Course #521 Women in American Society, 1870 to the Present
T Th: 11-12:15

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. Among the topics to be studied are: Women's work - domestic and in the workplace; the sexual revolution; the new woman; the winning of suffrage; women in the Great Depression; the new feminism, origins, history and theory. 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 participation in class discussion following the lectures; reading preparation in advance of each lecture; participation in weekly section discussion and, of course, the taking of tests.

Each student will be asked to keep a reading diary, an orderly looseleaf notebook, typed, if possible. In the reading diary you should record the theme and thesis of your readings and your own ideas and reflections based on the readings and class discussions. You can also include questions, comments and criticism. The diary is to be turned in to me on Tuesday of weeks IV, VII and XII. If you are absent (for a good reason only), the diary should be left in the History Office no later than Wednesday morning.

Absences:

Unexcused absences from sections will be reflected in the grade. Students having problems about attendance at lectures and sections are urged to see the instructor during office hours.

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.
Assignments and Examinations:

Re the Reading Diary, see "Requirements."

Exams: In-class Midterm. Students may bring their diaries.
       Final. Either a take-home final of 10-12 pp. or an in-class paper of 6-8 pp.

Grading System:

Fulfillment of requirements, including diary.... 15% of grade
Section attendance and participation.............. 25% of grade
Midterm............................................. 25% of grade
Final............................................... 35% of grade