

**SOCIOLOGY 223/WOMEN'S STUDIES 223 (64293)**  
**WOMEN AND MEN IN CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY**  
**SECTION 003**  
**FALL 2009**  
**TUESDAY AND THURSDAY 12:35-1:50**  
**LINDEGREN 133**

**Instructor: Melissa Hicks**  
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**Office Hours:** Tuesdays 2-4  
 Wednesdays 1-3  
 Thursdays 2-4  
 \*\*Other appointments upon request.

**Content and Objectives of the Course**

This course will introduce you to some basic concepts in the sociology of gender. We will examine and learn to apply concepts—such as reality construction, socialization, identity, social location, gender, discrimination, feminism, and patriarchy—to our experience as gendered social actors and the patterned social arrangements in which we participate. We will thus be exploring social processes that influence the acquisition of a gendered self, socialization into gender roles, and the ongoing interrelationship of individual women and men and contemporary societies. This is a Core Curriculum course. By the end of this course you should be able to:

- Display basic knowledge of gender's significance in U.S. history, culture, and social structure.
- Demonstrate critical thinking about the dialogue emerging from different theories and perspectives pertaining to gender, race, class, and sexuality.
- Apply sociological concepts from personal and/or family experiences to analyze gender as a form of human mutuality that must be understood to enhance the common good.

**Required Texts**

Kramer, Laura. 2005. The Sociology of Gender: A Brief Introduction. (Second Edition). Los Angeles: Roxbury. (paperback)

Online Course Reserves: Additional required articles will be available on electronic reserve through the Morris Library website.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:** There will be two tests and one final exam. Tests and exams will be strictly objective (e.g., multiple choice, true/false, etc.). Material from lecture as well as material from the required text will be included on each exam. Any other material is also fair game for the tests (e.g., guest speakers, videos). Both exams will be worth 100 points each and the final exam will be worth 150 points. There will be no make-up exams, except at the discretion of the instructor. If a make-up exam is permitted it must be completed within one calendar week of the original exam date. In addition to the exams, there will be 5 pop quizzes/in-class/take home activities that will

be worth 10 points each. There will be NO make-ups for these points. You **must** attend class and submit assignments on the designated due date to obtain these points.

**GRADING:** Students will have the opportunity to earn a total of 400 points. The breakdown of points is as follows:

Exam 1:	100	Quizzes/Activities:	50 points
Exam 2:	100		
Final Exam:	150		

**GRADING SCALE:**

- A 360-400 points
- B 320-359 points
- C 280-319 points
- D 240-279 points
- F 239 or below

**CLASSROOM RESPECT:** Because many of the topics covered in sociology tend to be controversial in nature, a comfortable atmosphere is VERY important. Therefore, I ask and warn you that RESPECT to everyone is expected. There will be many sensitive issues raised and many different opinions given that all deserve attention. We should honor, celebrate, respect, and learn from diversity in the classroom and on this campus. In addition to respecting your fellow classmates' opinions, I ask that all students exercise a level of lecture etiquette. This means not talking to fellow classmates during lecture, turning off cell phones and putting them away, no sleeping/snoring, no reading the DE, and no eating during lecture. Failure to respect these simple classroom rules may result in point deductions.

**ATTENDANCE:** Attendance will not be taken for this course. However, the exams will cover material presented in lecture and you are responsible for any missed announcements and notes covered during the class time. Also, you will not be able to make-up missed quizzes/in-class activities, regardless of the reason for your absence.

**PLAGIARISM:** Many students arrive at college not understanding what plagiarism means. It means taking work by other people and passing it off as your own. If in working on assignments you borrow sentences from other sources—say the textbook, or the articles--and don't put them in quotation marks and site your source, you're plagiarizing. You're even plagiarizing if you borrow the basic content of your sentences for someone else, changing the exact wording, without citing and referencing your source. You should familiarize yourself with what plagiarism means before you start your paper so you can avoid it. There's discussion regarding this topic in *The Little Brown Handbook*. Penalties for plagiarism range from receiving a zero on the assignment, a failing grade for the course, or being expelled from the university.

**EMERGENCY PROCEDURES:** Southern Illinois University Carbondale is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for study and work. Because some healthy 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 the BERT'S website at [www.bert.siu.edu](http://www.bert.siu.edu) , Department of Public Safety's website [www.dps.siu.edu](http://www.dps.siu.edu) (disaster drop down) and in the Emergency Response Guidelines 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.

**Tentative Course Schedule**  
**SG = Sociology of Gender textbook**  
**ER = Electronic Reserves**

Aug 25	Introduction to course
Aug 27	Ch. 1—Introduction (SG)
Sept 1	Ch. 1, continued (SG)
Sept 3	Ch. 1, continued (SG) <i>Article:</i> Judith Lorber. 1993. "Believing is Seeing: Biology as Ideology." <i>Gender and Society</i> 7(4): 568-581. (ER)
Sept 8	Ch. 2—Culture and Ideology (SG)
Sept 10	Ch. 2, continued (SG)
Sept 15	Ch. 2, continued (SG)
Sept 17	Ch. 3—Learning and Doing Gender (SG) <i>Article:</i> Cavender et al., 1999. "The Construction of Gender in Reality Crime TV." <i>Gender and Society</i> 13(5): 643-663. (ER)
Sept 22	Ch 3—Learning and Doing Gender (SG)
Sept 24	Ch. 3—Learning and Doing Gender (SG) <i>Review for EXAM 1</i>
Sept 29	<b>EXAM 1</b>
Oct 1	Ch. 5—Education (SG) <i>Article:</i> Thorne, Barrie. 1986. "Boys and Girls Together...But Mostly Apart: Gender Arrangements in Elementary Schools." Pp. 167-184 in <i>Relationships and Development</i> , edited by Willard W. Hartup and Zick Rubin. Hillsdale, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum. (ER)
Oct 6	Ch. 5, continued (SG)
Oct 8	Ch. 5, continued (SG)
Oct 13	Ch. 5, continued (SG) Title IX lecture and discussion
Oct 15	Ch. 4, The Family and Intimate Relationships (SG) <i>Article:</i> Christopherson et al. 2002. "Two Kicks Forward, One Kick Back: A Content Analysis of Media Discourses on the 1999 Women's World Cup Soccer

	Championship.” <i>Sociology of Sport Journal</i> 19:170-188. (ER)
Oct 20	Ch. 4, continued (SG)
Oct 22	Ch. 4, continued (SG)
Oct 27	Ch. 4, continued (SG)
Oct 29	Ch. 4, continued (SG) FILM: Tough Guise
Nov 3	Ch. 6—The Economy and Work (SG)
Nov 5	Ch. 6—The Economy and Work (SG)
Nov 10	Ch. 6, continued (SG)
Nov 12	Ch. 6, continued (SG) <i>Review for EXAM 2</i>
Nov 17	<b>EXAM 2</b>
Nov 19	Ch. 7—The Political and Legal System (SG)
<b>November 21-29</b>	<b>Thanksgiving Break: NO CLASS! ☺</b>
Dec 1	Ch. 7, continued (SG)
Dec 3	Ch. 8—The Changing Gender System (SG)
Dec 8	Ch.8, continued (SG)
Dec 10	<i>Review for FINAL EXAM</i>
Dec 14-18	<b>FINAL EXAM—TBA</b>

**\*\*\* The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the schedule at any time.**