

COM 494: GENDER IN THE MEDIA

Instructor:

E-mail:

Office hours:

Office:

Course Materials:

Gail Dines and Jean M. Humez, *Gender, Race, and Class in the Media*, 4th ed. (Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications Inc., 2015).

Course Description:

Although this class is at its most basic level about representations of gender in the media—how men and women “appear” in mediated texts—we will also focus heavily on the intersections surrounding these representations. For instance, when we talk about gender and representation we need also discuss race, class status, ability, sexuality, age, etc. to get after exactly who is being represented. Discussions about intersectionality are often messy and complicated, so our job is to attempt to talk about these intersections in a coherent manner. We will use the reader (listed above) as a primary example of the ways critics are beginning the challenging task of writing/speaking at the intersections. We will also use films, television shows, music, and other media as case studies of intersectionality, and learn how to dissect and confront/address the issues represented therein.

COURSE POLICIES

Academic Integrity: The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Hugh Downs School of Human Communication strongly believe in academic integrity; thus cheating and plagiarism is not tolerated. If a student is charged with academic dishonesty and found to be in violation, disciplinary action will be taken. For further information, please read the Student Academic Integrity Policy and the code of conduct for The Hugh Downs School of Human Communication at: <http://www.asu.edu/clas/communication/policies/>. Please read the CLAS policies at <http://clas.asu.edu/students/ai>

Your Responsibilities: Your responsibilities to this class, and to your education as a whole, include attendance and participation. You have a responsibility to help create a classroom environment where all may learn. At the most basic level, this means you will respect the other members of the class and the instructor and treat them with the courtesy you hope to receive in return. Specifically, racist, sexist, homophobic or other discriminatory language or behavior will not be tolerated.

Disability Accommodations: Qualified students with disabilities who will require disability accommodations in this class are encouraged to make their requests to me at the beginning of the semester either during office hours or by appointment. **Note:** Prior to receiving disability

accommodations, verification of eligibility from the Disability Resource Center (DRC) is required. Disability information is confidential. **Establishing Eligibility for Disability Accommodations:** Students who feel they will need disability accommodations in this class but have not registered with the Disability Resource Center (DRC) should contact DRC immediately. Their office is located on the first floor of the Matthews Center Building. DRC staff can also be reached at: 480-965-1234 (V), 480-965-9000 (TTY). For additional information, visit: www.asu.edu/studentaffairs/ed/drc. Their hours are 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday.

Assignments & Grades:

There are two writing assignments each worth 100 points (200 points total). You will also give a brief presentation about each paper on the date it is due. Due dates are listed on the daily syllabus. You may NOT make-up a writing assignment unless you have a university-sanctioned excuse (i.e. death in the family, documented emergency, etc.). Detailed directions for these assignments will be distributed in class.

There are three exams administered in-class (300 points total). They will cover information from the readings and course texts. There are NO make-up exams!

Lastly, you will be graded on your participation and preparedness for class discussions, worth 100 points of your final course grade. You don't have to be "right" to participate, you only have to try! You CANNOT participate if you are not in class!

The entire course is worth 600 points. Please keep a record of your grade and check Blackboard for individual assignment scores. I do NOT round up, so please do not ask! We will use a plus, minus grading system.