

SPRING 2015 / UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT

AASI 3998 (01) / WGSS 3998 (03) VARIABLE TOPICS:

Asian/America and Transnational Feminist Inquiry (3 credits)

Course Description

This course is an advanced undergraduate seminar that explores the history, politics, and social meaning of transnational feminisms. We will examine how historical notions of gender, sexuality, intimacy, law, human rights, and citizenship have been regulated by social and political institutions within the U.S. and internationally. The course draws case studies from the particular geopolitical relationships produced between the Asia and the Americas. Some questions the course will consider: What do “transnational” and “indigenous” mean in the context of feminist practice? How have notions of feminism changed over time, and across space? What do these changes tell us about both the nature of feminist inquiry and about broader society? How do questions of race, class, sexuality, gender, diaspora and migration alter the meaning and politics of transnational feminisms? What is the relationship between feminist practice, media, and empire? Course materials include weekly readings including films, novels well as journal articles. Course assignments would include short weekly responses, one presentation, as well as a 10-12 page final paper. Novels include: *Rolling the R's*. Documentary films may include: *Born Into Brothels*, *A Kiss for Gabriela*, *The Women Outside: Korean Women and the U.S. Military*.

Sample Readings:

NEGOTIATING DOMESTIC AND TRANSNATIONAL FEMINIST APPROACHES

Chandra Talpade Mohanty, *Under Western Eyes: Feminist scholarship and Colonial Discourses in Third World Women and the Politics of Feminism*, pgs. 51-80.

Inderpal Grewal, *Women's Rights as Human Rights: Feminist Practices, Global Feminisms, and Human Rights Regimes in Transnationality*. *Citizenship Studies*, Vol.3, No. 3, 1999.p.337-354.

Inderpal Grewal and Caren Kaplan. *An Introduction to Women's Studies: Gender in a Transnational World* (2005)

Mitsuye Yamada “APA Women and Feminism”

Rhacel Salazar Parreñas. *Migrant Filipina Domestic Workers and the International Division of Reproductive Labor*, *Gender and Society*, Vol. 14, No. 4 (Aug., 2000), pp. 560-580.

Andrea Smith. "Heteropatriarchy and the Three Pillars of White Supremacy," *The Color of Violence: The INCITE! Anthology*, 2006.

RACE, RESCUE AND CARE

Elizabeth Bernstein, "Politics of Sex, Rights, and Freedom in Contemporary Anti-Trafficking Campaigns," *Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society*, special issue on Feminists Theorize International Political Economy, guest edited by Kate Bedford and Shirin Rai (2010): 36:1, 45-71.

Evelyn Nakano Glenn, "Racial Ethnic Women's Labor: The Intersection of Race, Gender, and Class Oppression" *Review of Radical Political Economics*, vol. 17, no. 3 (1985): 86-108

Laura Maria Agustin, *Sex at the Margins: Migrations, Labour Markets and the Rescue Industry* (New York: Zed Books, 2007): 1-7, 53-95.

DISCIPLINING GENDER & INTIMACY

Christine Delphy, "Rethinking Sex and Gender," in *Feminist Theory Reader: Local and Global Perspectives*, Eds. Carole R. McCann and Seung-kyung Kim (Routledge: New York, 2010): 58-68

Viviana A. Zelizer, "Encounters of Intimacy and Economy" in *The Purchase of Intimacy* (Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2005): 8-46.

Stephanie Gilmore, Eileen Boris and Rhacel Parreñas, "Sexual Labors: Interdisciplinary Perspectives Toward Sex as Work," *Sexualities* 2010 13: 132-136.

MILITARIZATION AND THE LOGICS OF EMPIRE

Aihwa Ong, "Neoliberalism as a mobile technology" *Boundary Crossings* . p. 1-7.

Cynthia Enloe. "On the Beach: Tourism and Sexism" in *Bananas and Beaches*, 1999. p. 19 to 41.

Kamala Kempadoo, *Sexing the Caribbean*, selections p.115- 166.

Celine Parreñas Shimizu, "Screening Sexual Slavery? Southeast Asian Gonzo Porn and US Anti-Trafficking Law." *Sexualities* 2010 13: 161 -170.

Grace M. Cho, *Haunting the Korean Diaspora: Shame, Secrecy and the Forgotten War* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2008): 1-88.