

St. Francis Xavier University
Sociology of Gender 310
2011-2012

Instructor: Donna MacDonald
Phone Number: 867-5217
E-Mail: dmacdona@stfx.ca
Office: 9A Annex
Office Hours: Monday and Wednesdays 1-3 **or by appointment**

Course Objectives:

From a sociological perspective we will examine the way sex and gender relations influence patterns of behaviour in society. Part of this examination includes questioning the assumptions of sociology and other disciplines that study the social world. We will address recent research and theory that sociologists and feminists have produced. This work will include an examination of the various institutions (i.e. education, work) in our society that perpetuate gender differences and inequalities. We will also consider the effects of our own, and *others*, interactions within these institutions.

Course Texts:

The Gendered Society Reader 2nd Ed. Edited by M. Kimmel, Amy Aronson & Amy Kaler
Violence against women in Canada by H. Johnson & Myrna Dawson

*Additional readings –available electronically and on reserve. I have included links in this syllabus, however links do not always work. These articles are available and you may get them, electronically, through the St. Francis Xavier University – Angus L. MacDonald Library. You are required to be familiar with searching electronic materials. Some of these articles may be available on my w: drive at: www.stfx.ca/people/dmacdona

Grade breakdown:

Participation Assignments	10%
Exam 1	35%
Research Assignment or Service Learning Option (TBA)	20%
Exam 2	35%

Discussion Preparation: Please prepare an outline of ten articles per term (to be submitted on the day the article is due – before class begins and submit NO more than one per week). Include at least one question pertaining to the article. Be sure the question goes beyond the surface to explore the topic more in-depth. When preparing your outline and formulating your questions you should be thinking about the main message the author is attempting to convey, the method used by the author to convey a message and the implications of this article. You may find it helpful to select key words or phrases from the article and be prepared to discuss your questions in class.

Participation assignments will be announced in class (approximately 5 one page assignments)

***All** assignments must be handed in and all exams must be completed to receive a passing grade. ATTENDANCE is also critical to doing well in this course.

The format of the class will include lectures, seminars and films. Students are required to do **all** of the assigned readings and come to class **prepared**. You will be expected to be familiar with lecture, reading material and films in your exams.

CLASS SCHEDULE

- September 8 Introduction to course
What is Sociology of Gender?
- September 13 *X: A Fabulous Child Story* by L. Gould
<http://coe.k-state.edu/about/download/profdev/X%20story.pdf>
Can you Really raise a genderless child?
<http://jezebel.com/5804667/can-you-really-raise-a-child-without-gender>
- September 15 *Introduction* by Amy Kaler and Michael S. Kimmel in: **The Gendered Society Reader**
Psychological sex differences through sexual selection by David Buss in: **The Gendered Society Reader**
Testosterone rules by Robert Sapolsky in: **The Gendered Society Reader**
- September 20 **What is sex? Sexuality? And Gender?**
M. Gaudet – Service Learning
Beyond the Binaries: Depolarizing the Categories of Sex, Sexuality, and Gender, Judith Lorber
<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1475-682X.1996.tb00214.x/pdf>
Believing is seeing: Biology as Ideology by Judith Lorber in: **The Gendered Society Reader**
The five sexes: why male and female are not enough by Anne Fausto-Sterling In: **The Gendered Society Reader**
- September 20 Cultural Constructions of Gender**
Beyond the Binaries: Depolarizing the Categories of Sex, Sexuality, and Gender, Judith Lorber
<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1475-682X.1996.tb00214.x/pdf>
The five sexes: why male and female are not enough by Anne Fausto-Sterling In: **The Gendered Society Reader**
- September 22** Part II Introduction –pages 27-28 in: **The Gendered Society Reader**
Doing Gender by Candace West and Don Zimmerman in: **The Gendered Society Reader**
- September 27 Cultural Constructions of Gender**
Film: *Dreamworlds*
Participation Assignment #1: How does the media portray women and men? Write a 1 page interpretation and discussion of the media portrayal of gender. (i.e., magazine article, cover, commercial, TV ad - due)
- September 29 Socialization Masculinities**
Health and the social construction of Masculinities in Men's health magazines by Arran Stibbe in **Men & masculinities**, <http://jmm.sagepub.com/content/7/1/31.full.pdf>
- October 4** *Openly gay athletes: contesting hegemonic masculinity in a homophobic environment* by Eric Anderson in **Gender and Society, December, 2002**
<http://www.plu.edu/~renfrodg/doc/sreanderson.pdf>
- October 6 Socialization and femininities**
The Body and the reproduction of Femininity by Susan Bordo in **The Gendered Society Reader**
Mass media and gender identity in high performance Canadian figure skating by Karen McGarry in: **The Gendered Society Reader**

- October 11** **Film: “Sluts”**
- October 13** **Gendered Intimacies (Chapters 13-15 p. 109)**
 Losing it: Similarities and differences in first intercourse experiences of men and women by Lily Tsui and Elena Nicoladis in: *The Gendered Society Reader*
 It Just Happens: Negotiating Casual Heterosexual Sex by Melani Beres in: *The Gendered Society Reader*
- October 18** Same-sex Marriage and Canadian relationship recognition by Nick Mule in: *The Gendered Society Reader*
- October 20** **The Politics of Knowledge**
Feminist theories of knowledge by Jody Bart, Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Women and Gender Studies <http://www.dean.sbc.edu/bart.html>
- October 25** *Intersectionality as buzzword: A sociology of science perspective on what makes a feminist theory successful* by Kathy Davis <http://fty.sagepub.com/cgi/content/abstract/9/1/67>
- October 27** *The project of feminist epistemology: Perspectives from a Non-Western Feminist* by Uma Narayan, http://publish.uwo.ca/~jbaxter6/narayan_non-western_feminism.pdf
- November 1** *Gender and Trust in Science* by Kristina Rolin, *Hypatia-A Journal of Feminist Philosophy*, 17(4): 95(25), September 2002. (Electronic Journal – Contemporary Women’s Issues).
- November 3** **Gendered Violence**
Violence Against Women in Canada: Research & Policy Perspectives by Holly Johnson & Myrna Dawson
 Chapter 4 Intimate violence
- November 8** Film: You can’t beat a woman
- November 10** *Violence Against Women in Canada: Research & Policy Perspectives* by Holly Johnson & Myrna Dawson
 Chapter 3 Intimate violence
 The Myth of Sexual symmetry in marital violence by Dobash et. Al. in: **The Gendered Society Reader**
- November 15** *Husband Abuse: equality with a vengeance* by Minnaker and Snider in: **The Gendered Society Reader**
- November 17** *Violence Against Women in Canada: Research & Policy Perspectives* by Holly Johnson & Myrna Dawson
 Chapter 5 Sexual Assault
Rape prone vs Rape free campus cultures (37) by P. Sanday in: **The Gendered Society Reader**
- November 22** Gender bashing: sexuality, gender and the regulation of public space (40) by V. Namaste in: **The Gendered Society**

November 24 Violence Against Women in Canada: Research & Policy Perspectives by Holly Johnson & Myrna Dawson
Chapter 6 Femicide

November 29 Violence Against Women in Canada: Research & Policy Perspectives by Holly Johnson & Myrna Dawson
Chapter 7 Policy Outcomes
The white ribbon campaign (41) by M. Kaufman in: **The Gendered Society Reader**

December 1 **Review**

Second term: (if the links do not work please search the electronic journals, St.FX library online)

- January 5 Gender performances/expectations; Who does what for holiday celebrations?
- January 10 **Gendered Education**
Intimate Colonialisms: the material and experienced places of British Columbia's residential schools(22) by S. de Leeuw in: **The Gendered Society Reader**
What do you call an Indian woman with a law degree? Nine Aboriginal women and the university of Saskatchewan College of Law speak out (23)by Tracey Lindberg in: **The Gendered Society Reader**
 Brief film: *Education, as we see it.*
- January 12 *Micro Inequities and everyday inequalities: 'Race', Gender, Sexuality and Class in Medical School* (24)by Brenday Beagan in: **The Gendered Society Reader**
Warrior Narratives in the kindergarten classroom: renegotiating the social contract? By Ellen Jordan and Angela Cowan (21) in: **The Gendered Society Reader**
 (Globe and Mail article "What about the boy's?")
- January 17 **Gendered Family**
Situating 'Home' at the Nexus of public and private spheres: Aging, gender and home support work in Canada (18) by Anne Martin-Mathews in: **The Gendered Society Reader**
- January 19 *Household labour and the routine production of gender* (19) by S. Coltrane in: **The Gendered Society Reader**
- January 24 *Contextualizing the Employment decisions of new mothers.* By S. Waltzer
<http://www.springerlink.com/content/q30r37n18242q289/fulltext.pdf>
- January 26 *"It's Almost Like I Have a Job, but I Don't Get Paid": Fathers at Home Reconfiguring Work, Care, and Masculinity* by Andrea Doucet <http://www.andreadoucet.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/02/Doucet-2005-Its-Almost-Like-I-Have-a-Job.pdf>
- January 31 Film: *Fatherhood Dreams*
- February 2 *Lesbian mother's constructions of the division of paid and unpaid labor* by J. Downing and A. Goldberg <http://fap.sagepub.com/content/21/1/100>
- February 7 **Gender and Globalization**
Domestic distinctions: Constructing difference among paid domestic worker in Toronto (28) by B. Steill and K. England in: **The Gendered Society Reader**
- February 9 *Migrant female domestic workers: Debating the economic, social, and political impacts in Singapore* by: Brenda S.A. Yeoh. Shirlena Huang. www.jstor.org/stable/2547324
- February 14 *Migrant Filipina domestic workers and the international division of reproductive labour* by: Rhacel Salazar Parrenas (Gender and Society) <http://gas.sagepub.com/content/14/4/560.abstract>
Crossing borders – claiming rights: Using human rights law to empower women migrant workers by M. Satterwait http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=680181
- February 16 *The causes and characteristics of contemporary slavery: impacts on women and girls* by Nana C.

Derby (2003) in Canadian Women's Studies --proquest
<https://pi.library.yorku.ca/ojs/index.php/cws/article/view/6414>

“Reading” Week

- February 28 Participation Assignment #2 – Submit a one page response to a public academic talk or film at St.FX. (e.g., Agnes Calliste annual lecture, Women's Studies Film festival).
- March 1 *Lone Mother-Led families: Exemplifying the structuring of social inequality*. By Lea Saragata and S. Cumming, *Sociology Compass*, <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1751-9020.2011.00368.x/abstract>
 Guest Speaker: Katherine Reed
- March 6 *The last best west: Women on the Alberta Frontier, 1880-1930* (20) by E. Silverman in: **The Gendered Society Reader**
- March 8 (IWD) *Gender and globalization: Female Labour & Women's Mobilization* by Valentine Moghadam http://jwsr.ucr.edu/archive/vol5/number2/v5n2_split/jwsr_v5n2_moghadam.pdf
- March 13 **The Gendered Workplace**
Privilege and oppression: The configuration of race gender and class in southern Ontario Auto Plants, 1939-49 (27) in: **The Gendered Society Reader**
- March 15 *Cautious Caregivers: Gender stereotypes and the sexualization of Men Nurses' touch* by Joan Evans (25) in : **The Gendered Society Reader**
No Longer one of the boys': Negotiations with motherhood as prospect or reality, among women in engineering (16) by G. Ranson in: **The Gendered Society Reader**
- March 20 *Gendered Strategies of the self: Navigating hierarchy and contesting Masculinities* by Shelley Pollack (26) in: **The Gendered Society Reader**
- March 22 *'Wham Bam, am I a Man?': Unemployed Men Talk about Masculinities*
<http://fap.sagepub.com/content/7/1/107.full.pdf+html>
- March 27 *Gendered Challenge, Gendered Response : Confronting the Ideal Worker Norm in a White-Collar Organization* (Sage) *Gender & Society* 2010. by Erin L. Kelly, Samantha K. Ammons, Kelly Chermack and Phyllis Moen <http://gas.sagepub.com/content/24/3/281.full.pdf+html>
- March 29 **Resistance and Social Change**
Participation # 3 (news stories about feminist or gender, sex differences research)
Unconventional Politicians: Gender and Media Coverage of Canadian Leader's Debates, 1993, 1997, 2000 (30) by Elisabeth Gidengil and Joanna Everitt in: **The Gendered Society Reader**
You can run but you can't hide: the incorporation of Riot Grrrl into mainstream culture (32) by Alison Jacques in: **The Gendered Society Reader**
- April 3 *A Foucauldian reading of Learning in Feminist Nonprofit Organizations* (34) by Leona English
 In: **The Gendered Society Reader**
Feminism: A transformational Politic by bell hooks
<http://lists.econ.utah.edu/pipermail/margins-to-centre/2005-September/000620.html>

April 5 *A Gaggle of Raging Grannies: the Empowerment of Older Canadian Women through Social Activism* (36) by Miyua Narushima in: **The Gendered Society Reader**
Feminism and Young women: Still Alive and Kicking (33) by Candis Steenbergen in: **The Gendered Society Reader**
Rebelles Manifesto (2008) <http://www.rebelles.org/en/manifesto>

April 10 Review