

GENDER IN CROSS-CULTURAL PERSPECTIVE

Required texts:
- Female of the Species by M. K. Martin and B. Voorhies. Columbia University Press (M&V)
- Sex and Temperament by M. Mead. William Morrow & Co.
- SELECTED ARTICLES under “assigned articles” on Blackboard

PLUS suggested articles and books on reading lists handed out in class

LINED NOTEBOOK-TYPE PAPER FOR YOUR ESSAY TESTS

DATES DISCUSSION TOPICS AND ASSIGNED READINGS
5-12 Jan Introduction: bio-cultural perspective; sex vs. gender; social roles; objectivity in science; current hot topics; background for final paper.
- M&V Chap 1 (pp. 1-15)

14-21 Jan Human biological differences, sex-linked traits; genes vs. environment; why 2 sexes?
- M&V Chaps 2,3 (pp. 16-83)
gue=full

19 JANUARY NO CLASS – Martin Luther King Day

26-28 Jan Cultural classifications of sex and gender; alternatives: female husbands, berdaches, two-spirits, other third and fourth genders.
- M&V, Chap 4 (pp. 84-107)
[see also suggested readings list 1]
2 Feb bell hooks lecture Marshall Center – room tba

4 Feb ESSAY TEST 1 – on biological differences between men and women and the range of cultural roles, 3rd, 4th genders.

9-11 Feb Non-human primates (monkeys, apes): biological & social systems, latest data
- M&V Chap 5 (pp. 108-143)

16-18 Feb Human evolution & gender roles: the first families; paleontological and archaeological evidence, controversies
- M&V Chap 6 (pp. 144-177)
[see also suggested readings list 2]

23 Feb ESSAY TEST 2 – on male and female roles among non-human primates and earliest humans.

25 Feb-4 Mar Hunting/gathering societies
- M&V Chap 7 (pp. 178-211)

9-23 Mar Horticultural societies
- M&V Chap 8 (pp. 212-275)
- MEAD, whole book
- LEPOWSKI, whole book
[see also suggested readings list 3]

SPRING BREAK 16-20 MARCH

30 Mar-1 Apr Agricultural societies: chiefdoms and states; pastoral societies; more archaeological evidence, origins of social complexity

- M&V Chaps 9, 10 (pp.276-366)
- Riddle, J. et al., 1994, Ever Since Eve... Birth Control in the Ancient World. Archaeology 47:29-35

6-8 April Modern states, agricultural and industrial; theoretical perspectives

- M&V Chap 11(pp. 367-409)
[see also suggested readings list 3]

13 April ESSAY TEST 4 on gender among agriculturalists and pastoralists.

15-20 April Gender futures: possibilities, speculation, fantasy, science fiction; COURSE REVIEW

- fiction book of your choice from suggested reading list 5
[see also suggested readings list 4]

22 April ESSAY TEST 5 on gender in modern agricultural/industrial states; original crucial issues of the course: are gender differences inevitable? Are they natural or cultural? Is male dominance universal? What is dominance? Why do these issues matter for you, specifically? For the modern world?

BRING SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE TO GET YOUR TEST, PAPER, & GRADE MAILED BACK, OR STOP IN OFFICE TO PICK IT UP IN EARLY MAY [CALL FIRST]. BY JUNE 1 ALL PAPERS WILL BE DISCARDED.

MON 27 APRIL PAPER - REVIEW OF SCIENCE FICTION BOOK, DUE BY, 5 p.m.

GRADING SUMMARY:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>% of grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Essay tests 1-4</td>
<td>15% each [total 60%]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essay test 5</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>SF novel review paper</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>class participation</td>
<td>5%</td>
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100%
COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course examines roles of women, men, and other genders, and social, economic, and political aspects of sex and gender, from a bio-cultural viewpoint, with emphasis upon non-Western societies and cross-cultural comparison. Examples are drawn from different societies widely separated in space and time, and from all the subdisciplines of anthropology (biological and cultural, including archaeology). The latest theoretical issues in gender research and feminist (and other) anthropological theory are emphasized. Near the end of the course we will refer briefly to the modern world and western culture as it could evolve.

This course is part of the University of South Florida’s Foundations of Knowledge and Learning Core Curriculum. It is certified as an Exit and Capstone course for the following dimensions: Critical Thinking, Inquiry-based Learning, Global Context, Human Historical Context and Process, and Human and Cultural Diversity.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

This is a senior-level anthropology class, requiring previous anthropology or women’s studies knowledge. Classes include lectures, discussions, movies. Readings must be done IN ADVANCE OF THE DATE INDICATED ON THIS SYLLABUS so that you can DISCUSS the material, BE GRADED WEEKLY ON CLASS PARTICIPATION, and write 5 short, in-class, essay tests on the different topics. Required readings are listed here, and more extensive bibliographies will be handed out and available on Blackboard for additional optional study. From reading list 5 you will choose a work of modern science fiction to read for your review paper and to discuss in class. Lectures and class discussions include much material beyond what is in your texts, for which you are responsible; thus note-taking and attendance are required.

Assignments Summary:

Class participation: read assignments BEFORE the due date and be able to discuss.

Essay tests: extract important points from readings, lectures, discussions; synthesize ideas concisely Include archaeological, ethnological, and other different kinds of evidence, and critical evaluation of the readings and contrasting of different opinions.

Book review paper: briefly tell the story, explain the gender issues, relate them to material discussed in class, very briefly indicate if the book expanded your thinking. Papers must be well-formatted and professional-looking; if you cite materials from class or elsewhere, use anthropological style and include list of references. All tests and papers will be returned to students with grades and comments, and they will then be discussed in general in the classroom. 4-6 PAGES ONLY!

MEETING DEADLINES IS ESSENTIAL!

LATE PAPERS ARE NOT ACCEPTED. Emailed papers are NOT accepted.

If you do not take the test on the assigned day or hand in the paper by the deadline and have not contacted your professor about it BEFORE THAT DATE, you will get a zero for that amount of your grade. For some emergency situation preventing your fulfilling your class requirements, please call/email/or otherwise communicate before the date.
CLASS POLICIES

Respectful behavior in the classroom is required; do your errands, phone calls, pit stops before class; do not arrive late, leave early, or otherwise disrupt the class. TURN OFF THE CELL PHONE OR LEAVE THE CLASSROOM, PLEASE. Points will be TAKEN OFF class participation if your phone rings and disrupts the class. Laptops are permitted but only for taking class notes.

Cheating, plagiarism, and other academic dishonesty will be dealt with severely, according to USF policy. You are responsible for reading and complying with the USF REGULATIONS ON ACADEMIC INTEGRITY, handed out on the first day of class. Please also see details in the current catalog.

Class disruption will not be tolerated. You are responsible for reading and complying with the USF REGULATIONS ON DISRUPTION OF ACADEMIC PROCESS. Please also see details in the current catalog.

All unauthorized recordings of class are prohibited. Recordings that accommodate individual student needs must be approved in advance and may be used for personal use during the semester only; redistribution is prohibited. And students should know that common courtesy forbids taking pictures -- or videos -- without asking first.

A grade of incomplete (I) is given ONLY if there is sufficient and serious reason that the work was not done and if the student signs a contract to complete the work.

If the building must be evacuated for some emergency, we will meet at the north-northeast entrance and go elsewhere. Classes will always be held when scheduled, even if we must go to another location.

All papers will be returned so that students can learn from their mistakes. Papers will be held (in SOC 144) for a weeks from the date received for students to pick up; after this time they will be discarded. Grade policy now includes plus/minus grades (though this may not necessarily help you!).

If you need to be absent for a major religious observance, please provide written notification by 10 January so you will not be penalized.

Students with disabilities that may affect their performance in the class are urged to consult with the instructor to reach acceptable accommodations.