

Sociology of Gender

Westfield State College

Spring 2009

Instructor: Karen Straight, Ph.D.

Phone: 307-735-4177

Office Hours: By appointment.

Texts:

Renzetti, C15-31.T 9(ai53Od4CI5-31.T)-33 Tf76TETq2 Di(53Od4CI Tf76T3 r(286P .0141 Tc1 0 lt316.2(- strengths and weaknesses of each at both the theoretical and political levels. This will lead to a discussion on the current status of the women's movement and growing interest in the men's movement. We will venture into the private realm to see how gender roles are negotiated, challenged, rejected, or maintained through an analysis of power dynamics within the family and through interpersonal communications. On a more controversial level, we will debate the influence of media such as television, movies, ads, and pornography on gender roles and relations. Ultimately, we will analyze the relationship between homophobia and the sex/gender system within which we live.

Course Assignments and Expectations

The following are my expectations as well as the requirements of this class toward your semester grade.

1. You are expected to participate regularly. Students need to keep up with the readings and review all lecture materials posted under Course Documents/Course Topics. Follow the due dates outlined in this document closely.
2. You will be allowed to take exams over a set number of days. Exams will not be provided outside of these dates.

Evaluation of Assignments:

I will look for definite qualities in evaluating your work. Some expectations include the following:

1. The development of independent thinking.
2. Utilization and specific references to course materials.
3. A willingness to play with new ideas — yours and others.
4. The development of competence at learning from others and integrating those ideas which

5. The writing of a well-formulated paper. Be deliberate and reflective in your use of language.
6. The exploration of complicated ideas, even if you find you cannot come to a neat and easy conclusion.
7. The development of competence in writing that summarizes, analyzes and argues.

Please Note: All assignments must be submitted into the course system. Click on "Assignments," select the assignment, complete the assignment, and upload your response by attaching the document. Assignments will not be accepted via email. All assignments must be uploaded in this manner for record keeping purposes.

Exams:

Four exams will be administered throughout the course. The exams will **not** be cumulative. The exams will be available for one week. However, once you launch the exam, you must complete it in one 1.5 hour session.

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Discussions:

We will have ten discussions during the term. I have noted the discussions in the schedule of topics, assignments and readings below. Here are my expectations:

1)

Topic and Date	Reading	Assignments
Sex and Gender 1/20 – 2/1	Chapters 1 – 3 in R & C Readings 11, 12, and 14 in Disch	<p>Introduce yourself in Discussion(not graded) by 1/23</p> <p>Social Construction of Gender Discussion- Post your response to the discussion assignment by 1/28 and reply to two peers by 1/30).</p>
Socialization 2/2 -2/8	Chapter 4 in R & C	<p>Socialization Discussion -Post your response to the discussion assignment by 2/4 and reply to two peers by 2/6).</p> <p>Test One - Available from 2/2 – 2/8. You must complete the exam in one 1.5 hour sitting.</p> <p>This test will cover chapters 1-4 (R&C), readings 11, 12, 14 (Disch) and materials within the course learning units related to those chapters.</p>
Schools and Gender 2/9 – 2/15	Chapter 5 in R & C Readings 43, 44, 45 in Disch	Education Discussion- Post your response to the assignment by 2/11 and reply to two peers by 2/13).
Language and Media 2/17 – 3/1	Chapter 6 in R & C Readings 26, 29, 31 in Disch	<p>Language Discussion Post your response to the assignment by 2/18 and reply to two peers by 2/20).</p> <p>Media Discussion- Post your response to the assignment by 2/25 and reply to two peers by 2/27).</p> <p>Test Two– The exam will be available from 2/23 – 3/1. You must complete it in one 1.5 hour session.</p> <p>This exam will cover chapters 5 and 6 (R&C), readings 26, 29, 31, 43, 44, 45 (Disch), and materials within the course learning units related to those</p>

		chapters.
Gender and Intimate Relationships 3/2 – 3/15	Chapter 7 in R & C Readings 32, 34, 37, 39 in Disch	Marriage Discussion- Post your response to the discussion assignment by 3/4 and reply to two peers by 3/6).
Gender Employment and the Economy Spring Break 3/16 – 3/22 3/23- 3/29	Chapter 8 in R & C Readings 47, 48 and 50 in Disch	Gender and Employment Discussion- Post your response to the discussion assignment by 3/25 and reply to two peers by 3/27.
Gender, Crime, and Justice 3/30 – 4/5	Chapter 9 in R & C Readings 54,55, 58, and 59 in Disch	Test Three (3/30 – 4/5). You