How have feminists working across the disciplines changed the ways we see, read, and think? Against what traditions have they resisted, and in what new directions do their works lead us? What are the relationships between feminist analyses, artistic/imaginative production, research methodologies and tabulations, the politics (even violence?) of representation, and … women’s material realities? How does theory inform practice, and vice versa? What are the ethical implications – and responsibilities – of feminist research?

Studying feminist articulations on the (de)construction of historically raced, classed, and sexed subjectivities (and working with a diverse range of theoretical approaches in the various disciplines of the arts, social sciences, sciences, media, medicine/health studies and the law), this course explores how the practices of producing knowledge have real-life effects. Attentive to the ways feminist interventions at once resist, expand, and explode conventional approaches and ways of knowing, we will examine the implications of feminist analyses and methods, with a focus on ever-creative feminist resistance and recuperation.

ASSIGNMENTS:
- Attendance & Participation 10%
- Sparker with Writeup (in pairs; discussion facilitation) 10%
- Critical Reading Response (4-5 pages) 10%
- Mid-Term Exam (2 hours; short answer & essay format) 20%
- Annotated Bibliography with tentative thesis statement (prep for major essay; 4 sources; Due February 12) 10%
- Major Research Paper (8-10 pages; due March 19) 20%
- Final Exam (2 hours; short answer & essay format; in April exam period) 20%

TEXTS:
In 2014-15, you will need to purchase the following texts: Term 1: Kate Chopin’s *The Awakening and Other Stories* (*Oxford*: 2008); and a custom course anthology M10508. All texts can be purchased at the University Bookstore (please bring a hard copy of required readings to class). There may be additional readings on the website.

ENJOY THE COURSE!
LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

Work in WS 2220E should enable students to:

- recognize and critically engage some of the major feminist approaches and debates (across research, theory, and practice) in various academic disciplines;
- understand how theory and its practices across disciplines are shaped by the intersecting axes of race, class, sexuality, gender, and (dis)ability;
- develop nuanced awareness of how socio-political and historical factors (in addition to the above) impact canonical and other understandings of cultural, theoretical, and aesthetic “value”;
- reflect, both personally and analytically, on the implications of feminist theory and its applications in relation to our gendered material and everyday realities;
- improve oral and written communication;
- augment proficiency in critical thinking, research, and analytical skills.

TERM I:
Dr. Rita Gardiner

...The point is to learn to remember that we might have been otherwise, and might yet be, as a matter of embodied fact.
--- Donna Haraway

I. INTRODUCTION: FEMINIST THEORY, FEMINIST PRACTICE

Sept. 9:
Welcome & session objectives: terms and relations: ‘feminist,’ ‘theory,’ ‘practice’;
Discussion: ‘on the usefulness of theory’; Thinking about action & actioning thought:
YouTube: Montreal Massacre; Discussion: commemoration, action, community, change?
Sign up for sparkers

16:
Language, Voice, Power: Maria Lugones and Elizabeth Spelman, “Have We Got a Theory for You!”; Mari Matsuda, “Introduction” from Where Is Your Body?: And Other Essays on Race, Gender, and the Law;
Recommended: Audre Lorde, “The Master’s Tools Will Never Dismantle the Master’s House”

II. REPRESENTATION: Feminist In(ter)ventions in the Visible

23:
Un/Making Conventions, Un/Making Canons: Feminism and The Visual Arts
Amelia Jones, “Tracing the Subject with Cindy Sherman;” Griselda Pollock, “Visions of Sex c. 1920”
Recommended: John Berger, from Ways of Seeing.

30:
Feminist Film Theory and the Gaze

Oct. 07:
Other Ways of Seeing and Knowing
Gloria Anzaldúa, “Feminist Architecture;” Michelle Bogre, Photography as Activism – Images for Social Change, intro and cameos on the work of Ellen Mark, Susan Meiselas and Donna Ferrato
14  Storytelling, Selfhood & Inter/Subjectivity

Oct.  CRITICAL READING RESPONSE (10%); RESPONSE MUST BE IN RELATION TO A TEXT NOT YET COVERED IN LECTURE; PLEASE SUBMIT TO TURNITIN, AND BRING HARD COPY TO CLASS

21:  Kate Chopin, The Awakening; Discussion: Feminist Literary Theory

III. EMBODIMENT: TRADITIONS, TRANSLATIONS, TRANSPOSITIONS

28:  Discussion: the Body in Western Enlightenment tradition, other traditions, and in feminism;

Feminism in/and/against Philosophy and Psychoanalysis: Embodying Language & Desire: Luce Irigaray, “When Our Lips Speak Together”; Hélène Cixous, from “The Laugh of the Medusa”; Luce Irigaray, from “This Nothingness Which Separates Us”.


18  Isabel Karpin and Roxanne Mykitiuk, “Feminist Legal Theory as Embodied Justice”; Paisely Curriah, “The Transgender Rights Imaginary”; Mari Matsuda, from “We the People: Jurisprudence in Color”

IV: FEMINISM, APPROPRIATION, AND FEMINIST APPROPRIATION

Voices and Ethical Relations

25:  Feminism and Post/colonialism: Voices & Ethical Relations to Others: Gayatri Spivak from “Can the Subaltern Speak?”

Dec 2:  Feminism and Econ-Politics: Deborah Root, from Cannibal Culture: “Conquest, Appropriation, & Cultural Difference;” prep for December’s mid-term exam.

MID-TERM EXAM (20%) IN DECEMBER EXAM PERIOD, DATE TBA. BEST WISHES!

TERM II:
Dr. Kate Lawless

Feminist Theory and Practice

Jan. 13:  Introduction to Feminist Theory and Practice (37pp)


Jan. 20: Speaking from the Margins (48pp)


Jan. 27: Setting the Terms (57pp)


Feb. 3: Minding the Gaps (25pp)

**ANOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY WITH TENTATIVE THESIS STATEMENT DUE (10%)**


Epistemology

Feb. 10: Introducing Epistemology (27pp)


Feb. 17: READING WEEK

Feb. 24: Confronting Masculine Epistemologies (35pp)


**Film:** Asking Different Questions

Mar. 3: Debates in Feminist Epistemology (59pp)


**Methodology**

Mar. 10: Introducing Methodology (33pp)


Mar. 17: Feminist Anthropology (46pp)

**MAJOR RESEARCH PAPER DUE (20%)**


Mar. 24: Debates in Feminist Methodologies (40pp)


Ethics

Mar. 31: Ethics in Feminist Research (32pp)


Apr. 7: Final Thoughts (11pp)

**EXAM REVIEW; FINAL EXAM WILL BE HELD DURING THE SCHEDULED EXAMINATION PERIOD (APR 11-30), DATE TBA**


COURSE POLICIES

Submitting Assignments: Please hand in hard copies of all written assignments in WS 2220E; you are also required to submit electronic copies of all written assignments (excluding tests/exams) to Turnitin.com through the course Owl Sakai links. Here’s the statement on use of Turnitin from the University:

"All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under licence to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement currently between the University and Turnitin.com (http://www.turnitin.com); (http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/exam/courseoutlines.pdf)

Deadlines are registered as the date/time these assignments are due to Turnitin, and late penalties are assessed based on the submission time to the turnitin site – so please don’t forget to load your paper to Turnitin on time! Again, we need hard copies to mark, so assignments not handed in during class must be deposited in the WS essay drop box, located outside the WSFR Main Office doors, Lawson Hall 3260.

Essays not submitted to Turnitin will receive grades converted to 0. You cannot submit assignments in WS 2220E prepared for other courses.

Late & Missed Assignments: Regarding the University's medical policy, UWO Senate requires that “Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department. For UWO Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness see: http://www.westerncalendar.u4999wo.ca/2011/pg117.html and (https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm).” (See also http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf and the Student Medical Certificate (SMC) at http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/medicalform.pdf)
Requests for accommodation must be made as soon as possible and, according to A&H requirements, no later than within 28 days from the missed assignment.

Please note that where medical/compassionate accommodation does not apply, we will deduct the standard penalty of 2% per day for work submitted late, unless you have made arrangements with your instructor in person prior to the deadline.

**Attendance in classes:** UWO Senate stipulates that “Students whose absences from classes and/or tutorials are deemed excessive by the instructor can be debarred from writing the final exam in the course, according to the procedures established under “Examinations/Attendance” in the 2009 Western Academic Calendar (http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/operations/prooﬁng/academiccalendar2011.pdf).”

**Prerequisites:** “Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.” **Prerequisite for WS 2220E: WS 1020E, or permission from the Department Chair or Undergrad Chair.**

**Antirequisites:** WS 256E, 257E, 2256E or 2257E prior to 2012-13.

**Scholastic Offences:** “Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following website: http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2009/pg113.html.”

**Plagiarism:** “Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offense (see the ‘Scholastic Offense Policy’ in the Western Academic Calendar). Plagiarism checking: The University of Western Ontario uses software for plagiarism checking. Students may be required to submit their written work in electronic form for plagiarism checking.”

--- U.W.O. Senate statement on plagiarism

**Electronic devices in tests and exams:** No electronic devices are permitted during tests and exams.

**Owl:** Use of Owl is necessary for successful completion of this course. This includes accessing readings as required in the course outline, downloading instructions and guidelines for assignments, receiving course announcements and submitting assignments to Turnitin.com.

**Contact Info:** You may contact your professors in WS 2220E by email (see page 1). However, please note that we often receive an overwhelming volume of email daily (!) and so may require a few days to respond. Please use your UWO email accounts (rather than hotmail or others), with “WS 2220E” in the subject header. We are likely not able to answer substantive requests electronically.

**LET’S HAVE A FABULOUS YEAR!**