



The University of Western Ontario
HISTORY 9803A
Critical Moments in Women's and Gender History
Fall/Winter 2018-19
Wednesday 1-30-4:30 pm. StvH 2166
Instructor: Prof. Katherine McKenna

Office Hours: Monday 2-3 pm Lawson 3246 Wednesday 11-12 Lawson 1204 or by appointment
Department of History, Office: Lawson Hall 1204
Email: kmckenna@uwo.ca

Course Description:

This course will focus on some key moments in women's and gender history primarily in the history of Europe, but also in other parts of the world. Key themes will be the evolution of women's/gender history over time, how history changes when we look outside of the political history of male elites, debates about historical periodization and interpretation, whether women's status has progressed or regressed over time, how women have been viewed historically in colonized states and debates over sexuality. Students will be given the opportunity to write an essay which will explore a topic in women's/gender history of their choice.

Course Syllabus:

Attendance and preparation for class will be essential. Each student will be marked on their class participation. Contributions to discussion must address themes in or raise questions about the assigned readings. Everyone will be asked to come with points for discussion on a specific reading in classes where there is no presentation being given. Each class member will be responsible for giving a presentation based on the required class readings for one week. The following week, they will be required to submit a paper based on the class readings of approx 8 pages or 2000 words. This will be assigned based on student preference.

Students also are required to write a major essay (approx 20 pages, or 5000 words). This can either be based on primary research, or be an historiographical paper summarizing the literature in a particular area of historical interest. All topics must be approved by the professor in advance. An essay proposal with annotated bibliography of a minimum of 10 sources, explaining the relevance of these sources to your essay will be due on October 31. Students will be expected to deliver a 5-10-minute summary of their work in progress in the last class of term. The major paper will be due on December 14, 2018

Course Materials:

All course materials will be posted on the course webpage in OWL.

Methods of Evaluation:

Class Participation	25%
Class Presentation (on course readings)	10%
Short Essay (based on class presentation) (approx 8 pages)	10%
Essay proposal and annotated bibliography (approx 8 pages, citing minimum 10 sources)	20%
Major Essay (approx 20 pages)	35%

Course Schedule and Readings:

May be subject to minor revision before September 2018

1. September 12 Introduction
2. September 19 Theoretical and Empirical Perspectives on Women's/Gender History
3. September 26 Pre-History and the Ancient World: The Goddess Debate
4. October 3 Women, Work and Power in the Middle Ages
- October 10 Fall Break
5. October 17 Women in the Renaissance and After: A Period of Decline?
6. October 24 Witchcraft: The 'Women's Holocaust'?
7. October 31 The Enlightenment Debate on Gender
8. November 7 Early Victorianism: The Gender Divide
9. November 14 Suffrage and Social Reform
10. November 21 Lesbian and Queer History
11. November 28 Colonialism in Action: The Case of the "Women's War" in Nigeria
12. December 5 Unconventional Sources and Interpretive Issues for the History of Women and Gender

Additional Statements

Academic Offences:

Scholastic Offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitute a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:

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

Accessibility Options:

Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 519 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation.

Information regarding accommodation of exams is available on the Registrar's website:

www.registrar.uwo.ca/examinations/accommodated_exams.html

Medical Issues

The University recognizes that a student's ability to meet his/her academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by medical illness. Please go to:

https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/medical_accommodations_link_for_OOR.pdf

to read about the University's policy on medical accommodation. This site provides links the necessary forms. In the event of illness, you should contact Academic Counselling as soon as possible. The Academic Counsellors will determine, in consultation with the student, whether or not accommodation should be requested. They will subsequently contact the instructors in the relevant courses about the accommodation. Once the instructor has made a decision about whether to grant an accommodation, the student should contact his/her instructors to determine a new due date for tests, assignments, and exams.

Students must see the Academic Counsellor and submit all required documentation in order to be approved for certain accommodation: http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/medical_accommodation.html

Plagiarism:

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a 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 Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

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 of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

The following rules pertain to the acknowledgements necessary in academic papers.

A. In using another writer's words, you must both place the words in quotation marks and acknowledge that the words are those of another writer.

You are plagiarizing if you use a sequence of words, a sentence or a paragraph taken from other writers without acknowledging them to be theirs. Acknowledgement is indicated either by (1) mentioning the author and work from which the words are borrowed in the text of your paper; or by (2) placing a footnote number at the end of the quotation in your text, and including a correspondingly numbered footnote at the bottom of the page (or in a separate reference section at the end of your essay). This footnote should indicate author, title of the work, place and date of Publication and page number. Method (2) given above is usually preferable for academic essays because it provides the reader with more information about your sources and leaves your text uncluttered with parenthetical and tangential references. In either case words taken from another author must be enclosed in quotation marks or set off from your text by single spacing and indentation in such a way that they cannot be mistaken for your own words. Note that you cannot avoid indicating quotation simply by changing a word or phrase in a sentence or paragraph which is not your own.

B. In adopting other writer's ideas, you must acknowledge that they are theirs.

You are plagiarizing if you adopt, summarize, or paraphrase other writers' trains of argument, ideas or sequences of ideas without acknowledging their authorship according to the method of acknowledgement given in 'A' above. Since the words are your own, they need not be enclosed in quotation marks. Be certain, however, that the words you use are entirely your own; where you must use words or phrases from your source; these should be enclosed in quotation marks, as in 'A' above.

Clearly, it is possible for you to formulate arguments or ideas independently of another writer who has expounded the same ideas, and whom you have not read. Where you got your ideas is the important consideration here. Do not be afraid to present an argument or idea without acknowledgement to another writer, if you have arrived at it entirely independently. Acknowledge it if you have derived it from a source outside your own thinking on the subject.

In short, use of acknowledgements and, when necessary, quotation marks is necessary to distinguish clearly between what is yours and what is not. Since the rules have been explained to you, if you fail to make this distinction, your instructor very likely will do so for you, and they will be forced to regard your omission as intentional literary theft. Plagiarism is a serious offence which may result in a student's receiving an 'F' in a course or, in extreme cases, in their suspension from the University.

Scholastic Offences

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Support Services

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western, http://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/ for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

If you have any further questions or concerns please contact, Heidi Van Galen, Administrative Officer, Department of History, 519-661-2111 x84963 or e-mail vangalen@uwo.ca.