



WMST 4700: Feminist Theories

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Feminist Theories is the capstone class for Gender and Women's Studies majors (and minors), a choice elective for English majors, and for all others interested in academic feminism and foundational theories of gender.

In this course, we will explore the chronological development of feminist thought, link this primarily U.S.-centric intellectual history to broader movements for gender justice across the globe, and dive into historical and contemporary theoretical texts addressing women, gender, sexuality, and intersectionality. We will learn and evaluate some of the most captivating arguments and debates between and among feminist scholars of the 19th, 20th, and 21st centuries. We will examine the theoretical perspectives that inform academic feminist scholarship and motivate current feminist activist movements. And we will read, think, and talk deeply about the development of feminist theory.

This course will not only equip you with a working knowledge of the intellectual history of feminism; it will also enable you to better understand the movements for social change that are gathering steam in the current political moment, such as the #MeToo movement and Black Lives Matter. Furthermore, the course is a designated COM-3 course, as well as a designated Advanced Writing (USP WC) course.