



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL AND CULTURAL STUDIES  
*Te Kura Mahinga Tangata*

**Sociology and Social Policy**

**SACS 202**

**Topic in Feminist Theory: Key Thinkers and Perspectives**

**20 POINTS**

**TRIMESTER 2 2015**

**Important dates**

**Trimester dates:** 13 July to 15 November 2015

**Teaching dates:** 13 July to 16 October 2015

**Mid-trimester break:** 24 August to 6 September 2015

**Last assessment item due:** 15 October 2015 (in class test)

**Study period:** 19–23 October 2015

**Examination/Assessment Period:** 23 October to 14 November 2015

**Withdrawal dates:** Refer to [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds). If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats).

## Class times and locations

Lectures: Tuesday 14:10 - 15:00 Hunter HULT119  
Thursday 14:10 - 15:00 Hunter HULT119

## Names and contact details

**Course Coordinator**      **Dr Rhonda Shaw**  
Murphy Building, MY 1007  
Tel: 04 463 6134  
E-mail: [rhonda.shaw@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:rhonda.shaw@vuw.ac.nz)  
Office Hours:                Tuesday and Thursday 3.00 pm – 4.00 pm

## Communication of additional information

Additional information related to the course will be made available on Blackboard. You will automatically receive all Blackboard announcements as an email sent to your @myvuw.ac.nz email address. If you are not going to use this Victoria email address set up for you, we strongly encourage you to set a forward from the Victoria email system to the email address you do use.

## Prescription

This course will examine the major influences on and developments in feminist theory up to the present day. Topics include knowledge, power, biology, sexuality, ethnicity, class, science, technology and space.

## Course content

July 14	Introduction to feminist perspectives (RS)
July 16	Early second wave feminists (RS)
July 21	Dworkin and MacKinnon (CH)
July 23	Germaine Greer (JS-S)
July 28	Mana wahine me te raweke ira: Māori feminist thought and genetic modification (JH)
July 30	A feminist politics of black subjectivity (JS)
August 4	Iris Marion Young and phenomenology (RS)
August 6	Kathy Davis – Bodies and knowledge (RS)
August 11	Feminist Epistemologies – How research should proceed (AW)
August 13	Feminist Empiricism and the Measurement of Gender (AW)
August 18	Feminist Post-structuralism (AW)
August 20	Feminist ethnomethodology and Feminist Conversation Analysis (AW)
September 8	Feminist geography and geographers (SK)
September 10	R.W. Connell and hegemonic masculinity (AB)
September 15	Feminist perspectives on international development (SK)
September 17	Judith Butler and performativity (AB)
September 22	Feminist engagements with refugee settlement (SK)
September 24	Feminism meets queer theory (AB)
September 29	Postfeminism and feminism (SJ)
October 1	Postfeminism and the third way (SJ)
October 6	Postfeminism as a sensibility (SJ)
October 8	Summary lecture (RS)
October 13	Test preparation (RS)
October 15	<b>In-class</b> Test (RS)

## Course learning objectives (CLOs)

This course aims to introduce you to feminist theory. Students who pass this course should be able to:

1. Display their grasp of the work of key feminist thinkers from different historical periods
2. Distinguish from a variety of feminist theoretical perspectives
3. Apply the theoretical ideas covered to practical and real-life issues
4. Critically evaluate the contributions of social science and psychological approaches to understanding gender identity.

## Teaching format

Lectures and tutorials.

Lectures for this course will be given by the course coordinator and guest lecturers from across the university.

Tutorials start in week 3. There are 9 tutorials for this course and students are expected to attend at least 6 of them. This will ensure students have the opportunity to develop a deeper understanding of the core themes explored in the course (see course prescription) and to develop oral communication and teamwork skills through participating in the tutorial exercises. Details about tutorial classes will be available at the first lecture. Enrolment for tutorial classes will be done using the Student Allocator System

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/timetables/tutorial-sign-up>

## Mandatory course requirements

Students must submit all in-term assignments and assessments (Essay 1 and Essay 2) and sit the final 50 minute Test at the end of the course. In order to demonstrate the achievement of all the Course Learning Objectives you must obtain at least 35% for any assignment (i.e., the essays and examination).

Any student who is concerned that they have been (or might be) unable to meet any of the MCRs because of exceptional personal circumstances, should contact the course coordinator as soon as possible.

## Workload

The expectations are that students will work 10 hours per point, therefore a 20 point course equates to 200 hours over the trimester. This include scheduled contact time, individual or group study, and work on assessment tasks.

In addition to attending the lectures (24 hours for the trimester) and tutorials (up to 9 hours) students can expect to spend on average, approximately 40-50 hours reading preparation for the course, 40 hours preparing for Essay 1, 35 hours preparing Essay 2, and 25 hours preparing for the in-class Test.

## Assessment

This course is 100% internally assessed and requires three pieces of work (two essays and one in-class test).

Assessment items and workload per item	%	CLO(s)	Due date
1   2500 – 3000 word essay	40	2, 4	4pm 21 August
2   2000 word essay	35	3, 4	4pm 9 October
3   In-Class test (50 minutes)	25	1, 2, 4	2pm 15 October

### **Essay 1**

**Weighting: 40%**

**Due: 4pm, Friday, 21 August**

Write a 2500-3000 word essay on the following question.

Draw on two key themes to discuss the contribution to feminist thought of any one theorist covered in this course.

### **Essay 2**

**Weighting: 35%**

**Due: 4pm, Friday, 9 October**

For this assignment you are required to write a 2000 word essay. You must write on a different theorist and different topic from your first essay.

A common theme for feminist scholarship has been to show the political significance of matters not traditionally considered political. Drawing on theory covered in this course critically discuss how a feminist scholar would address one of the following issues, with a view to implementing reform or social change: gender identity, work, sex trafficking, sex or race discrimination, poverty, sexual harassment, rape, pornography, multiculturalism, genetic modification, domestic violence, disability, citizenship, or pregnancy.

### **Marking criteria**

Marking criteria for essays and essay writing guides will be posted on Blackboard and discussed in tutorial classes.

### **In-class test**

**Weighting: 25%**

**2.10 – 3.00pm, Thursday, 15 October**

A guidance statement on the test will be handed out two weeks before the date of the test.

### **Submission and return of work**

#### **Assignment presentation requirements**

You must submit a hard copy *and* an electronic copy of your essays. The hard copy gets marked. Essays must be placed in the assignment box on level 9, Murphy Building (to the side of the lifts), by 4pm on the due date. Your essay **MUST NOT** be placed in individual staff pigeonholes, or under staff office doors, or emailed or handed to lecturers or tutors. The Assignment Box is cleared at 4pm every day. All work is date-stamped, recorded and then handed to the appropriate markers. Electronic copies of your essays must be submitted to Turnitin. Turnitin is an online plagiarism prevention tool which compares submitted essays to material available on the web and to previously submitted essays.

Every effort will be made to return marked assignments within two weeks of the due date.

Marked assignments not collected in lectures or tutorials can be collected at the Murphy 9<sup>th</sup> floor reception desk, between **2.00 and 4.00 pm only** from Monday to Friday.

The in-class test will be collected up at the end of the class on October 15.

### **Extensions and Penalties**

#### **Extensions**

Assignments are due on the dates stated. If for some serious reason you don't think you can get an essay in on time, see your course co-ordinator **prior** to the due date and discuss the problem. Extensions of time are not permitted except for illness or bereavements.

## **Penalties**

Late submissions for student assignments in all SACS undergraduate courses are subject to a penalty. The exact deduction will be calculated on the basis of one half mark per day late for each 10 marks, i.e. 1 mark will be deducted each day for an assignment worth 20% of the total course mark.

Note: assessment work will not be accepted for marking more than 7 days after the due date or 7 days after an approved extension date. Work must still, however, be submitted to meet the mandatory course requirements.

## **Materials and equipment and/or additional expenses**

There are no additional materials required for this course with the exception of the course readings.

## **Practicum/placement/field trip/internship arrangements**

There are no other arrangements for this course.

## **Set texts**

Each student should buy the prepared book of Student Notes. Students can order student notes online at [www.vicbooks.co.nz](http://www.vicbooks.co.nz) or can email an order or enquiry to [enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz](mailto:enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz).

## **Recommended reading**

There are a number of excellent journals you can consult, including:

*Australian Feminist Studies*

*Feminism and Psychology*

*Feminist Review*

*Feminist Theory*

*Gender & Society*

*Gender, Place and Culture*

*Hypatia*

*Journal of Gender Studies*

*Journal of Men's Studies*

*Men and Masculinities*

*Sex Roles*

*Sexualities*

*Signs: Journal of Women in Culture & Society*

*Women's Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal*

*Women's Studies International Forum*

## **Class representative**

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course. Students may like to write the Class Rep's name and details in this box:

Class Rep name and contact details:

## Student feedback

SACS 202 was evaluated in 2013 and 2014. Student feedback indicated interest in more tutorial classes, in line with lecture content. More classes have been scheduled for 2015. Course Evaluation details will be found at [www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback\\_display.php](http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php).

## Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism)
- Aegrotats: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats)
- Academic Progress: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress) (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates)
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: [www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin)
- Grades: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades)
- Resolving academic issues: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications)
- Special passes: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications)
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy)
- Student support: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support)
- Students with disabilities: [www.victoria.ac.nz/st\\_services/disability](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability)
- Student Charter: [www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter)
- Student Contract: [www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract)
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Turnitin: [www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin](http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin)
- University structure: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure)
- Victoria graduate profile: [www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile)
- VUWSA: [www.vuwsa.org.nz](http://www.vuwsa.org.nz)

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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