

**THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES
MONA UNIT
Institute of Gender and Development Studies (IGDS)**

**GS35B/GEND 3502 – THE PHILOSOPHY OF GENDER IN CARIBBEAN
THOUGHT**

Lecturers :

Dr. Leith Dunn- leith.dunn@uwimona.edu.jm

Mr. Keino Senior keino.senior@uwimona.edu.jm

Venue: Room 04(Humanities and Education)

Lecture Time: Mondays and Thursday 5-8pm

Office Hours- walk in between 9am - 5pm

IGDS Mona Unit Information for Students

Administrator: Ms. Erika Ellis

Email: erika.ellis02@uwimona.edu.jm

Telephone: 876 977 7365- 9271660-9 x 2664/3008

Email – Main Office <http://www.mona.uwi.edu/igds/>

COURSE RATIONALE, FORMAT AND ASSESSMENT

Welcome to GS35B/GEND 3502 - The Philosophy of Gender in Caribbean Thought. This Level 3 course looks at the way in which Feminism as an activist movement has contributed to the meanings of social phenomena and the identification and achievement of optimistic goals of sexual equality and justice for which it ultimately strives. The course attempts to conceptualize how Caribbean Feminist Theory has offered new descriptions and explanations of social phenomena such as race, ethnicity, and social-economic class as they are experienced in the Caribbean.

This course is highly recommended for undergraduate students who intend to pursue the MSc. Gender and Development Studies as well as undergraduate students who intend to use gender as a category for analysis in their graduate research. Undergraduate students completing a Minor or Major in Gender and Development, as well as graduate students in Gender Studies, will therefore find it useful.

The course will expose you to many concepts, debates and methods that will be relevant to any academic course you undertake. It will also expose you to the logical process involved in thinking through the dynamics of gender in everyday life.

Course Level:	3 – This is a qualifying course for graduate studies. Assessment is based on 40% course work and 60% final examination. Students must gain a pass mark of 50% across both course work and examinations.
Length of Course:	1 Semester/Summer
Credits:	3
Pre-Requisites:	At least two undergraduate first and second level gender courses, and/or a background in philosophy. (e.g. AR20M; AR22C)

Course Objectives:

At the end of the course, participants will be able to:

- Trace the development of feminisms, Caribbean feminisms and the underlying philosophical issues (Philosophy/feminism/Caribbean feminism).
- Use the relevant *ideas, debates, tools and methods* involved in the study of Philosophy of Gender in Caribbean Thought
- Understand and explain the philosophical discourses in Caribbean history (Engendering History) including the sexual division of labour in Caribbean societies (making women visible in C history+ explanations' for the Sexual/gender DL)
- Distinguish between orthodox political theory and practice in the Caribbean, using the example of the life of one prominent Caribbean political leader
- Discuss the impact of gender on concepts of justice and equality

- Know milestones in the history of the Caribbean feminist movement and feminist activism and the contribution of this movement to social transformation in the Caribbean

Course Content:

- 1. The archaeology of gender** –development and history of the sexual division of labour.
- 2.Philosophy of Sex & Gender, Love (**The history of desire**): sex, love and gender relations.
- 3. Feminism and Political theory in the Caribbean: the feminist challenge to the orthodoxy of politics** – the gendered framework of political theory.(feminism; and philosophy; political theory) (gender, governance and political leadership).
- 4. Gender Justice and Gender Equality** – the impact of gender on a philosophy of justice; the impact of tradition and culture on gender justice in Caribbean feminist discourse. Examine the gender dimensions of other kinds of injustice in the Caribbean (age; disability; socio-economic class).
- 5. Feminism as Social Movement** – the potential of feminism for social transformation and social justice including areas such as gender and HIV; and gender, governance and political leadership.

Course Readings: The course readings have a very high level of Caribbean content in order to familiarize students with key ideas and concepts of Caribbean scholars in gender studies. The readings will also enable students to engage in their own thinking about gender and philosophical issues in the Caribbean. They will also help students to develop the necessary skills to critique and build on these ideas to advance the discipline of gender studies in the Caribbean.

Students who have not done GS35A/GEND 3501- *The Philosophy of Gender may wish to refer to the* readings and philosophical debates explored, provided the conceptual and methodological base. If you have not done GEND 3501 it is important that you become familiar with the references and content of the Semester 1 course.

Teaching

Methodologies: This is a reading/seminar course which will make use of independent reading, research, individual or group presentations and tutoring.

Course Assessment:

- One major course work essay of approximately 2500 words which will be assessed by two internal examiners. **30%**
- Student participation and presentation **10%**
- 2 hour written examination (2 questions) **60%**

Section 1: The Archaeology of Gender: The Development of Ideas and Thought in Gender and the Sexual Division of Labour.

IDEAS

Introducing concepts

Introduction to the course

Course overview and introductions

Why study the philosophy of gender in Caribbean thought?

How can this course be used?

STUDENTS ROSTER FOR WEEKLY TUTORIAL PRESENTATIONS

Core Readings

- Kate Young, “Notes on the social relations of gender” Ch 7 in *Gender in Caribbean Development*, Patricia Mohammed and Catherine Shepherd Eds, Canoe Press, UWI, Jamaica, 1999, pp 92-103
- Paget Henry, *Caliban’s Reason: Introducing Afro-Caribbean Philosophy*, Routledge, New York and London, 2000, Introduction, pp 1-18
- Wollstonecraft, Mary, *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman*, Peter Edes, Boston, 1792

Seminar Two – Ideas, Debates, Tools & Methods for studying the Philosophy of Gender in Caribbean Thought

TOOLS

How to study philosophy of gender in Caribbean thought

Course Readings-

- Janet McCracken “What are masculinity and femininity anyway” Introduction in *Thinking about Gender: An Historical Anthology*, by Janet McCracken, Harcourt Brace College Publishers, USA, 1997, pp 1-19
- Paget Henry, Chapter 2 “C.L.R. James, African, and Afro-Caribbean Philosophy” in *Caliban’s Reason: Introducing Afro-Caribbean Philosophy*, Routledge, Britain, 2000, Chapter 2 pp 47- 67.
- Copi & Cohen, Introduction to Logic

Seminar THREE – Engendering Caribbean History

Core Readings

Beckles, H, McD, Foreign Slavery: Gender Paradigms in the Social History of Caribbean Slavery, in Brian Moore, BW Higman, Carol Campbell and Patrick Bryan, (Eds) *Slavery, Freedom and Gender: The Dynamics of Caribbean Society*, UWI Press Kingston, 2001. Chapter 10, pp. 197-231.

Brereton, B, Gendered Testimonies: Autobiographies, Diaries and Letters by Women as Sources for Caribbean History in Brian Moore, BW Higman, Carol Campbell and Patrick Bryan, (Eds) *Slavery, Freedom and Gender: The Dynamics of Caribbean Society*, UWI Press Kingston, 2001. Chapter 11, pp. 232-253.

(Amy Ashwood Garvey- Tony Martin ??)/ Rupert Lewis on Garvey?

Seminar FOUR: Sexual Division of Labour

Core Readings

- Rhoda Reddock, “Introduction” in *Women, Labour and Politics in Trinidad and Tobago: A History*, Ian Randle Publishers, Kingston, 1994, pp 1-10
- Maria Mies, “The Social Origins of the Sexual Division of Labour” in Maria Mies, *Patriarchy and Accumulation on a World Scale Women in the International Division of Labour*, Zed Books, London and New York, 1998, Ch2, pp 44-73

Recommended Readings

- Barbara Bush, “The Economic Role of Slave Women” Ch. 4 in *Slave Women in Caribbean Society 1650-1838*, Heinemann Publishers, Indiana University Press and James Currey: Kingston, Bloomington & Indianapolis and London, 1990, pp 33- 50
- Carla Freeman, “Introduction” in *Women, Work and Pink-Collar Identities in the Caribbean: High Tech and High Heels in the Global Economy*, Duke University Press, North Carolina, 2000, pp 1-20
- Janet Momsen, “Development & Gender Divisions of Labour in the Rural Eastern Caribbean” in *Women and Change in the Caribbean*, Janet Momsen, (Ed.) Ian Randle, Indiana University Press and James Currey, Kingston, Bloomington & Indianapolis and London, 1993, Ch xv in pp 232-246

Section 2: The Philosophy of sex, sexuality, love and gender relations in the Caribbean.

Seminar Five– Introduction to the Philosophy of sex and love in the Caribbean

Readings)

- Carolyn Cooper, Sexuality in Dancehall Queen

- Imani Tafari: Blood Bullets and Guns
- Barrow, Christine (ed), Caribbean Portraits: *Essays on Gender Ideologies and Identities*. Ian Randle, Kingston 1986.
- Beckles, Hilary, Sex and Gender in the Historiography of Caribbean Slavery: Engendering Hisstory: Caribbean Women in Historical Perspective. Verene Shepherd, Barbara Bailey and Bridget Brereton (Eds.). James Curry, Ian Randle, Kingston 1995. pp125-140.
- Kempadoo, Kamala, Continuities and Change: Five Centuries of Prostitution in the Caribbean in Kamala Kempadoo (ed). *Sun Sex and Gold : Tourism and Sex Work in the Caribbean* Rowman and Littlefield, Oxford, 1999.Chapter 1: pp.3-36.
- Mellon, Cynthia, A Human Rights Perspective on the sex Trade in the Caribbean and Beyond. In Kamala Kempadoo (ed). *Sun Sex and Gold : Tourism and Sex Work in the Caribbean* Rowman and Littlefield, Oxford, 1999.Chapter 14: pp.309-322.

Seminar Six – Philosophy of sexuality and gender relations in the Caribbean

Readings

- Michel Foucault, A History of Sexuality: Volume 1 – An Introduction Vintage Books: A Division of Random House, New York, 1980, Part One – “We the Other Victorians”, Part Two The Repressive Hypothesis, Chapter 1 – “The Incitement to Discourse”, pp 1-35
- M. Jacqui Alexander, “ Erotic Economy as a politics of Decolonization: Anatomy of Feminist and State Practice in the Bahamas Tourist Economy” Ch 4 in *Feminist Genealogies, Colonial Legacies, Democratic Features*, M. Jacqui Alexander and Chandra Talpade Mohanty (eds) Routledge, New York and London, pp 63- 100
- Patricia Mohammed, “Sexuality”

Seminar SEVEN - Philosophical issues of sex, love, sexuality and gender relations in the Caribbean Culture

Readings

- **Greg Thomas, “The ‘S’ Word: Sex, empire and Radical Black Tradition” in Anthony Bogues (ed), *After Man Towards the Human: Critical Essays on Sylvia Wynter*, Ian Randle, Kingston, 2006, pp 76-99**
- Brinda Mehta, “Sexuality, Violence and the Female Body Erotic” Ch 6 in *Diasporic (Dis)locations : Indo- Caribbean Women Writers Negotiate the Kala Pani*, University of the West Indies Press, Jamaica, 2004, pp 192-226
- Carolyn Cooper, Sexuality in Dancehall Queen

- Imani Tafari: Blood Bullets and Guns
- Beckles, Hilary, Sex and Gender in the Historiography of Caribbean Slavery: Engendering History: Caribbean Women in Historical Perspective. Verene Shepherd, Barbara Bailey and Bridget Brereton (Eds.). James Curry, Ian Randle, Kingston 1995. pp125-140.

Section 3: Feminism and Political Theory: The feminist challenges:

Seminar EIGHT – Concepts in Feminism Theory and male responses to these theories

Core Readings

- Margaret Walters, *Feminism: A Very Short Introduction*, Oxford University Press, London, 2005, Ch. 5, “The Late 19th century: Campaigning women”, Ch 6 “Fighting for the Vote: Suffragists” & Ch 7 “Fighting for the Vote: Suffragettes” pp 56 – 85
- Barriteau, Eudine “Requiem for the Male Marginalization Thesis in the Caribbean: Death of a Non-Theory” Ch 15 in *Confronting Power, Theorizing Gender : Interdisciplinary Perspectives in the Caribbean* by Eudine Barriteau , University of the West Indies Press, Kingston, 2003, pp 324 -355
- Vassell, Linnette, Women Power and Decision-Making in CARICOM Countries: Moving Forward from a Post-Beijing Assessment. In Gemma Tang-Nain and Barbara Bailey (eds)., *Gender Equality in the Caribbean: Reality or Illusion?*, Ian Randle, Kingston, 2003.

Section 4: Gender Justice and Gender Equality - the impact of gender on a philosophy of justice; the impact of tradition and culture on gender justice.

Seminar NINE

Core Readings

- Barriteau, Eudine, & A Colby, Stronger, Surer, Bolder: Dame Nita Barrow, CGDS Cave Hill and UWI Press, 2001.
- Jan Garrett, “Martha Nussbaum on Capabilities and Human Rights”, Online resource
- Rafael Ramirez, “Masculinity and Power in Puerto Rico” Ch 8 in *The Culture of Gender and Sexuality in the Caribbean* by Linden Lewis, The University Press of Florida, Gainesville, 2003, pp 234- 250

Seminar TEN – Philosophical Issues of Gender Justice in the Caribbean

Readings

- Eudine Barriteau, “30 Years Toward Equality: How Many More? The Mandate of the Bureau of Gender Affairs in Promoting Justice in the Barbadian State” *Public Lecture 2006 to Commemorate the 30th Anniversary of the Bureau of Gender Affairs* (*The Caribbean Review of Gender Studies*, Online Open Access Journal, No 1, January, 2007)
- Saskia Wieringa, “Measuring Women’s Empowerment: Developing a Global Tool” Ch. 10 in *Engendering Human Security: Feminist Perspectives*, Thanh-Dam Trong, Saskia Wieringa & Amrita Chhachhi, Zed Books Ltd, London and New York, 2006, pp 211-233
- The National Policy on Gender Equality and Equity for the Commonwealth of Dominica (Patricia Mohammed with Deborah Mc Fee) January 2006, The Government of Dominica

Section 5: Feminism as Social Movement : The Potential of Feminism for Social Transformation.

Seminar ELEVEN

Core Readings

- Tracy Robinson, “Gender, Feminism and Social Reform in the Caribbean” Ch 28 in Bailey, Barbara and Leo-Rhynie, Elsa (Eds). *Gender in the 21st Century: Caribbean Perspectives, Visions and Possibilities*. Kingston, Ian Randle Press. 2004, pp 592-625
- Glynne Griffith, “ Struggling with a Structure: Gender, Agency and Discourse” Ch 10 in *The Culture of Gender and Sexuality in the Caribbean* by Linden Lewis, The University Press of Florida, Gainesville, 2003, pp 275-293
- Aaron K. Kamugisha, “Reading Said and Wynter on Liberation” Ch 6 in Anthony Bogues (ed), *After Man Towards the Human: Critical Essays on Sylvia Wynter*, Ian Randle, Kingston, 2006, pp 131-156

Presentation Questions:

1. Outline and critique the work of one of the following Caribbean feminist writers and their contribution to gender and philosophy in the Caribbean: Pat Mohammed; Rhoda Reddock; Eudine Barriteau; Barbara Bailey; June Castello; Andaiye; Linnette Vassell, Pansy Hamilton, Beverley Manley, Maxine Henry-Wilson, Peggy Antrobus, Pat Ellis (Women’s Organisations); Dorianne Rowan Campbell; Glenda Simms, Mark Figueroa; Linden Lewis.

OR

2. Write a critical assessment of the feminist movement in the Caribbean in response to the writing of a Caribbean feminist of your choosing.

Readings

- Peggy Antrobus, "The Rise and Fall of Feminist Politics in the Caribbean Women's Movement 1975-1995" Lucille Mathurin Mair Lecture 2000, Centre for Gender and Development Studies, Mona Unit, University of the West Indies, Jamaica, 2000
- June Castello, "Where Have all the Feminists Gone" Learning the Lessons of a Long Time passed in the Women's Movement in the Caribbean' in Unraveling Gender, Development and Civil Society in the Caribbean, *Caribbean Quarterly*, Vol 52, Nos 2&3, June to Sept, 2003, Guest Editors Taitu Heron and Hilary Nicholson, pp 1-13
- Patricia Mohammed, "Like Sugar in Coffee: Third Wave Feminism and the Caribbean, *Social and Economic Studies*, Vol. 52, No. 30, 2003, pp 5-30

Seminar TWELVE – Course Synthesis and Review

ADDITIONAL READINGS

Session 3: Engendering Caribbean History

Mair, L, Women Field Workers in Jamaica during Slavery, in Brian Moore, BW Higman, Carol Campbell and Patrick Bryan, (Eds) *Slavery, Freedom and Gender: The Dynamics of Caribbean Society*, UWI Press Kingston, 2001. Chapter 9, pp. 183-196.

Reddock, R. "Caribbean Women and The Struggle of the 1930's." *Caribbean Affairs*, 1, 86-96 1989

Senior, O. *Working Miracles*. Barbados: University of the West Indies, 1991

Shepard V. A., (Ed) *Women in Caribbean History*. Kingston: Ian Randle, Oxford: James Curry, Princeton: Marcus Weiner 1999

Shepherd, V and H McD. Beckles (Eds), *Historical Study of Women in Jamaica 1655-1844*, University Press, Kingston, 2007.

Wilmot, S. (1989) "Females of Abandoned Characters? Women an protect in Jamaica 1838-1865," in V. Shepard, B. Brereton & B. Bailey, (Eds.) *Engendering History*. 1989

Beckles, H. *Natural Rebels* New Jersey: Rutgers University Press 1989

- Alison Wylie, “Gender Theory and the Archaeological Record: Why is there no archaeology of Gender?” in *Engendering Archaeology: Women and Pre-History*, Joan M. Gero and Margaret W. Conkey, Eds, Blackwell, Oxford and Cambridge, USA, 1992, Ch 2, pp 31-54
- Patricia Mohammed, *Gender Negotiations Among Indians in Trinidad, 1917-1947* Institute of Social Studies/ Palgrave, The Hague/Houndmills, Basingstoke, 2002, Content pages, Introduction and Conclusion, pp vii – x, 1-16, 262-269

Section 3: Feminism and Political Theory: The feminist challenge to the orthodoxy of politics: the gendered framework of political theory

- Mondesire, Alicia and Leith Dunn, *Towards Equity in Development: CARICOM, Guyana* 1995.
- Gayatri Spivak, “Can the Subaltern Speak” in Patrick Williams and Laura Chrisman (eds), *Colonial Discourse and Post-colonial Theory*, Prentice Hall, England, 1993, pp 66-111
- Frantz Fanon, *A Dying Colonialism*, Grove Press Inc. New York, 1965 Ch 1 and Appendix “Algeria Unveiled” pp 35-67

Section 4: Gender Justice and Gender Equality - the impact of gender on a philosophy of justice; the impact of tradition and culture on gender justice Recommended

- Patricia Mohammed, “Adding Women and Stirring: Women and Political Representation in the Caribbean”, *Paper presented at the First Annual Commonwealth Caribbean Workshop January 10-11th, 2007 University of the West Indies St. Augustine*

Section 5: Feminism as Social Movement : The Potential of Feminism for Social Transformation.

- Rhoda Reddock “Engendering Science and Interdisciplinary Environmental Security Research for Environmental Security – The Case of the Nariva Swamp” Ch. 13 in *Engendering Human Security: Feminist Perspectives*, Thanh-Dam Trong, Saskia Wieringa & Amrita Chhachhi, Zed Books Ltd, London and New York, 2006, pp 297-326

Bailey, Barbara and Leo-Rhynie, Elsa (Eds), *Gender in the 21st Century: Caribbean Perspectives, Visions and Possibilities*. Kingston, Ian Randle Press. 2004

Barriteau, Eudine (Ed), *Confronting Power, Theorizing Gender*. UWI Press, Kingston. 2003

Chevannes, Barry, *Learning to be a Man*, University of the West Indies Press, Jamaica, 2001

Code, Lorraine, *What Can She Know: Feminist Theory and the Construction of Knowledge*. Cornell University Press, Ithaca, 1991

hooks, bell “Feminist Politics ”in hooks (ed) *Feminism is For Everybody*, South End Press, Cambridge, 2000 pp1-6

- Grosz, Elizabeth *Volatile Bodies*. Indiana University Press, Bloomington and Indianapolis, 1994
- Jayawardena, Kumari, *Feminism and Nationalism in the Third World*, Zed Press, 1986
- Kramnick, Isaac (Ed), *The Portable Enlightenment Reader* , Penguin: USA and England, 1995
- Loyd, Moya, *Beyond Identity Politics : Feminism, Power and Politics*. London : Sage, 2005.
- Mohammed, Patricia, *Gendered Realities: Essays in Caribbean Feminist Thought*, University of the West Indies Press, Kingston, 2002.
- Nussbaum, Martha and Glover, Jonathan (Eds), *Women, Culture and Development, A Study of Human Capabilities*, Clarendon Press: Oxford, 1995
- Nussbaum, M and Rorty, A, (Eds), *Essays on Aristotle's 'De Anima'*, Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1992
- Nussbaum, Martha, *Sex and Social Justice*, Oxford University Press, 1999
- Okin, Susan Moller, *Justice, Gender, and the Family* Basic Books, 1989
- Oyewume, Oyeronke, *The Invention of Women: Making Sense of Gender Discourse*, Minnesota University Press, Minnesota 1997
- Pateman, Carol, *The Sexual Contract*, Cambridge, 1988
- Rawls, John, *Theory of Justice* The Bellknap Press of Harvard University Press, Cambridge, 1971
- Wollstonecraft, Mary, *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman*, Peter Edes, Boston, 1792

Journals:

- Feminist Review
- Feminist Theory
- Frontiers: Journal of Women's Studies
- Small Axe
- The Psychology of Women Quarterly