

**Soc 223/WMST 223 Section 2: Women and Men in  
Contemporary Society  
Fall 2008**

**Class Information**

Lawson 121  
MWF: 10:00-10:50am

**Instructor Information**

Nadia Amin  
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Office hours: M 11:15am-2:15pm  
W 11:15am-2:15pm

**Required Text**

Renzetti, Claire M., & Curran, Daniel J. 2003. Women, Men, and Society (5<sup>th</sup> Edition).  
Boston: Allyn and Bacon.

**Course Objectives:** The objectives of this course are to:

- a) Demonstrate an understanding of such sociological concepts as gender, discrimination, feminism, and patriarchy, b) display basic knowledge of gender's significance in U.S. history, culture, and social structure, c) demonstrate critical thinking about the dialogue emerging from different theories and perspectives pertaining to gender, race, class, and sexuality, and d) apply sociological concepts from personal and/or family experience to analyze gender as a form of human mutuality that must be understood to enhance the common good.

**Course Description:** This course is designed to familiarize you with existing gender inequalities in the world. For this purpose pertinent theories of gender roles will be examined. We will see how gender constructions and roles are played out in various social institutions such as, family, education, media, workforce, crime and justice, and medicine.

**Course Requirements**

**Attendance:** Since lectures will incorporate material from the textbooks and other external resources, your attendance in this class is required. I will take random attendances throughout this semester. Students' participation in the class makes it more exciting not only for instructor but also for other fellow students. I would not want you to lose attendance and participation points either!

**Exams:** There will be three exams, consisting of multiple choice, and true/false questions. Exams may include material from the textbook as well as from the lecture INCLUDING documentaries shown in class. The exams will NOT be cumulative, although an understanding of certain key concepts will be required throughout the semester. There will be no makeup exams except at the discretion of the instructor, and any makeup must be completed within 3 days of the test date. **No make-up exams will be given for the final exam or unexcused absences on regular test days.**

**Quizzes:** Throughout the semester 5 quizzes covering both the readings and lecture material will be administered. These quizzes are designed to familiarize you with the format and material that will be covered on upcoming exams. The quizzes will also help you assess your grasp on relevant sociological concepts/terms for each exam.

**Paper.** You will be required to write a 5-7 page paper. Detailed instructions will be given later in the term. This research paper is worth 50 points of your final grade in this course. You will receive descriptions of all that is required well in advance. You may turn papers in early, however if you CHOOSE to fail to complete your paper by the given due date, you will lose points. You may turn in your work earlier if you want!

NOTE: I will **NOT** grade any assignment sent to me via email. If you have trouble turning in a hard copy please talk to me before hand.

**Grading Criteria:**

3 Exams	100 points each	300 points
1 Paper		50 points
Attendance & participation		25 points (15+10)
5 Quizzes	10 points each	50 points

The grading scale will be as follows: A=90% and above, B=80% and above, C=70% and above D=69% and below

**Plagiarism:** You are not allowed to copy or use someone else's work without giving them credit for it. I will also discuss the proper citation style in class. Plagiarized work WILL result in a grade of -0- for the assignment. Please see SIUC student code of conduct for details. ([http://www.siu.edu/gradschl/catalog/Student\\_Conduct\\_Code.pdf](http://www.siu.edu/gradschl/catalog/Student_Conduct_Code.pdf))

**Class Discussion Rule:** Keep in mind that we will engage in discussions on some interesting but controversial topics in this course. Therefore respect to others and their opinion is expected. Any disruption, disregard and lack of concern for others' opinion will not be tolerated.

## **Course Schedule**

Aug 18-22 Introduction and Distribution of syllabus

Chapter 1 Sociological Perspectives on Gender

Aug 25- 29 Chapter 2 (Biology, Sex and Gender)

Sept 3 Documentaries on Gender and Sexuality

Sept 5-12 Chapter 3 (Ancestors and Neighbors)

Sept 12 **Quiz 1**

Sept 15-19 Chapter # 4 (Childhood Gender Socialization)

Sept 22: Exam Review **Quiz 2**

### **Sept 24: Exam 1**

Sept 26- Oct 3: Chapter # 8 (Gender, Employment and the Economy)

Oct 3 Hand out PAPER

Oct 6-10 Chapter # 6 (Language and Media)

Oct 13 Killing us softly (documentary)

Oct 15-22 Chapter # 7 (Gender and intimate Relationships)

Oct 22 **Quiz 3**

Oct 24-29 Chapter # 5 (Schools and Gender)

**Oct 24 Paper 2 Due**

Oct 31 **Quiz 4** and Exam Review

### **Nov 3 Exam 2**

Nov 5-12: Chapter # 9 (Gender, Crime, and Justice)

Nov 14 Tough Guise (documentary)

Nov 17-21 Chapter 12 (gender and Health)

Nov 21 **Quiz # 5**

Dec 1-5 Chapter # 11 (Gender and spirituality)

Dec 5 Exam review

Final Exam Date to be announced

Note: The instructor reserves the right to make changes in this syllabus if the need should arise. These changes will be announced in lecture.

The following is the SIUC policy on emergencies:

Emergency Procedures. Southern Illinois University Carbondale is committed to providing a safe and health environment for study and work. Because some health and safety circumstances are beyond our control, we ask that you become familiar with the SIUC Emergency Response Plan and Building Emergency Response Team (BERT) program. Emergency response information is available on posters in buildings on campus, available on BERT's website at [www.bert.siu.edu](http://www.bert.siu.edu), Department of Safety's website [www.dps.siu.edu](http://www.dps.siu.edu) (disaster drop down), and in Emergency Response Guideline pamphlet. Know how to respond to each type of emergency.

Instructors will provide guidance and direction to students in the classroom in the event of an emergency affecting your location. It is important that you follow these instructions and stay with your instructor during an evacuation or sheltering emergency. The Building Emergency Response Team will provide assistance to your instructor in evacuating the building or sheltering within the facility.