

**San Jose State University**

**Sociology and Interdisciplinary Social Science  
Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies Program**

**WGSS 10: Intro to Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies (SEC 81)**

**Fall 2024**

**Course and Contact Information:**

<b>Instructor:</b>	Bianca Hernandez, M.A.
<b>Office Location:</b>	N/A
<b>Telephone:</b>	N/A
<b>Email:</b>	Via Canvas
<b>Office hours for:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Checking in</li><li>• Questions about assignments, grades etc.</li><li>• Advising chats</li><li>• Safe space</li></ul>	Please connect with me on what day/time works best for you to meet via Zoom
<b>Class Days/Time and Classroom</b>	<b>Asynchronous</b>

**Course Description:**

This course offers an introduction to Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, an interdisciplinary academic field that explores the meaning of gender in society as it relates to the status of women. Students will analyze the social construction of gender, feminism, and gender issues about family, education, work, health and reproduction, law, sexuality, media/representation, and globalization. Students will apply critical concepts and tools of feminist and gender studies in their academic and personal lives, and in the community.

**General Education Learning Outcomes (GELO):**

1. Demonstrate understanding of the ways in which social institutions, culture, and environment shape and are shaped by the behavior of individuals, both past and present (discussions, learning activities, quizzes, and final exam);
2. Compare and contrast the dynamics of two or more social groups or social systems in a variety of historical and/or cultural contexts (discussions, learning activities, and quizzes);

3. Place contemporary social developments in cultural, environmental, geographical, and/or historical contexts (discussions and learning activities);
4. Draw on social/behavioral science information from various perspectives to formulate applications appropriate to historical and/or contemporary social issues (discussions, learning activities, quizzes, final exam).

**Program Learning Outcome (PLO):**

1. Identify and analyze the intersections of gender, sexuality, race, class, and nation social and institutional contexts.
2. Identify and describe major theories and political movements central to Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, placing contemporary developments in cultural, historical, environmental, and embodied contexts.
3. Describe the global span of feminist movements and the connection amongst gender and sexual minorities around the world.
4. Demonstrate critical thinking and research skills through written, oral and creative means.

**Required Texts/Readings Textbook:**

- *Women's Voices, Feminist Visions: Classic and Contemporary Readings* by Susan Shaw and Janet Lee. 3rd edition.
  - ISBN: 007311250X
  - ISBN13: 9780073112503
- Other materials will be linked via Canvas if needed

**Library Liaison:**

The library liaison for Sociology & Interdisciplinary Social Sciences is Michael Aguilar. They can be reached at michael.aguilar@sjsu.edu and are available by appointment to support with materials.

**SJSU Writing Center:**

The SJSU Writing Center is located in Clark Hall, Room 126. All Writing Specialists have gone through a rigorous hiring process, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. In addition to one-on-one tutoring services, the Writing Center also offers workshops every semester on a variety of writing topics. To make an appointment or to refer to the numerous online resources offered through the Writing Center, visit the [Writing Center website](http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter>.

**Course Assignments and Grading Policy:**

I grade using a point system. Your final grade is an accumulation of points you have earned throughout the semester. The following assignments, essay exams, facilitation and weekly assignments contribute to the CLO's and GELO's. It is your responsibility to complete assignments on time, due dates can be seen on the schedule and more will be on Canvas. Below is the breakdown of assignments for this semester and a rubric.

**Canvas Discussion (due every Thursday, unless otherwise noted):** Throughout this online course you will be asked to do an in class writing assignment via the Canvas Discussion board. This activity is based on the readings/articles/topic for that week. These activities are a way to assess that students are understanding the material provided in class and to see other students' responses and analysis as well. **NOTE: these assignments can not be made up; no excuse.**

**Assignments based on the chapter of the week (due every Friday, unless otherwise noted):** For this class, our assignments will be based on the book for this course. Please thoroughly, in your own words, you will write a summary of each chapter I have assigned. Each assignment has parameters you should follow. If we were in person I would have multiple activities for us to do but since we are fully remote they will fall under the assignment section.

**Midterm:** I will be creating a multiple choice midterm based on the chapters we will be covering from the book for this course and all of the discussion/assignments/quizzes up to that point.

**Final:** I will be creating a multiple choice final based on the chapters we will be covering from the book for this course and all of the discussion/assignments/quizzes.

**Grading Information:**

Total points: 450

<b>Assessment Criteria</b>	<b>Points</b>	<b>Program Learning Outcomes</b>
<b>Discussions on Canvas (13)</b>	130	<b>GELO and PLO 1-4</b>
<b>Assignments based on the chapter of the week (7)</b>	140	<b>GELO and PLO 1-4</b>
<b>Midterm</b>	80	<b>GELO and PLO 1-4</b>
<b>Final on Canvas</b>	100	<b>GELO and PLO 1-4</b>

### **Classroom Protocol:**

You should regularly check your email and Canvas to successfully complete this course. You are expected to have all assignments completed by their due date listed on Canvas. Please email if you need any clarification.

*Plagiarism will not be tolerated and is a serious offense.* All references must be cited. Penalties for plagiarism range from an F in the course to expulsion from the university. Students suspected of plagiarism will be reported to the Office of Judicial Affairs for disciplinary action. For more information please see <http://tutorials.sjlibrary.org/plagiarism/>

*Late work policy:* Please connect with me **beforehand** regarding extensions, this will work on a case by case basis, this means that not every case will be granted an extension. **Note that some assignments are strictly no makeup.**

*Classroom Behavior:* Please be aware of your conduct in class, even in the virtual space such as Canvas. Racist, sexist, homophobic, crude, or inappropriate remarks of any kind will not be tolerated. Practice active listening and be fully present. Always respect your classmates and instructor while using civil discourse in class.

### **University Policies:**

Per [University Policy S16-9](#), relevant university policy concerning all courses, such as student responsibilities, academic integrity, accommodations, dropping and adding, consent for recording of class, etc. and available student services (e.g. learning assistance, counseling, and other resources) are listed on [Syllabus Information web page](#) (<https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php>). Make sure to visit this page to review and be aware of these university policies and resources.

### **Dropping and Adding:**

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Refer to the current semester's Catalog Policies section at <http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html>. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current academic year calendars document on the Academic Calendars webpage at [http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic\\_calendars/](http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/). The Late Drop Policy is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/>. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes.

Information about the latest changes and news is available at the Advising Hub at <http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/>

### **Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material:**

University Policy S12-7, <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf>, requires students to obtain instructor's permission to record the course.

- "Common courtesy and professional behavior dictate that you notify someone when you are recording him/her. You must obtain the instructor's permission to make audio or video recordings in this class. Such permission allows the

recordings to be used for your private, study purposes only. The recordings are the intellectual property of the instructor; you have not been given any rights to reproduce or distribute the material.”

- “Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share or upload instructor generated material for this course such as exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent.”

### **Academic Integrity:**

Your commitment as a student to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. [Http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf) requires you to be honest in all your academic coursework. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The Student Conduct and Ethical Development website is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/>.

Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act:

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours.

Presidential Directive 97-03 at

[http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD\\_1997-03.pdf](http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf) requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the Accessible Education Center (AEC) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aec> to establish a record of their disability.

### **SJSU Counseling Services:**

The SJSU Counseling Services is located on the corner of 7<sup>th</sup> Street and San Fernando Street, in Room 201, Administration Building. Professional psychologists, social workers, and counselors are available to provide consultations on issues of student mental health, campus climate or psychological and academic issues on an individual, couple, or group basis. To schedule an appointment or learn more information, visit [Counseling Services website](http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling>.

### **A few notes about WGSS 10:**

**Topic Matter:** There will be frequent instances throughout the semester in which sensitive and difficult topics will be discussed. Many of these topics will require an open mind. Feminist readings of topics may go against moral or religious teachings with which you have grown up. This class is not meant to change your views but rather inform students of these topics. Frequently, students in this course find that they begin to see almost everything in a new light once they have completed the course. This experience can be both exciting and disturbing.

**R-rating:** As you will come to find, we may be using several texts/videos that involve “profane” language. Please be forewarned and take time for self care.

**WGSS 10: Intro to Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies  
Course Schedule**

*Schedule is subject to change with fair notice.*

**8/21/24-12/13/24**

Week	Dates	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	8/21-8/23	<p><b>Introduction</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Get familiar with syllabus</li> <li>● Get familiar with Canvas</li> <li>● Get familiar with due dates</li> <li>● Get organized for this course</li> <li>● <b>Get the book:</b> Shaw, Susan M., and Janet Lee. <i>Women's Voices, Feminist Visions: Classic and Contemporary Readings</i>. 3rd th edition. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>ISBN: 007311250X</b></li> <li>○ <b>ISBN13: 9780073112503</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>● Discussion 1: Introduce yourself (due next week 8/26)</li> </ul>
2:	8/26-8/30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Assignment: What I know of Women, Gender and Sexuality Class</li> <li>● Canvas Discussion 2</li> </ul>
3: <i>Monday-Holiday</i>	9/2-9/6	<p><b>Section 1: Women's Studies: Perspectives and Practices</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <i>Read:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>A day without feminism pg 25</i></li> <li>○ <i>Feminist Politics: where we stand pg 41</i></li> <li>○ <i>The global stage and the politics of location pg 48</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>● Canvas Discussion 3</li> </ul>
4:	9/9-9/13	<p><b>Section 2: Systems of privilege and inequality in women's lives</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <i>Read:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>Towards a new vision: race, class and gender as categories of analysis and connection pg 76</i></li> <li>○ <i>Homophobia: a weapon of sexism pg 87</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>White privilege and male privilege pg 91</i></li> <li>● Assignment #1 based on Sec 1 and 2 of <i>Women's Voices, Feminist Visions: Classic and Contemporary Readings</i></li> <li>● Canvas Discussion 4</li> </ul>
5:	9/16-9/20	<p><b>Section 3: Learning Gender in a Diverse Society</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <i>Read:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>The social construction of gender pg 141</i></li> <li>○ <i>Boys will be boys and girls will not pg 144</i></li> <li>○ <i>Trans on campus pg 154</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>● Canvas Discussion 5</li> </ul>
6:	9/23-9/27	<p><b>Section 4: Sex, Power and Intimacy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <i>Read:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>Sexual desires and gender pg 180</i></li> <li>○ <i>Girls, Media and the negotiation of sexuality pg 217</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>● Assignment #2 based on Sec 3 and 4 of <i>Women's Voices, Feminist Visions: Classic and Contemporary Readings</i></li> <li>● Canvas Discussion 6</li> </ul>
7:	9/30-10/4	<p><b>Section 5: Inscribing gender on the body</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <i>Read:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>Body ethics and aesthetics among African American and Latina women pg 259</i></li> <li>○ <i>Hold that nose pg 282</i></li> <li>○ <i>Designer vaginas pg 291</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>● Canvas Discussion 7</li> </ul>
8:	10/7-10/11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Assignment #3 based on Sec 5 of <i>Women's Voices, Feminist Visions: Classic and Contemporary Readings</i></li> <li>● Canvas Discussion 8</li> </ul>
9:	10/14-10/18	MIDTERM DATE 10/18 on Canvas

10:	10/21-10/25	<p><b>Section 6: Health and Reproductive Rights</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Read: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>The tolling of the bell: women's health, women's rights pg 335</i></li> <li>○ <i>My fight for birth control pg 352</i></li> <li>○ <i>Women of color and their struggle for reproductive justice pg 363</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>● Canvas Discussion 9</li> </ul>
11:	10/28-11/01	<p><b>Section 8: Womens work inside and outside the home (pt 1)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Read: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>A brief history of working women pg 452</i></li> <li>○ <i>Maid to order: the politics of other women's work pg 468</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>● Assignment #4 based on Sec 6 and 8 (pt 1) of <i>Women's Voices, Feminist Visions: Classic and Contemporary Readings</i></li> <li>● Canvas Discussion 10</li> </ul>
12	11/4-11/08	<p><b>Section 8: Womens work inside and outside the home (pt 2)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Read: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>Globalization and its disconnects pg 474</i></li> <li>○ <i>Hey, why don't you wear a shorter skirt? Structural vulnerability and the organization of sexual harassment in temporary clerical employment pg 486</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>● Canvas Discussion 11</li> </ul>
13: <i>Monday-Holiday</i>	11/11-11/15	<p><b>Section 10: Resisting violence against women</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Read: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>Human rights: sex trafficking and prostitution pg 581</i></li> <li>○ <i>Letter from Juarez pg 587</i></li> <li>○ <i>What college women do and do not experience as rape pg 593</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assignment #5 based on Sec 8 (sec 2) and 10 of <i>Women's Voices, Feminist Visions: Classic and Contemporary Readings</i></li> <li>• Canvas Discussion 12</li> </ul>
14	11/18-11/22	<p><b>Section 13: Activism, change and feminist features</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Read:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>Real men join the movement pg 721</i></li> <li>○ <i>A day with feminism pg 739</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>• Canvas Discussion 13</li> </ul>
15 <i>Wed-Friday Holiday Break</i>	11/25-11/26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assignment #6 based on Sec 13 of <i>Women's Voices, Feminist Visions: Classic and Contemporary Readings</i> (due next week Monday 12/2 due to holiday)</li> </ul>
16	12/2-12/6  12/13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Makeup assignment time (1)</li> <li>• Review week</li> </ul> <p><b>FINAL DAY 12/13 online via Canvas</b></p>