



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL AND CULTURAL STUDIES

SOCIOLOGY AND SOCIAL POLICY

SACS 202

Topic in Feminist Theory: Key Thinkers and Perspectives

20 POINTS

TRIMESTER 2 2016

Key dates

Trimester dates: 11 July to 13 November 2016

Teaching dates: 11 July to 16 October 2016

Mid-trimester break: 22 August to 4 September 2016

Last assessment item due: 14 October 2016

Study period: 17–20 October 2016

Examination/Assessment Period: 21 October to 12 November 2016

Note: students who enrol in courses with examinations must be able to attend an examination at the University at any time during the scheduled examination period.

Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds.

If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test in the last three weeks of teaching, or an examination, it may instead be possible to apply for an aegrotat (refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats).

Class times and locations

Lectures: Wednesday 2:10 - 3:00pm Hunter HULT220

Friday 2:10 - 3:00pm Hunter HULT119

Names and contact details

The staff member with overall responsibility for this course is Associate Professor Rhonda Shaw, who is available to discuss any student queries about the course and assessment.

Course Coordinator Associate Professor Rhonda Shaw

Murphy Building, MY 1007

Tel: 04 463 6134

E-mail: rhonda.shaw@vuw.ac.nz

Office Hours: Thursday 1:00 – 3:00pm

Communication of additional information

Additional information will be communicated in lectures and 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. 100% internal assessment.

Course content

July 13	Introduction to course (RS)
July 15	Feminist perspectives: An Overview (RS)
July 20	Dworkin and MacKinnon (CH)
July 22	Friedan and De Beauvoir (RS)
July 27	Mana wahine me te raweke ira: Māori feminist thought and genetic modification (JH)
July 29	A feminist politics of black subjectivity (JS)
August 3	Feminist geography and geographers (SK)
August 5	Feminist perspectives on international development (SK)
August 10	A postcolonial feminist perspective: Trinh T. Minh ha (JS)
August 12	Feminist Empiricism: Sandra Bem (AW)
August 17	Feminist Post-structuralism: Kesler and McKenna (AW)
August 19	Feminist ethnomethodology & Conversation Analysis: Kitzinger (AW)
September 7	Bodies and Knowledge: Kathy Davis (RS)
September 9	Feminist phenomenology: Iris Marion Young (RS)
September 14	Gayle Rubin's The Traffic in Women (MM)
September 16	Luce Irigaray's Rivalment of Philosophy and other matters (MM)
September 21	Elizabeth Grosz's <i>Volatile Bodies</i> (MM)
September 23	Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick (MM)

September 28	R.W. Connell and hegemonic masculinity (AB)
September 30	Judith Butler and performativity (AB)
October 5	Postfeminism and feminism (SJ)
October 7	Postfeminism and the third way (SJ)
October 12	Postfeminism as a sensibility (SJ)
October 14	In-class 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	19 August
2 2000 word essay	35	3, 4	7 October
3 In-Class test (50 minutes)	25	1, 2, 4	14 October

Essay 1

Weighting: 40%

Due: 4pm, Friday, 19 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, 7 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%

Date and time: Friday, 14 October (2:10 – 3:00pm)

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

Submission and return of work

Submit a paper copy to the Assignment Box at the SACS Administration Office, Level 9, Murphy Building (to the side of the lifts), by 4:00pm on the due date. Your essay **MUST NOT** be placed in individual staff pigeonholes, or under staff office doors, or handed to lecturers or tutors. The Assignment Box is cleared at 4:00pm every day. All work is date-stamped, recorded and then handed to the appropriate markers.

Marked assignments not collected in lectures or tutorials can be collected at the Murphy 9th floor reception desk, between **11.00 am and 3.00 pm only from Monday to Friday**.

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 supervisor **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 Sociology and Social Policy 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. **You are advised to always keep a copy of any work you submit for assessment.**

Set texts

There is no set text or book of student notes for this course. All essential and recommended readings will be placed on Blackboard by the Course Coordinator.

Recommended reading

Suggestions for recommended readings will be posted on Blackboard by the Course Coordinator.

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.

Student feedback

A course evaluation of SACS 202 was undertaken in 2014 and more tutorial classes are now offered due to student request. Student feedback on University courses may be found at 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
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades
- Special passes: refer to the *Assessment Handbook*, at www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf

- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Terms and conditions: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- Victoria graduate profile: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz

School Contact Information

Head of School: Prof Brigitte Bönisch-Brednich, MY1019
 Phone: 463 6528
 Email: brigitte.bonisch-brednich@vuw.ac.nz

International Student Liaison: To be advised

Māori and Pacific Student Liaison: Dr Trevor Bradley, MY1101
 Phone: 463 5432, Email: trevor.bradley@vuw.ac.nz

Students with Disabilities Liaison: Dr Sarah Wright, MY1115
 Phone: 463 5874, Email: sarah.wright@vuw.ac.nz

School Manager: La'Chelle Pretorius, MY918
 Phone: 463 6546, Email: lachelle.pretorius@vuw.ac.nz

School Administrators: Suzanne Weaver, Gill Blomgren, MY921,
 Phone: 463 5317; 463 5258; 463 5677
 Email: sacs@vuw.ac.nz

School of Social and Cultural Studies: www.victoria.ac.nz/sacs