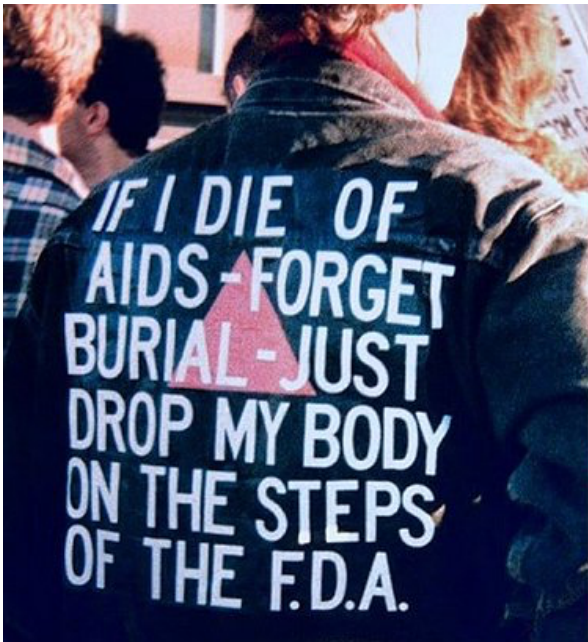


The University of Western Ontario
London, Ontario, Canada
Department of Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies
Fall 2022

GSWS 2164A: Gender and Fashion

NOTE: This is a preliminary syllabus that is subject to change.



Artist and AIDS activist David Wojnarowicz, late 1980s.

The department would like to recognize that we are located on the traditional land of the Anishinaabeg, Haudenosaunee, Lenape, and Attawandaron peoples.

Course Time and Place: Online
Please see below for additional details on the asynchronous aspects of this course.

Instructor: Jacob Evoy (they/them)
Email: jevoy2@uwo.ca
Office Hours: TBA
Office: All meetings will be via Zoom


Course Description
This course will provide students with an introduction to how fashion is utilized in the construction of gendered identities in different geographical and historical locations. This course will also explore how fashion plays a role in the construction of sexual and racialized identities as well as a means of establishing and rebelling against societal norms. The course will demonstrate to

students what clothing can tell us about empire, nation-building, protest, revolution, class, race, gender, sexuality, and identity.

Teaching Assistant				
Pronouns				
Email				
Office Hours				

All office hours will be held virtually via Zoom. Access to meetings can be found on the course OWL page under the Zoom tab. Students will only be permitted to join the Zoom call using their authenticated UWO account. Please note that to ensure confidentiality Waiting Rooms have been implemented for all office hours. Please be patient when the TA or instructor is meeting with another student.

Technical Requirements

	Stable internet connection		Laptop or computer
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Learning Objectives

Upon the completion of this course, students are expected to be able to:

- Critically examine how fashion is used to make statements about gender and identity
- Recognize the historical specificity of fashion statements and gender
- Understand how fashion is a means of establishing and rebelling against societal norms
- Understand how fashion is one of many ways that demonstrates the performativity of gender
- Have a general knowledge of the history of fashion in the West and how fashion is mobilized for different political purposes

Learning Outcomes and Transferable Skills

Upon the completion of this course, students are expected to:

- Improve critical thinking, writing, research, and analysis skills
- Possess an understanding of the importance of how social norms and customs, such as categories of gender and sexuality, are products of specific historical moments and contexts

Required Texts

There are no required texts students need to purchase for this course. All course material will be provided via the course website on OWL in two locations: 1) Resources → Readings, and 2) in the Course Content tab the weekly readings are posted with the corresponding week.

Asynchronous Learning

This course will be taught asynchronously. Asynchronous learning is self-directed and independent. All course materials will be provided via OWL. Completing the course requirements, listening to lectures, etc. are the responsibility of the students. Please plan your schedule accordingly.

Course lectures will be made available to students no later than the date indicated in the course schedule. For example, Week 2 From Corsets to Suffragettes will be released to students no later than Monday September 20. Please note that there are several guest lectures throughout the term. While the instructor will do their best to have all lectures posted well in advance, guest lectures may not be posted until the date indicated on the syllabus.



Photo by Thosh Collins. Clothing designed by Bethany Yellowtail.

Course Policies

Email Policy

Students are encouraged to use OWL messages to contact the instructor and TAs. Emails/OWL messages to the instructor and TAs will be responded to within 48 hours during regular working hours (Mon – Fri, 9-5pm). Please take note of and respect these working hours. If contacting the instructor or TA(s) via email, students must include the course code (GSWS2164) in the subject



Activist and philosopher Angela Davis entering court room, 1972.

line as well as use their official UWO email account. Emails without the course code and/or not sent from a UWO email are not beholden to the 48-hour response time. Students are reminded that OWL and their UWO emails are the primary methods of communication at the university and should check their accounts regularly.

Please email the instructor regarding any questions about the mechanics of the course. Emailing TAs should be limited to questions about grading, course content, and assignments.

Before emailing the instructor or TA your question, please be sure to check the syllabus and the “Frequently Asked Questions” forum in OWL.

Policy on Academic Consideration for Student Absences

If you are unable to meet a course requirement due to illness you should use the [Illness Reporting Tool](#). This tool takes the place of the need to submit a medical note and the Self-Reported Absence System formally used by undergraduate students given the below requirements are met.

Students will have up to two (2) opportunities during the regular academic year to use an on-line portal to self-report an absence during the term, provided the following conditions are met: the absence is no more than 48 hours in duration, and the assessment for which consideration is being sought is worth 30% or less of the student’s final grade. Students must contact their instructors within 24 hours of the end of the period of the self-reported absence. Students are not able to use the self-reporting option in the following circumstances:

- for exams scheduled by the Office of the Registrar (e.g., December and April exams)
- absence of a duration greater than 48 hours,
- assessments worth more than 30% of the student’s final grade,
- if a student has already used the self-reporting portal twice during the academic year

If the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence are *not* met, students will need to provide a Student Medical Certificate if the absence is medical, or provide appropriate documentation if there are compassionate grounds for the absence in question. Students are encouraged to contact their Faculty academic counselling office to obtain more information about the relevant documentation.

Students should also note that individual instructors are not permitted to receive documentation directly from a student, whether in support of an application for consideration on medical grounds, or for other reasons. **All documentation required for absences that are not covered by the Self-Reported Absence Policy must be submitted to the Academic Counselling office of a student's Home Faculty.**

For Western University policy on Consideration for Student Absence, see [Policy on Academic Consideration for Student Absences - Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs](#) and for the Student Medical Certificate (SMC), see:

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf.

You are required to self-report every day that you are ill and unable to complete course commitments. Students should communicate promptly with their instructor and use this tool with integrity.

Please see the following link for UWO's official [Policy on Academic Consideration for Student Absences](#)

Medical Policy

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 the online Academic Calendar; information can also be found here: <https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm>



Alok Vaid-Menon. 2018.



Lizzo on cover of *Vogue*, October 2020.

Late Policy

Late submissions will have a 2% deduction for every day (including weekends). If you require an extension on an assignment, please contact the instructor as soon as possible before the assigned due date. Accommodation for medical reasons cannot be given from the instructor, students must go through the proper channels to receive medical accommodation (see above). Late assignments with self-reported absences (SRA) must be submitted within 24 hours of the end of the SRA period.

Copyright and Intellectual Property

All course contents (lectures, PowerPoints, etc.) are the intellectual property of the instructor and guest lecturers. Course materials are ***not*** to be shared or distributed in any way without written permission from the instructor.

Missed assignments and academic accommodation

Academic Accommodation must be requested within 28 days of the missed assignment.

Note for students with disabilities: Please contact ws-ugrad@uwo.ca if you require any information in plain text format, or if any other accommodation can make the course material and/or physical space accessible to you. You may also contact ssd@uwo.ca to find out the full range of services available to you.

Support Services: Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/>

Plagiarism and 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 Web site:” https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

Plagiarism is the “act or an instance of copying or stealing another’s words or ideas and attributing them as one’s own.” (Excerpted from Black’s Law Dictionary, West Group, 1999, 7th ed., p. 1170). This is the definition used by Western's [Scholastic Discipline](#) document. Plagiarism can be intentional or unintentional. Either way, plagiarism is a **Scholastic Offence.**”

Turnitin

All written assignments must be submitted through Turnitin. Access to Turnitin will be available through the OWL course website. According to university policy: "All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license 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."

Student Evaluation

Syllabus Quiz	No later than end of Week 2 (Sept. 25)	5%
Instagram Takeover		15% * 2 = 30%
Post #1	No later than end of Week 6 (Oct. 23)	
Post #2	No later than end of Week 13 (Dec. 8)	
Midterm Exam	Week 7 (October 24-30)	25%
Final Exam	TBD	40%

Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies Grading Criteria

Grade	Percentage	Criteria
A+	90 – 100%	One could scarcely expect better from a student at this level.
A	80 – 89%	Superior work which is clearly above average
B	70 – 79%	Good work, meeting the requirements, and eminently satisfactory
C	60 – 69%	Competent work, meeting the requirements
D	50 – 59%	Fair work, minimally acceptable
F	< 50%	Assignment is not relevant to course; basic requirements not met; plagiarism

**After an assessment is returned, students must wait 24 hours to digest feedback before contacting the person who evaluated the assignment.

**Your TA should always be the first point of contact to discuss grades. If the instructor graded your assignment, they can be your first contact.

Assignment Descriptions

Syllabus Quiz – 5%

Students will complete an open book quiz on OWL by the end of Week 2. Questions will all be based on the information provided on the syllabus. All questions will be multiple choice and True/False. Students will have 15 minutes to complete the quiz from the moment it is opened on OWL.

Instagram Takeover – 2 * 15% = 30%

Beginning with **Week 2**, students will select two (2) different weeks of the course and create an Instagram post for each week relating to the week’s topic/theme. All Instagram Takeover assignments must be completed between Week 2 and Week 13 of the course. Some posts will be posted by the instructor to the course Instagram page (@genderandfashion). Each post must include at least one image and a brief analysis of the image’s relevance to the week’s topic and a gendered analysis of the fashion *within* the image selected. The selected images can range from pictures in magazines, advertisements, memes, or images of a specific article of clothing, etc. Students are *not* permitted to select images from the readings or lectures. This is your opportunity to explore the themes of the week more broadly. Posts must be submitted via OWL by Sunday at 11:55pm (EST) at the end of the corresponding lecture week. Additional instructions and grading rubric can be found on the OWL site under the Resources → Assignment Guidelines folder.

While students can choose which weeks they complete the Instagram Takeover posts, there are deadlines for when students must submit by. Students are welcome to submit Posts #1 and #2 prior to the deadlines listed below. The deadlines below indicate solely when students must have their first, and second posts submitted.

Post #1	No later than Week 6 (Oct. 23)
Post #2	No later than Week 13 (Dec. 8)

	Week	Theme	Instagram Takeover Due Dates
Post #1	2	Corsets to Suffragettes	September 19-25
	3	Dressing Fascism: Fashion and the State	September 26 – October 2
	4	(De)Colonizing Fashion	October 3-9
	5	The Culture and Sexual Dynamics of Fur	October 11-16 (October 10 – Thanksgiving)
	6	Protest Fashion	October 17-23
	7	MIDTERM	October 24-30
	8	READING WEEK	October 31 - November 6
Post #2	9	Religious Fashion	November 7-13
	10	Queer Men’s Fashion	November 14-120
	11	Lesbian Fashion	November 21-27
	12	Fat Fashion	November 28-December 4
	13	Drag Fashion	December 5-8

Midterm Exam – 25%

Students will complete a 2-hour midterm exam on OWL. Students can complete the exam any time between Monday October 24-30. Once the midterm exam is opened, OWL will begin a timer and students will have 2 hours. Midterm exam questions will be multiple choice, true/false, and short answer. More details will be provided leading up to the midterm exam.

Exams are due absolutely no later than 11:55pm on Sunday October 30. Please be sure then that you begin the exam by 9:55pm on Sunday to provide yourself with the full two hours to complete the exam. No late exams will be accepted. No SRAs will be accepted.

Final Exam – 40%

Students will complete a take-home exam that will be scheduled during the regular exam period. The exam format will include multiple choice, true/false, short answer, and fashion analysis.

The exam will be released two days prior to the due date. The exam due date will be determined by the official university exam schedule. Absolutely no late exams will be accepted. No SRAs will be accepted.

Course Schedule

Week	Theme	Dates (Mon-Sun)
1	Introduction: Why Study Fashion?	September 12-18
2	Corsets to Suffragettes	September 19-25
3	Dressing Fascism: Fashion and the State	September 26 – October 2
4	(De)Colonizing Fashion	October 3-9
5	The Culture and Sexual Dynamics of Fur	October 11-16 (October 10 – Thanksgiving)
6	Protest Fashion	October 17-23
7	MIDTERM EXAM	October 24-30
8	READING WEEK	October 31 - November 6
9	Religious Fashion	November 7-13
10	Queer Men's Fashion	November 14-20
11	Lesbian Fashion	November 21-27
12	Fat Fashion	November 28-December 4
13	Drag Fashion	December 5-8