History 520
9:30 - 10:45
Tuesday, Thursday
All assignments are due at the beginning of the week.

Course Description:

The course will offer an overview of the history of women in America, treating the subject as a separate field and as an integral aspect of general history. The emphasis will always be on seeing women as active agents in history and on studying them comparatively, in consideration of variations as to class, race and ethnicity.

Students will work with primary and secondary sources and become familiar with different historiographic interpretations.

Lectures:

There will be class discussion as part of each lecture period. Section meetings will be scheduled during the first week of classes.

Requirements:

Attendance at lectures and participating in class discussion following the lectures; reading preparation in advance of each unit; participation in weekly section discussion and, of course, the taking of tests.

Absences:

Unexcused absences from sections or classes will be reflected in the grade. In case of illness students should see or phone the instructor or the Teaching Assistant. In case of emergency, phone.

Restrictions:

Juniors and seniors. Sophomores only with the instructor's permission. Graduate students may audit or take course for credit, except for American History graduate students, who may audit only. Auditors must do all class reading assignments.
History 520 - Semester 1, 1987-88
Gerda Lerner

Grading System:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage of Grade</th>
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<tr>
<td>Fulfillment of requirements, including section attendance and participation</td>
<td>15% of grade</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 1</td>
<td>20% of grade</td>
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<td>Exam 2</td>
<td>30% of grade</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>35% of grade</td>
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Books for purchase are available at University Bookstore; Brown's Book Store and A Room of One's Own. The Xerox Reader can be purchased at Kinko's, 620 University Avenue.

All required and suggested books are on reserve at Helen C. White Library. Notable American Women is in the Reference Room. An additional set of Notable American Women will be kept in the History Library where students can read it.
History 520
Women in American Society to 1870
Gerda Lerner
5123 Humanities
Office Hours:
Wed: 10-12 a.m. & by appointment

REQUIRED READING ASSIGNMENTS are due at the beginning of the week.

Th. 9/3 I. Introduction
Lecture: How to think of women in history

Required Reading:
Kerber/Mathews, pp 3-23

II. Women in Seventeenth Century Europe

9/8 Lecture 1: The Creation of Patriarchy
9/10 Lecture 2: Status of Women, - legal, political, social, economic

Required Reading:
Xeroxed documents in Reader
Joan Kelly, "Early Feminist Theory and the Ouverelle des Femmes" in Xerox Reader

III. Women in the American Colonies

9/15 Lecture 1: Women in the family
9/17 Lecture 2: Women's role in the economy

Kerber/Mathews, pp 28-51, 97; 100-114 (Ulrich, Salmon, Perkins, White)
Ibid. pp. 468-470 (Divorce, Dower)
Lerner, Female Experience, pp 6-10, 21-25.
Adams Correspondence in Xerox reader
IV. Race, Class and Sex

9/22 Lecture 1: Native American women
9/24 Lecture 2 Bondswomen and servants

Required:
Judith Brown "Iroquois Women" in Rayna Reiter (ed) Toward an Anthropology of Women, (1975), 235-251
Selection from "Mountain Wolf Woman" - Xerox Reader
Joan Jensen, "Native American Women and Agriculture: A Seneca Case Study" in Xerox Reader
Lerner, Black Women in White America (hereafter BWWA), 1-53.
Kerber/Mathews, 100-15 (D. White)

V. Female Deviance.

9/29 Lecture 1: Dissidents and Rebels
10/1 Lecture 2: A Prevalence of Witches

Required:
Lerner, Female Experience, pp. 465-474 (Hutchinson; Dyer)
John Demos "Underlying Themes in the Witchcraft of the 17th Century New England" in Xerox Reader
Notable American Women (NAW) essays on Margaret Brent, Anne Hutchinson, Mary Dyer, Ann Lee
Kerber/Mathews, pp 52-54 (Koehler).

VI. Women and Religion.

10/6 Lecture 1: Religion as ideology and as liberating force
10/8 TEST

Required:
Lerner, Female Experience, 162-170.

VII. Did the American Revolution Make a Difference for Women?

10/13 Lecture 1: Law and Politics
10/15 Lecture 2: Education and Social status

Required:
Kerber/Mathews, 80-90 (Documents; Kerber)
Lerner, Female Experience, 209--215 (female Academy;
Cott/Pleck, pp.136-153 (Norton)
Joan Wilson "The Illusion of Change: Women and the American Revolution" in Xerox Reader
VIII. The Right to Learn and the Right to Teach

10/20 Lecture 1: The struggle for educational equality
10/22 Lecture 2: Women's separate education

Required:
Lerner, Female Experience, Chap.5.
Lerner, BWNA, 83-94.
NAW, essays on Mary Lyon, Emma Willard, Catharine Beecher.

IX. The Impact of Industrialization on Women

10/27 Lecture 1: The lady and the mill girl
10/29 Lecture 2: Working for a living

Required:
Kerber. Mathews, 148-157 (Wertheimer)
Lerner. "The Lady and the Mill Girl - Xerox Reader
Barbara Welter, "The Cult of True Womanhood" - Xerox Reader
Lerner, Female Experience, 272-286

X. Women Organize for Welfare

11/3 Lecture 1: Women's activities in voluntary associations
11/5 Lecture 2: Women's antislavery activities

Required:
Lerner, Female experience, 191-199
Lerner, "Antislavery Activities of American Women," in Xerox Reader. Also in Majority, pp.112-128

XI. Women and their bodies.

11/10 Lecture 1: Sexuality; health and health reform
11/12 TEST

Required:
Lerner, Female Experience, 77-97.
Kerber/Mathews, pp.190-199.

XII. Women in their own right.
Lecture 1: Women work for their own emancipation
Lecture 2: The emergence of feminist consciousness

Required:
Kerber/Mathews, 201-216; 471-475
Anne and Andrew Scott, *One Half the People: The Fight for Woman Suffrage* (1975), 3-12; 56-59
Sarah Grimke, excerpts from *Letters on the Equality of the Sexes*, in Xerox Reader

XIII. Defining Womanhood.

Lecture 1: The housewife; the spinster
THANKSGIVING VACATION

Required:
Lerner, *Female Experience*, 104-147.
Lerner, *BWWA*, 150-159; 165-172.

XIV. Defining Womanhood 2

12/1 The prostitute and the uses of deviance
12/3 SLIDE SHOW - PREHISTORIC GODDESSES

Required:
Carroll Smith-Rosenberg, "The Female World of Love and Ritual" in Kerber/Mathews, 167-189. Also in Cott/Pleck, 311-342.

XV. Women in Civil War and Reconstruction

12/8 Lecture 1: Civil War
12/10 Lecture 2: Reconstruction

Required:
Lerner, *Female Experience*, 180-190; 487-490.
12/15  XVI. Review and last day of class party

XVII. FINAL
BOOKS

Purchase Required:


Xerox Reader, available at KINKO, Johnson St.

Purchase Optional:


Nancy Cott, *The Bonds of Womanhood* (1977)

Gerda Lerner, *The Grimke Sisters from South Carolina: Rebels Against Slavery* (PB 1971)

--- *The Creation of Patriarchy* (1986)


Mary Ryan, *Cradle of the Middle Class: The Family in Oneida County, New York, 1790-1865* (1981)

Students wishing to do additional readings are encouraged to read the books listed in the required reading section in their entirety.