



## Soci/Wmgs 311 – Men & Masculinities Course Syllabus Winter 2022

**Instructor:** Donna MacDonald (pronouns she/her)  
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**Office:** 604 NT  
**Office Hours:** Tues 11am-12:30  
Wednesday by appointment 12:30-2:30  
Thursday 9:30am-12  
\*Virtual office hours available (email for an appointment)

### Introduction:

This course explores constructs of masculinity using a sociological lens. In this course we will examine the complexities of the lives of boys and men from a historical and current context. Theories of masculinity will be explored. We will explore the idea that masculinity is a complex concept. Boys and Men's experiences intersect with a range of areas including race, class, sexuality. We will examine topics such as early socialization, work, violence etc. We will examine the influence of social contexts and roles on behavioral expectations for men and boys while discussing the dividends of masculinity. We will discuss the implications for society and individual men.

*Class Preparation:* You are expected to read all the required readings through the course and bring your readings with you to class (either electronic-laptop- or physical- paper- copies) as you will be required to consult them in class. It is expected that you will reflect and contemplate the readings by asking your own questions and examining your personal experiences. I expect students to be **active producers** rather than passive consumers of ideas. Thus, classes will involve online participation, class discussions and lectures.

### Class room etiquette/policies

- Be respectful of your classmates and avoid class disruption (leaving class early, late, talking, whispering).
- This class should be free from discrimination and harassment in accord with the *StFX Discrimination and Harassment Policy* which can be found at <http://www.mystfx.ca/campus/stu-serv/equity/>.
- Regular attendance at class is advised. (see calendar section 3.7) [http://sites.stfx.ca/registrars\\_office/academic\\_calendar](http://sites.stfx.ca/registrars_office/academic_calendar).
- Students are responsible for material discussed in class even when they are absent. Be sure to take notes as not all material covered in class will be in the readings. Always bring a pen and paper to class. Note taking tips: <https://lss.info.yorku.ca/resources/note-taking-at-university/#Intro>

## **Required Materials:**

*Text: Paying for Masculinity: Boys, Men and the Patriarchal Dividend* by M. Knutilla

*Additional READINGS* are available on Moodle

films, websites will be announced in class

## **Evaluation:**

Participation	10% Moodle participation responses (5)
Quiz	25% - March 9
Paper (presented)	30% (Due: March 24) – Topic due: Feb 28
Presentations	(Mar 29-April 12)
Final Exam	35% (date determined by Registrar's office)

In the event of a class cancellation due to storm - please go to Moodle for class assignment (e.g., film, discussion)

## **Participation on Moodle:**

You are required to submit 5 responses to readings on Moodle (or respond to an assigned question). Late responses will NOT be accepted unless there are extreme circumstances as you have two passes. The moodle responses are not meant to replace attendance. Every effort should be made to attend classes and attendance will be taken into consideration in the participation grade. Accommodations: However, if you are not able to attend at least 75% of classes (missing 7 or more classes), as an alternative to participation you may submit an 8 page response paper (SEE MOODLE). Please contact me at the outset of any prolonged illness or personal matter that might detract from your performance in the course. It is important to do this in a timely matter.

**Paper (& presentation):** Due: March 24. You will be required to write an 8 to 10 page (double spaced paper on a recent issue in the area of men and masculinities. Details will be posted to Moodle.

## Reading schedule:

\*Readings may be added or substituted with advance notice.

### Date

- January 18 Introduction to Men & Masculinities
- January 20-27 Understanding Masculinities  
*Sexism, strength, and dominance: Masculinity in Disney Films* (7min video)  
Introduction and Chapter 1 (Knutilla)  
*What's Hegemonic about Hegemonic Masculinity? Legitimation and Beyond*  
Yuchen Yang
- Feb 1-3 Chapter 2 (Knutilla) Acquiring Gender  
*The Space Between: Negotiating Male Subjectivities in Physical Education Research* by Michael Kehler and Michael Atkinson  
*Trans Manhood: The Intersections of Masculinities, Queerness, and the South*  
by Baker A. Rogers
- Feb. 8-10 Submit Paper topic to Moodle **February 28**  
Chapter 3 (Knutilla) Boys will become men  
*Masculinity and Virgin- Shaming Among College Men*  
By Colby Fleming and Shannon N. Davis  
*Body Projects and the Regulation of Normative Masculinity*  
By Rosalind Gill, Karen Henwood and Carl McLean
- Feb 15-17 Chapter 4 (Knutilla) Capitalism and work  
*Race and Gender in Families at work\** by R. Glaudier  
*The glass escalator revisited\** by Christie Williams
- \*\*reading week\*\*
- March 1 Chapter 5 (Knutilla) Family men  
*Gender Theory and Household Labor* by Scott Coltrane
- Mar. 3-8 Chapter 6 (Knutilla)Violence  
*Mass Shootings, Masculinity, and Gun Violence as Feminist Issues* by Tristan Bridges and Tara Leigh Tober  
*Sexual Violence in the 'Manosphere': Antifeminist Men's Rights Discourses on Rape* by Lise Gotell and Emily Dutton
- March 10 Quiz
- Mar 15-17 Chapter 7 (Knutilla) Representing boys and men  
*"We Wear No Pants": Selling the Crisis of Masculinity in the 2010 Super Bowl Commercials* by Kyle Green and Madison Van Oort  
*Masculinity and Sport Revisited: A Review of Literature on Hegemonic Masculinity and Men's Ice Hockey in Canada* by Cheryl A. MacDonald

March 21-24 Paper due March 24.  
Chapter 8 (Knutilla) Defending and resisting  
*Rethinking Masculinity Studies: Feminism, Masculinity, and Poststructural  
Accounts of Agency and Emotional Reflexivity* by Andrea Waling

March 29-April 14 *Paper Presentations*