

LBS 4210 Women and Work

Fall 2015

Professor: Dr. Gleema Nambiar

Email: via Blackboard Messages

Office Hours: By Appointment

Website: <http://labor.fiu.edu/>

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is an examination of issues and events that shaped working women's varied participation in the workforce, both in the U.S. and internationally. Using gendered readings of American labor history, personal narratives, and global case studies of women's self-organization, students will analyze how gender intersects with other social constructs like class and colonial relations, to culturally determine the labor market stratification of women's work locally, nationally, and globally. By developing students' capacity to contextualize specific workplace problems, within larger international gender-related trends in ideologies, industries, and initiatives taken by labor/ women's/ resistance movements, this course seeks to increase students' awareness of their shared personal and social responsibility to foster gender equality in both the workplace and the household.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Global Learning Outcomes

Students will be able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the interrelatedness of specific gendered workplace issues and wider historical, local, and global events that shape women's roles and participation in the U.S. and the global workforce;
- Analyze how gender intersects with other social constructs to culturally determine the labor market segmentation of women's work locally, nationally, and globally;
- Demonstrate an awareness of shared personal, social, and corporate responsibility for gender equality in the household and workplace at the local, national, and global level.

Other Learning Outcomes

Students will be able to:

- Recognize and facilitate the needs of women workers in an environment of diverse cultural change;
- Develop strategies for dealing with complex gender-related workplace issues through a greater understanding of labor/ women's/ resistance movements;
- Think critically, formulate informed analyses, and articulate well-structured arguments related to gendered workplace issues.

COURSE PREREQUISITE

There are no prerequisites for this course.

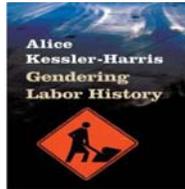
LBS 4210 Women and Work

Fall 2015

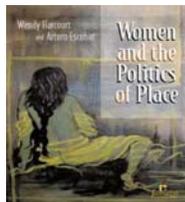
COURSE TEXTBOOKS and COURSE MATERIALS

Required Textbooks

1. Kessler-Harris, Alice (2007) *Gendering Labor History*; University of Illinois Press, Urbana and Chicago, IL. ISBN-10:0-252-17393-2 (UG) (GR)



2. Harcourt, Wendy and Escobar, Arturo (2005) *Women and the Politics of Place*. Kumarian Press, Inc. Bloomfield, CT. ISBN- 1-56549-207-2 (UG) (GR)



Additional Resources Strongly Recommended for the Course

1. Assorted electronic articles and audio-visual materials will be assigned throughout the semester for consideration in assignments and discussions.
2. Students will be expected to expand their investigation of each topic by utilizing supplemental academic and reliable journalistic readings.

COURSE EXPECTATIONS

Performance expectations in an online course are the same as a traditional face-to-face course.

Students are expected to:

- Enroll in Blackboard Learn Orientation Course to increase their understanding of how Blackboard works <http://online.fiu.edu/futurestudies/practicecourse>
- Purchase the book before or within the first week of class.
- Follow instructions and ask questions when you are uncertain of the course material.
- Be aware of the assignments and their respective due dates.
- Log in to the course at least 3 times per week.
- Respond to emails/messages within 2 days.

The instructor will:

- Log in to the course thrice per week.
- Respond to emails/messages within 2 days.
- Grade assignments in a timely manner and provide group or individual feedback.

LBS 4210 Women and Work

Fall 2015

LATE POLICY

Late written work may be penalized 20% of possible points, and no late assignments will be accepted after one week beyond the due date without the professor's permission.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

This Code of Academic Integrity was adopted by the Student Government Association on November 28, 2001 and reflects the values articulated in the Student Code of Standards. Florida International University is a community dedicated to generating and imparting knowledge through excellent teaching and research, the rigorous and respectful exchange of ideas, and community service. All students should respect the right of others to have an equitable opportunity to learn and honestly to demonstrate the quality of their learning. Therefore, all students are expected to adhere to a standard of academic conduct, which demonstrates respect for themselves, their fellow students, and the educational mission of Florida International University. As a student of this university:

- **I will be honest in my academic endeavors.**
- **I will not represent someone else's work as my own.**
- **I will not cheat, nor will I aid in another's cheating.**

All students are deemed by the university to understand that if they are found responsible for academic misconduct, they will be subject to the Academic Misconduct procedures and sanctions, as outlined in the Student Handbook. By taking this course I promise to adhere to FIU's Student Code of Academic Integrity. For details on the policy and procedure go to ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT: <http://online.fiu.edu/currentstudents/academicmisconduct>

ASSISTANCE FOR STUDENTS

The Learning Center is available to assist students in the organization and writing of their papers. The website for the Learning Center is: <http://learningcenter.fiu.edu>

Students with special needs: I understand that there is Office of Disability Services (<http://drc.fiu.edu/>) available to me should I need it. It is my responsibility to contact them to process my request to have my needs met. I need to follow their procedures as to proper notification to the instructor.

RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS

The University's policy on religious holy days as stated in the University Catalog and Student Handbook will be followed in this class. Any student may request to be excused from class to observe a religious holy day of his or her faith.

LBS 4210 Women and Work

Fall 2015

COURSE COMMUNICATION

Communication in this course will take place via blackboard message. Students need to check Blackboard message regularly.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

All course materials will be available on the LBS 4210 Women and Work/LBS 5215 Women in the Workplace Blackboard Learning website. To access this site:

1. Go to <http://online.fiu.edu/>
2. Click on "Course Login"
3. Click on "Blackboard Learn Login"
4. Enter your Panther Soft username and password
5. Click on the link to LBS 4654 under "My Courses"

1. Ask a Working Woman Interview 1 X 40 Points

Conduct an approximately **hour-long** interview to construct a portrait of a working woman's paid and unpaid work "herstory". **Undergraduates** should produce approximately **1000 words**, single-spaced in about 4 pages. **Graduate** students should produce approximately **2000 words** in about 8 pages. Although this Interview is not weighted heavily in terms of immediate points, the data you generate through it is crucial to provide evidence in future discussions and assignments in this course.

2. Written Textbook Appreciations (3) & Global Project Essays (3): 40 pts/ each

Answer in a maximum of 1000 words, *at least* two of the questions provided, choosing evidence and concepts from this Module's textbook reading that demonstrate how the course material has led you to a deeper and more meaningful understanding of your own and/ or your interviewee's paid or unpaid work experience in the context of national and international labor markets. Providing only your opinion without substantiation is not sufficient.

3. Webcam Discussions: 6 x 40 pts

There will be a total of 6 discussions during this course, each of which will be worth 40 points. These discussions will usually require you to respond to questions presented by the instructor based mostly on audio-visual materials, but also occasionally on articles and textbooks. In general, you should plan on contributing a minimum of one original post of 3 minutes' length per Module and two responses to your classmates' posts. Your contribution to the discussion board will be graded based on the rubric provided.

Keep in mind that discussion forums are open to all members of the class for the duration of the term, so care should be taken when determining what to post. If you need to send a private message to the instructor or a fellow classmate, the Blackboard Message function should be used

4. Final Editorial: 80 pts

Based on all the readings, audio-visual materials and personal testimonies you have studied in this course, and also based on further targeted research conducted on your own, you will be required to write an editorial article on workplace issues that you determine may be salient for future generations of working women, including on issues related to gender, social class, ethnicity/ race, the environment, geographic space, and epoch.

LBS 4210 Women and Work

Fall 2015

Undergraduates should choose two detailed "stories" from the interviewee's work-related testimony, and produce an analytic article yielding approximately **1000 words**, single-spaced in about 4 pages. **Graduate** students should choose at least four detailed "stories" from the interviewee's work-related testimony, and produce an analytic article yielding approximately **2000 words** in about 8 pages.

COURSE ASSESSMENTS and GRADE SCALE

COURSE ASSESSMENTS		NUMBER ITEMS	POINTS	TOTAL POINTS	
Ask a Working Woman Interview		1	40	40	
Written Textbook Appreciations		3	40	120	
Global Project Essays (Part A, B, &C)		3	40	120	
Webcam Discussions		6	40	240	
Final Editorial		1	80	80	
TOTAL POINTS				600	
Letter Grades	Points	Letter Grades	Points	Letter Grades	Points
A	570 - 600	B-	480 - 497	D+	402 - 436
A-	540 - 569	C+	462 - 479	D	378 - 401
B+	522 - 539	C	438 - 461	D-	360 - 377
B	498 - 521	C-	420 - 437	F	359 and below

LBS 4210 Women and Work

Fall 2015

COURSE CALENDAR

The course week runs from **Sunday to Saturday**: Coursework is due on **Saturday by midnight (EST)**. Each module covers a **2-week period**; hence you have 2 weeks to complete each module.

Module #/Date	Module Topics	Module Coursework
1 Aug. 24-Sept. 5	Introduction & Overview of Women in the Labor Movement	Read Course Syllabus Acquire textbooks Get WebCam Ready Read Kessler-Harris, Pt 1, Ch's 1-4 (pp. 1-72) Complete "Ask A Working Woman" Interview Complete Webcam Discussion
2 Sept. 6-19	Gender and Class	Read Kessler-Harris, Pt 2, Ch's 5-9 (pp.175-249) Study Online articles & Audio-Visual Materials Complete Written Textbook Appreciation Complete Webcam Discussion
3 Sept. 20-Oct. 3	Labor and Social Policy	Read Kessler-Harris, Pt 3, Ch's 10-14 (pp. 1-72) Study Online articles & Audio-Visual Materials Complete Written Textbook Appreciation Complete Webcam Discussion
4 Oct. 4- 17	The Diverse Economy: Women, Place, & Alternate Economies	Read Harcourt, Pt. 3, Ch's 9-11 (pp. 130-189) Study Online article(s) & Audio-Visual Materials Complete Written Textbook Appreciation Complete Webcam Discussion
5 Oct. 18-31	Women, Place, & Struggles related to the Environment	Read Harcourt, Pt. 2, Ch's 5-8 (pp. 72-128) Study Online article(s) & Audio-Visual Materials Complete Global Project Essay Part A Complete Webcam Discussion
6 Nov. 1-14	Women, Place, & Body Politics	Read Harcourt, Pt. 1, Ch's 1-4 (pp. 20-71) Study Online article(s) & Audio-Visual Materials Complete Global Project Essay Part B Complete Webcam Discussion
7 Nov. 15-28	Displacements: Women on the Move	Read Harcourt, Pt. 4, Ch's 12-15 (pp. 190-256) Study Online articles & Audio-Visual Material Complete Global Project Essay Part C <i>No Discussion this week: Thanksgiving Break</i>
8 Nov. 29-Dec. 12	New Directions	Read Kessler-Harris, Pt 4, Ch's 15-17 (pp. 251-300) Study Online article(s) & Audio-Visual Materials Complete Final Paper/Project Complete Course Evaluation (in PantherSoft)