

Sociology 022
Section 3304
Los Angeles Mission College
Fall 2013, Tuesdays 6:50 -10:00 PM
HFAC 108

Professor: Denice Labertew, J.D.

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Office Hours: Tuesday 6:15-6:45, Faculty Offices. Other times available by appointment

Required Text: Thinking About Women: Sociological Perspectives on Sex and Gender 8th Edition, Margaret Andersen (other editions okay, used okay)

Required Handouts: Will be distributed in class

Semester starts **August 26th** and ends **December 15th**. Holidays include: Labor Day, Monday, **September 2nd**, Veteran's Day, Monday **November 11th**, Thanksgiving, Thursday, **November 28th** & Friday, **November 29th**. Final Week is **December 9th – 14th**.

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Compare and contrast the research from biology, psychology, anthropology, and history as well as sociology, and its relevance to gender and sex roles. (2/6/2013)
2. Identify where a women's place in our society is believed to be and the effects of contemporary U.S. institutions on limitations or opportunities for them. (2/6/2013)
3. Identify the challenges and choices women and men face today in balancing work and family life.(2/6/2013)

Part I

Week 1 (8/27): Class Overview, Introductions, Why Study Women?(Chapter 1)

Part II

Week 2 (9/3) Understanding Gender, Overview (Chapter 2) -we will look, generally, at what factors contribute to "gender" identity and development, including societal norms, media, socialization, etc.

Week 3 (9/10): Social Construction of Gender(Chapter 2)-we will discuss how biology, culture and society effect gender development, including socialization. We will also explore the intersection of race and gender and explore how various cultural factors influence gender traits.

Week 4 (9/17) : Gender, Culture and the Media (Chapter 3)—we will discuss the impact of language and popular culture on women's development and society's ideas about the "ideal" woman

Week 5 (9/24): Sexuality and Intimate Relationships (Chapter 4) —we will discuss the social construction of sexuality and how it relates to women's messages about sex. We will also discuss women's sexual development including sexuality throughout the life course, women's role in sexual relationships and partnering and intimacy and how women choose their partners.

Part III

Week 6 (10/1): Social Institutions and Women, Overview -we will take a broad look at the various social institutions how women fit into them and are affected by them.

Week 7 (10/8): Gender, Work and Economy (Chapter 5) -we will take a look at the historical changes in “women’s work”, discuss how family effects women’s choices about work and the intersections of class and gender.

Week 8 (10/15): Gender and Families (Chapter 6) -we will discuss the social perspectives on family and women’s roles, address family violence and look specifically at some of the challenges women face in contemporary families, including teen parenting and child care issues.

Week 9 (10/22): Women, Health and Reproduction (Chapter 7) -we will look at the social structure of the healthcare system, and how it affects women’s health. We will also look at substance abuse, body image issues and STI’s and discuss social policies effecting women’s health including reproductive rights and child birth.

Week 10: (10/29) Women and Religion (Chapter 8) -we will discuss women’s changing roles in religion from the ancient earth based religions to current religious practices.

Week 11(11/5): Women, Crime & Deviance (Chapter 9) -we will take a look at the various effects of crime on women, from the perspective of women as perpetrators of crime, as victims of crime, and their access to court systems.

Week 12(11/12): Women & Education (Chapter 10) -we will discuss women’s role in education, historically and presently, both as students and teachers. In addition, we will looking at their success in educational institutions and their access to higher education.

Week 13(11/19): Women, Power and Politics (Chapter 11) -we will look at women in the military, in government and discuss women’s rights including the right to vote, as well as outline the development of some legal rights for women and their impact on a changing society.

Part III

Week 14(11/26)¹: Social Theories, Overview (Chapter 12) we will look broadly at women’s social activism and the various theories used by feminism in analysis of women’s roles..

Week 15 (12/3): Activism and Feminist Theory (Chapter 13) finally we will look at early women activists, and current activism in addition to our discussion of social theories of feminism.

FINAL EXAM December 10, 2013 8PM-10PM

Exams:

Mid-term Exam-50 pts

Final Exam-50 pts

Total Points for Tests=100 pts

Participation and Attendance=50 pts

You will notice that the number of points available for Participation and Attendance is equal to that of ONE TEST. That is because, in this class, your participation is just as important as your ability to do well on a test. Sociology is the study of society and the people in it, thus testing is not always the best method of understanding the material. Your participation is therefore required, and your attendance is mandatory. I will allow for 2 absences, but because of the amount of content in the class it becomes difficult to make up missed classes. After your 2 absences, I may deduct participation points. You are responsible for dropping this class if you find yourself, for whatever reason, unable to continue your participation. You must drop the class through the admissions office of Los Angeles Mission College. Please discuss any extenuating circumstances with me. Participation in the class environment takes many forms. It can be responding to questions in class, working with groups, paying attention when others are sharing, or completing in class and out of class assignments. These points are critical in ensuring a good grade. Your participation in class is expected and required.

GENDER JOURNAL (100 POINTS TOTAL):

Each student will keep a journal throughout the course consisting of the 2 parts below. The Gender Journal will be turned in at various times throughout the semester for review. The Gender Journal is worth 100 points.

- **Gender Observations=50 points:** Throughout the semester students will keep an ongoing journal where they will observe and record “gender” using their sociological imagination. Observations should be recorded using a sociological gender analysis and will be used in weekly group discussion.
- **Weekly Group Discussions=50 points** Students will engage in weekly group discussions where they will analyze and discuss their gender observations using a sociological analysis and apply their observations to the various sociological concepts discussed in class..

Final Project=50 points

Wonder Women: *A Sociological Analysis of Iconic Women in American Society:* Using the framework of analysis used in the film Wonder Women; Unsung Heroines of American Culture. Each student will select an iconic woman (fictional or non-fictional, ie. Wonder Woman, Rosie the Riveter, Rosa Parks, etc.) to develop an analysis of what they represent in society about women and women’s experience. Include a discussion of at least 3 of the topics covered throughout the course and text, applying the iconic woman to those topics using a sociological analysis. Each student will write a 5-7 page report about the “Wonder Woman”, applying it to the sociological concepts we have learned. Additionally, each student will work with a small group of other students who have also selected that “Wonder Woman” (or someone similar), to develop a demonstration to the class on the topic. More details will be disseminated later in the semester.

Extra Credit and Alternative Projects may be available at the discretion of the Instructor. Please Ask!

Grading Standards:

2 Exams	=	100 points
Gender Observations	=	50 points
Weekly Group Discussion=		50 points
Participation &		

Attendance	=	50 points
Student Final Project	=	<u>50 points</u>
Total Potential Points		300 points

Students Work Habits:

This is a college class, and each student will be treated with both the respect and responsibility that goes along with that designation. Students are expected to put their best efforts into understanding and completing all assigned readings and other assignments. Since this is a college course, it is your responsibility to notify me of any special needs or circumstances. My goal is to help you to succeed in this course as well as in your educational career, so please do not hesitate to ask questions.

In addition to the “Student Code of Conduct” laid out by the California Community Colleges and Los Angeles Mission College, I have only one rule for classroom conduct and that is “Respect”. Each student is expected to have respect for all members of the classroom environment, including the professor, other students and themselves, in order to have a successful learning experience.

Each student is expected to do their own work. Students should be familiar with the Academic Integrity Policy of Mission College, and refer to it, if in doubt. Cheating and/or plagiarizing hurts all students and destroys the mutual respect we have for each other in this class. In addition, it brings serious academic consequences. If you need help ask for it...

District Academic Dishonesty Policy 9803.28 Violations of Academic Integrity include, but are not limited to, the following actions: cheating on an exam, plagiarism, working together on an assignment, paper or project when the instructor has specifically stated students should not do so, submitting the same term paper to more than one instructor, or allowing another individual to assume one’s identity for the purpose of enhancing one’s grade.

As a courtesy to all please turn off cell phones or turn them to vibrate while in class. Please do not answer phones in class. If there is an emergency and you must answer your phone, please step out of the classroom to take the call. If you must arrive late or leave early please do so quietly and try to limit disruption to the class. Obviously, in some instances lateness to class cannot be helped, but it is the student’s responsibility to get all missed material, as we will not begin the lesson again.

Recording of the lecture content and “photographs” of assignments are not allowed. Please be sure to bring a notepad and writing instruments to take notes on important class discussion.

Student Code of Conduct

All students should be familiar with the “Student Code of Conduct” and the outcomes of the violation of that code. Please refer to your student handbook or the Mission College Website at www.lamission.edu.

Special Needs: My goal is to help you be as successful as possible in this class. If you have particular special needs that will help you be more successful in this class, please discuss them with me immediately and go to the DSPS office located in Instructional 1018.

Administrative Issues: Each student is responsible for being familiar with any administrative deadlines of Mission College (ie. Add dates, exclusion dates, dates for fees). It is the responsibility of the student to be sure that all administrative deadlines are adhered to and that all required forms and paperwork are turned into the appropriate department at Mission College. For information please see Mission's Website at www.lamission.edu.

Subject to Change

This syllabus is a guide to help you know what to expect from this class. The instructor maintains the right to make changes as needed