

HM48 – Women Across Cultures

Dr. Christina Beard-Moose

Office Hours: On-Line, Friday 9-10am

Monday through Thursday, 9-9:30 am

Tuesday and Thursday, 12:30-1:30 pm

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**Women Around
the World**

Course Description:

Throughout this course, we will explore some basic themes that affect women around the world on a daily basis such as kinship and marriage, subsistence, political organization, religion, identity, globalization, race. Further, we will discover the myriad lifeways lived daily by women around the world through a feminist lens. By using anthropological texts as well as fiction, poetry, and memoirs by and about women, crucial aspects of culture, such as war and peace, women's bodies, and spirituality will be studied. Why a course that singles out women? We will attempt to answer that question on our first night together. But, primarily, it because women are still given little primacy in the academic world, especially in the realms primary and secondary education.

Objectives:

- ♀ Know & discuss the central unifying concepts and principles of feminist anthropology.
- ♀ Demonstrate the cultural character of human experience, behavior, and thought and what that means for women in culture.
- ♀ Emphasize the importance of learning and social milieu for cultural transmission.

Required Textbooks:

Burn, Shawn Meghan [WAC]

2005 *Women Across Cultures: A Global Perspective*. McGraw-Hill Press, NY.

Nelson, Sarah Milledge, editor [I & S]

2007 *Identity and Subsistence: Gender Strategies for Archaeology*. AltaMira Press, UK.

!!!!!!!!!!WARNING!!!WARNING!!!WARNING!!!WARNING!!!WARNING!!!WARNING!!!!!!!!!!!!

By intention, this class may be hazardous to your current belief system, worldview, and understanding of the cosmos. There is undoubtedly something here that will offend someone.

You should expect to be angry and perhaps even changed by the experience.

Some of the materials used in this class may be especially difficult for some students.

The graphic nature of these materials makes it essential that students be able and willing to conduct themselves with maturity.

!!!!!!!!!!WARNING!!!WARNING!!!WARNING!!!WARNING!!!WARNING!!!WARNING!!!!!!!!!!!!

Basic Student Responsibilities:

In addition to the usual expectations of attendance and preparation, you, the student, are expected to contribute to class discussion. Cultivating an anthropological awareness requires that you learn the basic elements of systematic and critical social science, rather than trusting and relying on ideological or common sense accounts of the world. Therefore, I expect you to think critically, interact with other students and ask questions. ALL questions asked in class are valid and deserve attention. Remember, you have something valuable to say and what you learn from this class will be in proportion to what you put into it!

Attendance and Class Participation:

Your presence is required in this class every scheduled meeting time. I take roll daily and I notice who participates in class discussion. If you are shy, I urge you to come speak to me in private during office hours. My goal is to create an atmosphere that encourages questions, comments, new ideas at all times. In accordance with college-wide policy, each student is allowed two absences for the semester. If you know that you will be out for **SOMETHING IN ADVANCE [E.G. SPORTS PARTICIPATION, JOB-RELATED ISSUES, or CHILD-RELATED ISSUES]**, *please* let me know. You and you alone are responsible for catching up with work that you may have missed in class. (60 points)

Weekly Quizzes:

There will be a quiz for every chapter that we cover in the text, usually thirteen to fifteen. They will be done on-line and must be accessed through <http://drbeardmoose.com>. You must read the chapter in order to complete the quiz. Quizzes **CANNOT** be made up. Once they are removed from the website, they are no longer available for credit. If you miss one, it counts as a '0.' However, I will only count the top ten quiz grades for the term. There are also a few quizzes that we will do in class as exercises. The same rules apply, you miss it, you get a '0.' (100 points)

Exams:

There will be a total of three [3] exams for this class. The first two exams will be take-home and will represent the writing and research component for the class. The third exam will be an in-class final encompassing material from all of the quizzes, movies, and readings. **Any type of plagiarism or cheating will be dealt with quickly and severely with an automatic 'F' in the class. For college-wide policy, see catalog p. 69.** (300 pts)

Group Projects:

To be discussed separately during the third week of class. (100 points)

Grading:

I use a simple tally of points for the final grade. There are 560 points available. If you get:

504-560 =A

474-503 =B+

448-473 =B

418-447 =C+

392-417 =C

362-391=D+

336-361=D

<335=F

CLASS SCHEDULE:

TEXTBOOK AND READINGS:

QUIZZES:

Week 1: 2/3	WAC	Chapter 1: Introductions * Academics as Activists: What can you do.	Test Quiz: p. 15 [In Class]
Week 2: 2/10	I & S	Chapter 6: Gender Dynamics in H/G Societies: Archaeological Methods Film: "Women of the Earth"	In 300+ words, discuss women's roles in foraging societies. You need one outside source from the internet to supplement the chapter.
Week 3: 2/17	I & S	Chapter 7: Gender and Early Farming Societies Chapter 8: Women, Gender and Pastoralism Film: "Women Pharoahs"	In 300+ words, discuss how women's roles changed in horticultural and pastoral societies from the relative egalitarianism of those found in foraging societies. Does this change affect how patriarchal societies began? Why or why not.
Week 4: 2/24	WAC	Chapter 2: Status of Women in the World From Whence Patriarchy? Film: "Bride Kidnapping in Kyrgyzstan"	Quiz: p. 42, #s 1, 2, 4, 10, & 11.
Week 5: 3/3	WAC	Chapter 3: Reproductive Rights Film: "Warrior Marks"	Quiz: p. 70, #s 1, 2, 5, & 11.

3/8 – International Women's Day

!!!!!!!!!!!!!!TAKE-HOME EXAM #1 DUE ON MARCH 12, NO EXCEPTIONS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Week 6: 3/10

Week 7: 3/17	WAC	Chapter 4: Lesbians in Cross-Cultural Perspective	Quiz: p. 93, #s 1, 3, & 5. Extra Question: How does the study of lesbians intersect with the study of nonbinary genders?
	I & S	Chapter 4: The Archaeology of Nonbinary Genders in Native North American Societies Poetry Reading.	

Week 8: 3/24	WAC	Chapter 5: Women's Work Film: "China From the Inside"	Quiz: p. 130, #s 3 & 8; p. 131, # 1.
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Week 9: 4/7	WAC	Chapter 6: Women and Development Film: "Dadi's Family" Challenging Poverty	Quiz: p.162, #s 4, 5, & 8.
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!!!!!!!!!!!!!!Spring Break: March 29– April 4 NO CLASSES!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Week 10: 4/14	WAC	Chapter 7: Women and Globalization Film: "Born Into Brothels"	Quiz: p. 186-87, #s 1, 2, 3, & 5.
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CLASS SCHEDULE [continued]:

Week 11: 4/21 WAC Chapter 8: Women and Religion Quiz: p. 221, #s 1, 2, 6, & 7.
Film: "The Burning Times"

!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**TAKE-HOME EXAM #2 DUE ON APRIL 21, NO EXCEPTIONS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

Week 12: 4/28 **Week of Awareness: Stop Violence Against Women Day and Take Back the Night Rally @ 7pm**

Week 13: 5/5 WAC Chapter 11: Women's Rights as Human Rights Quiz: p. 317, #s 1, 6, 7, & 10.
CEDAW – Join the Fight, Join the Discussion

Week 14: 5/12 **GROUP PROJECT PRESENTATIONS**

WEEK 15: 5/19 **TURN-IN FINAL EXAM: FINAL DAY OF CLASS**

Please keep in mind that the syllabus calendar is meant to guide us through the semester. However, there will be times that we may spend more time on one discussion topic and less on another and the class calendar will change accordingly. The dates for the exams are fixed and will not be moved as are the dates for the group presentations. Other than that, it is important to remain flexible to ensure the best possible use of class time and to ensure everyone's questions and concerns are answered at all times.

