Course Objectives: Women’s Studies 101 is an introduction to the discipline of Women’s Studies, surveying Womanist/Feminist/Chicana Materialist scholarship and exploring concepts basic to the field. This class invites and requires you to critically examine social understandings of class, race and gender and the role played by these constructions within institutionalized systems of power in the overlapping arenas of work, health, globalization and more. We will analyze the operation of systematic discrimination against communities of women and explore strategies of individual and group resistance both historically and in the present. Together, we will do a lot of work because this class places a strong emphasis on writing, analytical skills and praxis. Hopefully, you will be inspired by the many people who have worked, through the ages, to create a more just society.

By the close of the semester students will be able to:
1. Define and explain womanist, feminist, and Chicana materialist theories;
2. Apply the above theories to specific historical events and current social problems;
3. Discuss specific events and issues significant to women and power in the US; and
4. Utilize your newly developed (or expanded tools) to “Queer the World.”

Required Texts:
Available at Crimson and Gray (or at the Bookie)
   Borunda and Moreno, *Speaking from the Heart: Herstories of Chicana, Latina, and Amerindian Women.*
   Lorde, Audre, *Sister Outsider*

9 ¾ x 7 ½ Composition Book
The World Wide Web
WSU Databases

Bookshelf: (You will be assigned one – order it online or borrow a copy):
Atwood, Margaret. *The Handmaid’s Tale.* New York, Random House,

Extra Credit Text:
Morrison, Toni, *The Bluest Eye*

Open Door Policy:
When my office door is open, even if it is not “office hours,” feel free to drop in to ask questions and/or to discuss texts. There is also a student lounge available for study space in Wilson-Short 10A.
Course Requirements:

Class Attendance and Participation: Class attendance is mandatory for this class. You are allowed up to three absences from class, after that your grade will be lowered by 5 points for each class missed. In addition, you will lose points for any assignments missed during that time. Five or more absences results in an F in the class for the semester. Approved and documented university excuses are acceptable (this means forms from the Athletic Department, MSS, or similar unit handed in before the absence). It is the responsibility of the student to turn in all paperwork and discuss missed classes (noting assignments to be completed while away) prior to the WSU event. Class participation is also an important part of this class, meaningful contributions to class discussions and cooperation with fellow scholars is used to determine final grade (+/- 1%).

If you miss a class do NOT ask the professor what you “missed.” Borrow notes from a classmate, come to office hours, and ask the professor specific questions about the material.

Participation Guidelines:
1. Listen respectfully to each other and encourage dialogue.
2. Think before you speak.
3. Quality not quantity matters most.
5. While there are no “stupid questions” there are inappropriate questions. If you ask a question that demonstrates you have not done the readings, you will be told to… “Do the reading.” If you ask a question that is sexist, racist, etc., we will examine the question, as a class, to learn from it (see guideline #2).

Short Assignments: Throughout the semester students will participate in small-group activities. These include on-campus research, small-group discussions, and creative work. These assignments will be used to track attendance and influence that 1% class participation grade.

Online Quizzes (OQuizzes, 10 points each for a total of 110 points/24%): Online quizzes for most of your readings are posted on Blackboard. Each of these quizzes are due before class. Quizzes are noted throughout the syllabus. You are allowed only two attempts to pass.

GIW (Gender in an Imperfect World, 50 points/11%): On October 22nd, your small groups will implement an exercise to collect data on gender and power in the world today. Students will be able to choose from a list of four exercises, or to develop a study of their own. With their collective data, each individual student will be required to write and one-to-two page summary and analysis of the project. Full assignment distributed during week Four.

Exams (100 points each/43%): There will be one mid-term exam and one final exam. The exams will be comprised of fill in the blank questions and an essay question. They will cover information from assigned readings as well as material covered in class. The exams will be worth 100 points each. The final exam is cumulative. You do not need to bring a blue book to exams (paper will be provided).

Journals (100 points/22%): Journal work is central to this class. In your journals you will be required to respond to texts, analyze data, define terms, and more. All journal entries must be kept in a 9 ¾ x 7 ½ inch composition book. Entries are graded on a credit/no credit basis. For each entry missed ten points is deducted from the assignment. See Blackboard for full description (we will also review formats and specs in class).
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Percentage of Grade</th>
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<tr>
<td>Oquizzes</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>24%</td>
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<tr>
<td>GIW</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>11%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exams</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>43%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Journals</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>22%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>460</td>
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Deduct 5 points each for absences, tardies (early departures), and/or phones.

**Grading Scale:**

<table>
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<th>Percentage Range</th>
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<tr>
<td>94-100%</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>90-93%</td>
<td>A-</td>
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<tr>
<td>87-89%</td>
<td>B+</td>
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<tr>
<td>84-86%</td>
<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>80-83%</td>
<td>B-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Below 60%</td>
<td>F</td>
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**Course Policies:**

**Academic Etiquette Policy:** Class begins promptly at 12 noon. Arriving late or leaving early will lower your course grade by 5 points (this includes leaving for the restroom). If you arrive late you must leave your ID at the table by the door when you arrive so that I may document it. After turning in your ID take a seat in the nearest seat available. Name-calling and other forms of verbal harassment will result in dismissal from the class, a mandatory meeting with the professor, and a letter to Student Conduct.

**Use of cell phones and laptops** is not permitted during class. If your cell phone is out or rings during class you will lose 5 points from your grade. While laptops do allow students to take more notes during lectures, our most recent studies show that students retain less information than when they take hard-copy notes – so consider taking hard-copy notes in your other classes as well.

**Poaching:** If you get caught poaching, you will be asked to leave the classroom.

**Disability Accommodation:** Accommodations are available for students who have a documented disability. Please notify me during the first week of class of any accommodations needed for the course. Late notification may cause the requested accommodations to be unavailable. All accommodations must be approved through the Disability Resource Center (DRC) located in the Administrative Annex Building, Room 206 (335-1566).

**Electronic Documents:** Emailed papers are not accepted in this class.

**Academic Integrity Policy:** Plagiarism or cheating of any kind on any assignment or exam will not be tolerated and will result in a failing grade on the assignment and a report to Student Affairs. Always site the source of your work and **never** “cut and paste” another’s work and call it your own. (See the WSU handbook, Academic Dishonesty as well as Handout #1 for this class). If you are at any time unclear about what constitutes plagiarism or cheating, please see me.
Fall Schedule of Readings and Assignments

NOTE: Though I will try to remain as faithful as possible to this syllabus, I reserve the right to make changes. These will be announced in advance in class.

**Week One: An Introduction to Women’s Studies**

Tuesday, Aug. 25: Introduction to the course: Basic Concepts, Plagiarism.
Video: “Fear of a Brown Planet”

Thursday, Aug 27: Deep Roots of Feminism: Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz

**Week Two: Everyone Considered It Normal…**

Tuesday Sept. 1: Sex, Gender and the State
*Speaking* “From the Andes to College Town USA,” Villenas (126)
OQuiz 1 “From the Andes”

Thursday Sept. 3: In class, Note: Women of Justice; “Strong Women”
*Speaking* “Cultivating a Seed of Consciousness,” (7)
OQuiz 2 “Cultivating”

**Week Three: Founding Mothers, Audre Lorde**

Tuesday Sept. 8: Lecture: Audre Lorde and the Refusal of Silence
“The Master’s Tools” (110), “Age, Race, Class” (114), “Learning from the 60s” (134).
OQuiz 3 “Tools, Age, Learning”
“Litany for Survival”

**Week Four: Women and Labor**

Sept. 15  
Lecture, “Women’s Work and Women’s Wages”

WWW:  
“By the Numbers: A look at the gender wage gap”
“Numbers”
GIW assignment distributed

Sept. 17  
A Note Regarding TANF…

*Bookshelf*  
First 30 pages.
Small Group: (Fast food budget)

**Week Five: I Break for Fiction**

Sept. 22  
Note: Women of Justice

*Bookshelf*  
First Half of Book

Sept. 24  
Lecture: Women and NAFTA
GIW Planning

**Week Six: Global Economies**

Sept. 29  
Note: Women of Justice

**www**
Find one article on Women and NAFTA, write the title and a summary in your journal (using the WST 101 format). Bring article (and journal) to class

Oct. 1  
Video  
*Global Village or Global Pillage?*

**Review Guides Distributed**

**Week Seven: Herstories: Looking Back**

Oct 6  
Our Stories/Our symbols (*Prietita and the Ghost Woman*)

Speaking  
Chapter 2 “A Mexican Nationhood Context” (all including Narrative)

OQuiz 4  
“Mexican Nationhood”

Oct. 8  
Violence against Women in the U.S.

On-Line  
Read “Violence Against Women” [http://www.sas.upenn.edu/~psanday/rapea.html](http://www.sas.upenn.edu/~psanday/rapea.html)

OQuiz 5  
“Against Women”

**Week Eight: Toward a Safer Campus and a Safer Public Space**

Oct. 13  
Film Clip  
“Dream Worlds”

*Bookshelf*  
Discuss Second Half of Book

Oct. 15  
Review
**Week Nine: Exam**  
Oct. 20  Mid-Term Exam  
Oct. 22  GIW Research (small groups, individual writing assignment)

**Week 10: Reproductive Health, Reproductive Rights**  
Oct. 27  Lecture: History of Reproductive Rights in the US  
OQuiz 6  “Reproductive Justice”  
Oct. 29  GIP Small Group Reports, GIP assignment due  
Film Clip “Beneath the Skin”  
*Exams Returned.*

**Week Eleven: Sex, Gender, and Family**  
Nov. 3  History of Marriage, Lecture  
OQuiz 7  “Getting Hitched”  
Nov. 5  Evolution of Sexual Orientation  
*Journals Due for Groups 1-3!*  
OQuiz 8  “Standing Up”

**Week Twelve: Race, Sex and the Prison Industrial Complex**  
Nov. 10  Lecture: Race, Sex and the Prison Industrial Complex  
*Just Mercy*  “Mother, Mother” 227-241  
Nov. 12  Film Clip: Locked Out of the American Dream (Moyers and M. Alexander).  
*Journals Due for Groups 4-6!*

**Week Thirteen: The Power to Create Change**  
Nov. 17  Bio-Note: Gender and Justice  
Lorde  “Poetry is not a Luxury (36),” “Uses of the Erotic (53),” “An Interview” (81)  
OQuiz 9  
Nov. 19  Return to the Global  
Listen: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NkdUs2Dxy4s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NkdUs2Dxy4s)  
OQuiz 10  “Zapatista Women”
Week Fourteen: Autumn Break ! Nov. 23-27

Week Fifteen: Creating Change

Dec. 1                   Small Group Worksheet: Mapping my home-front
Borunda                 Chapter 4: “A Native Context,” all including Narrative (73)
OQuiz 11                 Native Context

Dec. 3                   Review Presentations: Formal Class Evaluations

Week Sixteen: Review

Dec. 8                   Review Presentations; Small Group Reviews
Dec. 10                  Small Group Reviews

Final Exam is Thursday Dec. 17th @ 8:00am

Regarding Extra Credit: You may earn up to 40 extra credit points in this class.

1. Volunteer for 20 hours with Women’s Transit. Be sure to tell the Transit Coordinator that you are enrolled in WST101. 04 (20 points).

2. Come to my office with a specific question about course readings, lectures, topics (5 pts. each visit).

3. Attend an approved WST event and type a two-page write-up summarizing the event and connecting it to class topics (up to 10 points per event/paper – must be turned in within one week of the event).

4. Write and deliver a review presentation during weeks 15-16. Topics must be approved by Week 11 and rough drafts by Week 13 (up to 20 points).

5. Complete the e.c. booklet for Bluest Eye (available on Blackboard).
Journal Format

Because journals are a credit/no credit assignment, you should read these instructions carefully. Ask me any questions you have about journaling during class or during office hours. If you have question about an assignment, other students will most probably have the same, or a similar question.

For each entry, you must write the date in the top margin in fonts no smaller than 24 pt. You must use this format: month/day/year.

Below the date, on the lined portion of the page, you must write the title of the assignment.

For Example:

August/24/2014

____________________________________________________
                 Intersectionality
This is the area where you would complete your assignment.
While you are required to use full sentences, you will not be graded on grammar. Use journal assignments to think about key concepts introduced in class. Each journal assignment will be slightly different.

____________________________________________________

Each entry is credit/no credit. If you complete the assignment, you are good. If you turn in a grocery list or off-topic entry, you lose 10 points. If you do not follow the required formatting style you lose 10 points for each assignment. Give each entry your best effort.
Plagiarism

Plagiarism or cheating of any kind on any assignment or exam will not be tolerated and will result in a failing grade on the assignment and a report to Student Conduct. At Washington State University, plagiarism and/or cheating can result in dismissal from the university.

Turning in work downloaded from the Internet, or turning in any work without citing your sources is plagiarism. Cutting and pasting information into a document, including an annotated bibliography, is a form of plagiarism. Always cite the source of your work and never “cut and past” another’s work and call it your own. Other people (your professors, fellow students, tutors in the writing lab) may give you suggestions for improving a piece of written work, but the work itself must be your own. If you are at any time unclear about what constitutes plagiarism or cheating, please see me.

Among undergraduates, one of the most common forms of plagiarism is the use of other scholars' words or ideas without citations. This sort of plagiarism often occurs because of unfamiliarity with the conventions of documentation in academic papers. In this class, it is your responsibility to always cite the source of your work and to use quotation marks or “block quotations” when you use other peoples’ words.

For example, I really like the work of Cherrie Moraga and think that she can explain differences better than I ever could. If I were to use her words in my paper, I might write something like this…

Coalition among and between women, even working class women, is often a difficult task. Too often, we assume we have many things in common without acknowledging that we bring different resources to the table: different struggles, different histories. In order to build useful coalition, we need to identify and talk about our own subject positions. As Cherrie Moraga argues, “The danger lies in ranking the oppressions. The danger lies in failing to acknowledge the specificity of the oppression. The danger lies in attempting to deal with oppression purely from a theoretical base” (52).

My words begin with “Coalition among and between women…” and end with “As Moraga argues.” As soon as I begin to use Moraga’s words, I must use quotation marks (or indent the quotation). I must also cite my source.

Another form of plagiarism is turning in a paper that someone else has written and claiming it as your own. In our information age, the most common form of “turning in a paper that someone else has written” occurs when students take information from the Internet and turn it in as their own. At times a student downloads an entire paper. At other times they cut material from several sources, reassemble the material, and turn product in as their own work. Utilizing the Internet in either of these ways constitutes plagiarism and, as with any form of plagiarism in this class, will result in a failing grade for the assignment and a letter to student conduct.

Finally, you cannot turn in work for one class that you have already turned in for another class/requirement.
If you have any questions at all regarding plagiarism or academic dishonesty, please speak to your professor and/or consult your WSU Student Handbook (Topic: Academic Dishonesty), or go to the website: “Plagiarism: how to avoid it.

http://www.wsulibs.wsu.edu/plagiarism/ has a useful tutorial for all students. For WST 300 students completing this tutorial is a course requirement.

Taking Steps to Avoid Plagiarism:

- Complete the tutorial located at http://www.wsulibs.wsu.edu/plagiarism/.
- When doing research, take care to mark quotations and always make a note of the source.
- Proof your paper to make sure that all quoted material and all paraphrased material has been attributed to its source.
- Never cut and past from another source; never cut information from an abstract and paste it into an annotated bibliography.
- Never “borrow” a paper from a friend.
- Never turn in work that is not your own.
- Do not turn in the same paper for two different assignments.