this affects your ability to complete work according to deadlines. Reasonable accommodation for such observances, upon advanced request, will be considered.

Equal Opportunity and Non-Discrimination: In an effort to meet obligations under Title IX, UNM faculty, teaching assistants, and graduate assistants are considered “responsible employees” by the Dep. of Education, (see p. 15 <http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/qa-201404-title-ix.pdf>). This designation requires that any report of gender discrimination which includes sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, and sexual violence made to a faculty member, TA, or GA must be reported to the Title IX Coordinator at the Office of Equal Opportunity (oeo.unm.edu). For more information on the campus policy regarding sexual misconduct, see: <https://policy.unm.edu/university-policies/2000/2740.html>.

CLASSROOM (Online and otherwise) ETIQUETTE:

Preparation: Time is most precious commodity we have. You have chosen to spend this class time improving yourself. This is most easily accomplished by being prepared for class. Read the assignments, turn in your assignments and prepare to share your ideas.

Respect: This class is a lab for learning about society. We will cover topics which are personal to some of you, sensitive to many, and may be uncomfortable because they make you think in challenging ways. Respectful disagreement is expected, but there is NO tolerance for INTOLERANCE. Feel free to share your opinions, but respect the rights of others to share theirs, too. This instructor reserves the right to limit or end class discussion. My classroom—face to face AND online, is identified as a Safe Place for all.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ONLINE CLASSES:

Netiquette:

Rule 1. Remember we are all human.

- Never forget that the person reading your mail or posting is, indeed, a person, with feelings that can be hurt. It is not nice to hurt other people's feelings. Never mail or post anything you wouldn't say to your reader's face. Or your grandma. Or her pastor.
- Gender Studies should be thought provoking. Many of you/your colleagues have first-hand experience with the issues we are studying, and those experiences may be unpleasant. Emotions may be triggered by what we say on the Discussion Board. Remember: you never have to apologize for the harsh or unkind words unsaid/unwritten.
- Sarcasm and humor do not translate universally. And “I was only joking” is not an apology.

Rule 2. Adhere to the same standards of behavior online that you follow (we hope) in real life.

- Be ethical. Be kind. Be honest.
- Keep your discussions on topic and polite.
- Share your personal woes with your best friend, not your classmates.

Rule 3: Remember where you are.

This is a college-level course, conducted in English.

- Use your best writing skills. Use complete sentences. Spell Check is never foolproof. The blue underlined words should not be ignored. Abbreviated words or emojis may be appropriate for texts between friends, but they are not appropriate for this level of communication.
- You are sending your work through a server connected to the University. Do not include or submit any files, pictures, or writing that you would not present to the Dean of Students, the Chief of Police, and/or your mother.
- Capital letters should be used appropriately.

Rule 4. Respect other people's time and bandwidth.

- Post messages to the appropriate discussion group.
- Post your messages timely. A late post slows down the discussion.
- Try not to ask questions on discussion groups that have been answered previously.
- Read the FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) document.

Rule 5. Have an electronic back up plan.

- Who will allow you to have access to a computer, internet, printer, or whatever you need to submit an assignment during the week?
- Who will allow you to have access to a computer, internet, printer, or whatever you need to submit an assignment during the weekend?
- Have extra ink, paper, mouse batteries, etc. Don't ask how I know.

COMMUNICATION

1. Announcements: These will be made at the beginning of each new unit. They will provide an overview of the topic, refer to the task list, reinforce contact information, and point out due dates. Additional announcements will be made if changes are needed within the unit period.

2. Course Messages: These will be used throughout the unit to facilitate communication with individual students. **You will be expected to check your course messages DAILY.** I will too. You can expect I will answer questions within 24 hours on weekdays and 48 hours on weekends/holidays. If more than 2 students raise the same issue/question, it probably means others have questions too, so I make an announcement. There is a "best practices" way to address messages and emails. Start each with an appropriate greeting ("Hello, Professor Thompson" or "Greetings, Ms. Thompson") followed by your name and class.

3a. Discussion Boards: The purpose of the Discussion Board is to promote class communication, reflection, and, well, discussion, since we are not exactly together. There will be a discussion thread per unit, initiated by me (unless someone else wants to submit one to me. I'm interested in both substantive (information based) and responsive(what do **you** think or feel, beyond the facts or issues?) Each will focus on student's personal reactions to a topically related sociological issue. Discussion board posts will be due after assigned text material should have been read. **Responses to colleagues can be submitted only if an initial thread is done first.** To create an acceptable response, you should (a) respond to posts which interest you (b) follow the netiquette rules (c) reply in 3-5 sentences, with something responsive and communicative, usually with an open ended question. Please, please, please...be more interactive than "I liked your post." Students will be advised that mostly, I lurk on discussion boards, with few comments, except to reinforce deeper-level thoughts or to address/redirect issues. Don't assume, however, that I won't notice if you don't participate.

3b. The first post will be "For Further Investigation": Some students may want to pursue a topic in greater depth than a class might offer. Some are already participating in sociologically-related activities, volunteering, know of resources other students might need or have interests they want to share. This section will be an on-going resource place. The Further Investigation section (with no points attached) will give students a

chance to look at local resources, activities, videos, readings, etc. that didn't make it into the unit.

4. Emails: These will be used to supplement course messages to students who need a little extra prompting or guidance. I will use your UNM email after no response to a course message to remind students that I am monitoring their progress/lack of progress and offer a one-on-one session to address any concerns they might be having. Emails or course messages should never be viewed as "uh-oh...I'm in trouble."

5. Virtual Office Hours: ZOOM will be used for virtual office hours once weekly and by appointment. **Students will be offered 25 points for attending virtual office hours at least one time during the semester.** I'd love to see your shining, happy face!

Zoom In Happy Hour! Several times this semester, a Happy Hour will be offered as a way to further an online social opportunity. This is not anything that will interfere with anyone's path to sobriety. This is a no-obligation opportunity lasting an hour-ish, where we can be just share happy stuff. You can bring you kids, you pets, your significant other, or whatever. Show us your new home haircut or the dinner you have prepared. We can listen to music, play with the Zoom background, tell jokes, or talk about whatever. Little or no learning content required. Did I mention that first time attendees will receive 25 bonus points?

Late Submissions: All work is expected to be turned in timely, by the deadlines posted online. Emergencies will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis by the instructor. There is no guarantee of full credit for late submissions. Any work turned in after the due date of the final exam will not be considered credit.

Withdrawals and Incompletes: If you think you need withdraw from an online class or take an incomplete, I would appreciate an email from you before you do it.

Electronic Communication:

All electronic communication will be done through Blackboard's Course Messages. This archives communication between us. Email to my UNM email should be used only if Blackboard is down, and responses will be made via course messages.

Technical Requirements: Course participants are expected to have access to, and working knowledge of the following:

Microsoft Word: basic word processing functions, including creating and saving files

PowerPoint: the ability to access, create and use PowerPoint effectively

Adobe Acrobat Reader

YouTube

Although many Smart Phones may allow internet access, it is generally not sufficient to access this online course through that method. If you need assistance with computer access or internet access, contact the VC campus library.

Assignment schedule:

The textbook chapters are not long, but require a bit more comprehension than an introductory text. This is an advanced class, so that should be expected. It may also mean that you will read more slowly than you are used to. It is essential that you read them in order to complete assignments and pass tests. Because of this, I have allocated **2 weeks for each unit**. That should allow you plenty of time to complete your chapter reading and any supplemental work. If any changes to the schedule are needed, these will be posted in Announcements.

Assignment Schedule

Weeks/Dates/Topic	Readings	Aligns with SLO
Week 1 & 2 (8-17 to 8-30-20) Introduction to Gender	Chapter 1 in required text p. 1-21	SLO 1,3, 4
Week 3 & 4 (8-31 to 9-13-20) Perspectives and Practices	Chapter 2 in required text p. 22-55	SLO 2, 3, 4
Week 5 & 6 (9-14 to 9-27-20) How do we "learn" and "do" gender?	Chapter 3 in required text p. 56-85	SLO 2, 3, 4
Week 7 & 8 (9-28 to 10-11-20) Women's relationships	Chapter 4 in required text p. 86-117	SLO 2, 3, 4
Week 9-10(10-12 to 10-25-20) Educating Women	Chapter 5 in required text p. 118-139	SLO 2, 3, 4
Week 11-12 (10-26 to 11-8-20) Women's Economic Role	Chapter 6 in required text p. 140-169	SLO 2, 3, 4
Week 13-14 (11-9 to 11-22-20) Privilege, Oppression, & Inequality	Chapter 7 in required text p. 170-195	SLO 2, 3, 4
Week 15-16 (11-23 to 12-6-20) The Future of Gender	Chapter 18 in required text p. 196-202	SLO 2, 3, 4
Week 17(12-7 to 12-12-20) Final exam		

The syllabus is a guideline for this class. Changes may be made as needed, but you will be provided with sufficient notification for any graded activity.