GENDER IN CROSS-CULTURAL PERSPECTIVE
Spring 2012: Anthropology 432/532
CRN 64679/64684
Ondine Residence Hall room 202
TR 12:00 – 1:50

Dr. Michele Gamburd
Office: Cramer Hall 141-H
Phone: (503) 725-3317
Email: gamburdm@pdx.edu
Office Hours: TR: 10:30-11:30 & by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This upper-level course will analyze the socio-cultural construction of gender identity. Beginning with a historical look at the relationship between feminism and anthropology, the class then explores a series of subjects, including the domestic/public dichotomy, kinship, religion, globalization, and sexuality as they relate to women and men in society. Readings, lectures, presentations, films, and class discussion will provide both formal and informal avenues for exploring issues that arise in the cross-cultural study of gender.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES
By the end of the quarter, students will be able to
- Explain and discuss the cultural construction of gender and sexuality
- Identify and critically assess the role of gender in the family and the household, the realm of religion, the world of work, and the global economy
- Identify disciplinary approaches to doing ethnographic research and performing data analysis on ethnographic information related to gender
- Understand the tensions between researchers, advocates, and activists with respect to feminist initiatives
- Develop writing skills at the senior/graduate student level
- Present the results of independent and group projects to classmates

COURSE PREREQUISITES
Strongly recommended: Upper division standing and at least one core course in sociocultural anthropology (Anth 103, 304, or 305), or previous junior/senior-level course work in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies or a related social science.

READINGS
Required
Brettell and Sargent, eds.
Brown, Karen McCarthy
Lynch, Caitrin

Materials on D2L (explained below).

Recommended
Hacker, Diana
Strunk, William and E.B. White
(If you already own a style guide, there is no reason to purchase another one, but the instructor will assume that you have access to such a resource.)

D2L
Class readings, the course syllabus, the plagiarism document, assignment sheets, and discussion questions will be available on D2L. You may read the materials online or print copies for use during class discussions.
All students can access D2L with their Odin account. Use your Odin username and password to login to D2L at https://d2l.pdx.edu. Use of D2L will be demonstrated on the first day of class. Please contact the instructor if you encounter difficulties in accessing this resource.

CLASS REQUIREMENTS
Students taking this course pass-no-pass are required to earn at least a 'C-' to pass the class. For undergraduates, completion of two 4-5 page essays (30% each), taking part in a group presentation (15%), writing one reflection essay (15%), and class participation and discussion leadership (10%) will form the basis for evaluating performance. Graduate students will complete all assignments required of undergraduates (70%) and will write a 20 page term paper on a topic of their choice (30%).

Two 4-5 page essays (30% each)
All students will write two essays, one on one on Brown’s book Mama Lola and one on Lynch’s book Juki Girls, Good Girls. Assignment instructions and essay question choices will be posted on D2L. Essays will due a week after we finish covering the section material; the Brown essay will be due Tuesday May 15th and the Lynch essay will be due Tuesday May 29th.

Group presentation (15%) and 3-page reflection essay (15%)
7 ethnographies related to topics covered in class are listed on the syllabus. In groups of 3-4, students will read the material, consult with the instructor, and lead a class-period-long discussion. Student duties will include creatively presenting the information to their classmates and crafting class activities to spur discussion and interaction. (Classmates will have read a book chapter or article related to the ethnographies.) A week after their presentation, students will turn in a 3-page reflection on key point(s) they learned from the material and their presentation experience. Due dates are listed on the class schedule (last page of this syllabus). Further instructions will be posted on D2L.
Discussion leadership and class participation (10%)

Students will be assigned responsibility for facilitating discussion on particular articles throughout the course. Articles will be designated ahead of time.

Class participation forms an important aspect of the learning experience in this upper-level class, and is therefore both expected and required. Participation points will be assessed through short in-class free-writes on specific articles. These informal, handwritten thought-pieces will be evaluated on a check/ check-plus/ check-minus basis. Students who do the reading and pay attention in class will easily achieve a passing grade on these assessments.

Students with more than 3 unexcused absences will receive no points for class participation. Legitimate reasons to miss class are few and dire, and should if at all possible be reported to the instructor before the start of the class period.

Graduate student term paper (graduate students only) due Thursday, 14 June (turn in at the Anthropology Dept, CH 141, by noon).

Each graduate student will write a 20 page research paper on a topic of his or her choice. Further instructions will be posted on D2L and discussed separately.

Policies

Please retain for your own records a copy of all the work you submit. All written work must be completed to receive a passing grade in this class. Late papers will lose one letter grade for each day past due except in the event of severe illness or emergency; the clock stops ticking when the student contacts the instructor to arrange a new deadline. Requests for extensions on deadlines should be made in writing ahead of the due date.

Plagiarism (intellectual theft) is a very serious academic offense. You are responsible for reading the department handout on plagiarism, which is posted on D2L. Please ask the instructor or contact the Writing Center if you have any questions about plagiarism.

Students with a documented disability needing accommodations in this course should immediately inform the instructor.

Anthropology majors should seek advising at least twice a year from faculty members in the Anthropology Department for advice related to meeting graduation requirements and achieving career goals.
COURSE OUTLINE

SECTION 1: A Historical Introduction
D2L
Di Leonardo, Micaela

Lorber, Judith

Said, Edward

SECTION 2: Domestic Worlds and Public Worlds
GCCP
♦ Introductory essay for section III (85)
♦ Lamphere, Louise “The Domestic Sphere of Women and the Public Sphere of Men: The Strengths and Limitations of an Anthropological Dichotomy” (90)
♦ Watson, Rubie “The Named and the Nameless: Gender and Person in Chinese Society” (215)
♦ Weismantel, Mary “Cities of Women” (123)

D2L
Ortner, Sherry

SECTION 3: Family, Household, and Kinship
GCCP
♦ Introductory essay for section VIII (347)
♦ Prior, Marsha “Matrifocality, Power, and Gender Relations in Jamaica” (377)
♦ di Leonardo, Micaela “The Female World of Cards and Holidays: Women, Families, and the Work of Kinship” (385)
♦ Townsend, Nicholas “Fatherhood and the Mediating Role of Women” (109)

D2L
Ahearn, Laura
Borovoy, Amy  

Constable, Nicole  

**Group presentation – ethnography choices** for Sections 2-3:
Ahearn, Laura  

Borovoy, Amy  

Constable, Nicole  

**SECTION 4: Ritual and Religion**
Read the introductory essay and three of the following four: Boddy, McIntosh, Kendall, Makley

**GCCP**
- Introductory essay for section IX (395)
- Boddy, Janice “Spirit Possession and Gender Complementarity: Zar in Rural Northern Sudan” (401)
- McIntosh, Janet “’Tradition’ and Threat: Women’s Obscenity in Giriama Funerary Rituals” (412)
- Kendall, Laurel “Shamans, Bodies, and Sex: Misreading a Korean Ritual” (425)

**D2L**
Makley, Charlene  

**Book:** Karen McCarthy Brown: Mama Lola: A Vodou Priestess in Brooklyn.
SECTION 5: Globalization

GCCP

- Introduction to Section XI (505)

D2L

Freeman, Carla


Read 3 of the following 4 options:

GCCP

- Cairoli, M. Laetitia “Factory as Home and Family: Female Workers in the Moroccan Garment Industry” (522)

D2L

Gamburd, Michele


Hondagneu-Sotelo, Pierrette


Magazine, Roger and Martha Areli Ramirez Sanchez


Book: Lynch: Juki Girls, Good Girls

SECTION 6: The Cultural Construction of Gender and Sexuality

Read two of the following four: Herdt, Urla & Swedlund, Constable, Zimmer-Tamakoshi

GCCP

- Introductory essays for sections V (191) and VI (249)
- Herdt, Gilbert “Ritual of Manhood: Male Initiation in Papua New Guinea” (211)
- Urla, Jacqueline and Alan Swedlund: “Measuring Up to Barbie: Ideals of the Feminine Body in Popular Culture” (282)
- Constable, Nicole: “Sexuality and Discipline among Filipina Domestic Workers in Hong Kong” (545)
- Zimmer-Tamakoshi, Laura: “‘Wild Pigs and Dog Men’: Rape and Domestic Violence as ‘Women’s Issues’ in Papua New Guinea” (564)
D2L

Blackwood, Evelyn

Decena, Carlos

Gamburd, Michele

Seizer, Susan

Group presentation – ethnography choices for Section 6

Blackwood, Evelyn
2010  *Falling into the Lesbi World: Desire and Difference in Indonesia*. Honolulu: University of Hawai‘i Press.

Decena, Carlos

Gamburd, Michele

Seizer, Susan
CLASS SCHEDULE:
Articles by authors whose names appear in **boldface** appear in the text book *Gender in Cross-Cultural Perspective*.
Note: schedule is subject to change, but assignment due-dates will not be moved earlier.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Readings to be discussed, assignments due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>April</td>
<td>Syllabus, introductions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>R</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td>Read: Di Leonardo, Lorber, Said</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
<td>Read: <strong>Intro III</strong>, Ortner, Ortner, Ortner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>R</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
<td>Read: <strong>Lamphere, Weisman, Watson</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>17</td>
<td></td>
<td>Read: <strong>Intro VIII, Prior, di Leonardo, Townsend</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>R</td>
<td>19</td>
<td></td>
<td>Read: Ahearn; Student Group: Ahearn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>24</td>
<td></td>
<td>Read: Borovoy; Student Group: Borovoy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>R</td>
<td>26</td>
<td></td>
<td>Read: Constable; Student Group: Constable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Due: Ahearn reflections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>May</td>
<td>Read: <strong>Intro IX</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Read 3 of 4: Makley, <strong>Brody, MacIntosh, Kendall</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Due: Borovoy reflections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>R</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td>Read: Brown I (through end of chapter 6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Due: Constable reflections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
<td>Read: Brown II (finish the book)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>R</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
<td>Read: <strong>Intro XI, Freeman</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
<td>Read 3 of 4: <strong>Cairoli, Gamburd, Hondagneu-Sotelo, Magazine &amp; Sanchez</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Due: Brown essay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>R</td>
<td>17</td>
<td></td>
<td>Read: Lynch I (through end of chapter 3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>22</td>
<td></td>
<td>Read: Lynch II (finish the book)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>R</td>
<td>24</td>
<td></td>
<td>Read: <strong>Intro V, VI</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Read 2 of 4: <strong>Herdt, Urla &amp; Swedlund, Constable, Zimmer-Tamakoshi</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>29</td>
<td></td>
<td>Read: Blackwood; Student Group: Blackwood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Due: Lynch essay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>R</td>
<td>31</td>
<td></td>
<td>Read: Decena; Student Group: Decena</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>June</td>
<td>Read: Seizer; Student Group: Seizer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Due: Blackwood reflections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>R</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
<td>Read: Gamburd; Student Group: Gamburd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Due: Decena reflections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>14</td>
<td></td>
<td>Due: Seizer and Gamburd reflections, by noon, Anthropology Dept Office, 141 Cramer Hall</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>