Instructor: Paola Canova, Ph.D.
E-mail: pcanova@utexas.edu
OFFICE HOURS: Thursdays 12:30-14:00 p.m. (or by appointment)
SAC: 5.118
Phone: (512) 471 2762

CLASS DESCRIPTION
Gender is a fundamental part of contemporary socio/cultural, economic and political life. This seminar will analyze dynamics of power, culture, histories and inequalities in various parts of Latin America by focusing on gender as a category of analysis and its intersections with sexuality, race/ethnicity and political economy. The course will provide students with an anthropological framework to explore topics such as colonial legacies, development, neoliberalism, money and intimacy as these have impacted and continue to shape the daily lives of different groups of peoples in the region. We will highlight the continuities, changes and possibilities brought by these processes. Readings will draw on theoretical debates and ethnographic case studies from different cultural and geographical regions of Latin America.

Required Books

Additional required readings for the course will be available on the Canvas course website at http://courses.utexas.edu/. I will use Canvas to distribute course materials, and to communicate and collaborate online. You can find support in using Canvas at the ITS Help Desk at 475-9400, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., so plan accordingly.

REQUIREMENTS
1. Attendance and Participation (10%)
Attending and actively participating in class is vital to the learning process. Your active participation in class is required. You demonstrate your commitment to the class by contributing respectfully to discussions and engaging enthusiastically in learning activities. Attendance will be
checked randomly. All students are allowed 1 excused absence. Students who miss class due to illness or emergency are required to bring documentation from their healthcare provider or other relevant, professional third party. Failure to submit third-party documentation will result in unexcused absences. Four (4) unexcused class absences will result in forfeiture of all attendance points.

2. **Weekly Memos (20%)**
Weekly memos are to be no more than two doubled-spaced pages long. They should be analytical as well as synthetic to demonstrate mastery of the week’s reading. For details see the Weekly Memo Guideline.

3. **Class presentation/Leading discussion (20%)**
Students will be assigned to lead one class discussion, which will begin with a formal, oral presentation of the reading accompanied by a one-page written handout summarizing key issues. Presentations should cover key issues and concepts, convey and assess the authors’ arguments as well as make connections to related issues. For details see the Weekly Memo Guideline.

4. **Final Research Paper (50%)**
A final research paper of between 15 and 20 pages double spaced pages (not counting bibliography) is due by the last day of class. Detailed instructions will be discussed in class.

**GRADES**
Final grades will be assigned as follows:

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**Note on Incompletes**
Incomplete (I) grades are given only in documented emergency cases (usually only for a death in the family, major illness or injury, or birth of your child), and if the student has completed the majority of the coursework (usually everything but the final paper). If you encounter any difficulty that might prevent you completing the coursework, please do not wait until the end of the term; contact the instructor immediately.

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND OTHER UNIVERSITY POLICIES**
Students who violate University rules on academic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and/or dismissal from the University. Since such dishonesty harms the individual, all students, and the integrity of the University, policies on academic dishonesty will be strictly enforced. In promoting a high standard of academic integrity, the University broadly defines academic dishonesty as basically all conduct that violates this standard, including any act designed to give an unfair or undeserved academic advantage, such as:
- Cheating
- Plagiarism (Links to an external site.)
- Unauthorized Collaboration / Collusion (Links to an external site.)
- Falsifying Academic Records
- Misrepresenting Facts (e.g., providing false information to postpone an exam, obtain an extended deadline for an assignment, or even gain an unearned financial benefit)
- Multiple submissions (Links to an external site.) (e.g., submitting essentially the same written assignment for two courses without authorization to do so)
- Any other acts (or attempted acts) that violate the basic standard of academic integrity

NOTE: For the University's official definition of academic dishonesty, see Section 11-402 (Links to an external site.), Institutional Rules on Student Services and Activities at http://catalog.utexas.edu/general-information/appendices/appendix-c/student-discipline-and-conduct/

Documented Disability Statement: Students with disabilities may request appropriate academic accommodations from the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement, Services for Students with Disabilities at 512-471-6259 (voice) or 512-410-6644 (video phone) or e-mail ssd@austin.utexas.edu or http://ddce.utexas.edu/disability/ (Links to an external site.)

Emergency Evacuation Policy
Occupants of buildings on the UT Austin campus are required to evacuate and assemble outside when a fire alarm is activated or an announcement is made. Please be aware of the following policies regarding evacuation:
- Familiarize yourself with all exit doors of the classroom and the building. Remember that the nearest exit door may not be the one you used when you entered the building.
- If you require assistance to evacuate, inform me in writing during the first week of class.
- In the event of an evacuation, follow my instructions or those of class instructors.
Do not re-enter a building unless you’re given instructions by the Austin Fire Department, the UT Austin Police Department, or the Fire Prevention Services office.

Class Technology Policy: Cell phones must be silenced and put away. If I notice otherwise, you will be marked absent. You may use a laptop to take notes. However, it should not be used for anything else during class.

Please note: I reserve the right to change or amend the course syllabus as necessary.

**COURSE SCHEDULE**

01/17  Week 1
Introduction to class.

01/24  Week 2: Gender: Analytical Frames
01/31  Week 3: Gender History and Contemporary Transformations in LA

02/07  Week 4: Anthropology and the Coloniality of Knowledge

02/14  Week 5: Decolonizing Feminist Perspectives

02/21  Week 6: Colonial Legacies
02/28 Week 7: Feminism and Capitalism
  • Harvey, D. 2007. A Brief History of Neoliberalism. Oxford University Press. [Excerpts]

Recommended Reading

03/07 Week 8: Development Politics

DUE: Title and one page statement on your paper topic with an initial bibliography

03/14 Week 9:
Spring Break – No class

03/21 Week 10: Microfinance

03/28 Week 11: Intimate Economies

04/04 Week 12: Queer Intimacy

04/11 Week 13: Machismo

04/18 Week 14: Indigeneity

04/25 Week 15: Cosmopolitics

05/02 Week 16
Conclusions
DUE: Final research paper