

History 318-001
History of Women in America
TTh, 12:30-1:45, Hardin 233
Dr. Megan Taylor Shockley
656-4427
Hardin 104

mshockl@clemsun.edu

Office Hours: Tuesday 2-3; Thursday 9-11, and by appointment

Course Description: This course examines the changing role of women in American life from the colonial era to the present, contrasting the ideology of women's place in society with the reality of their lives. The Victorians, the fight for women's suffrage, and the 20th century liberation movement are emphasized.

This course focuses on the connections between cultural meanings of gender, race, and class and women's status and power in society. Although this course emphasizes the meanings of class and race in defining gender norms in society, it also covers reproduction, politics, legal issues, education, and other issues related to gender and society.

Course Requirements:

- Each student is required to attend daily and participate in class discussions, read the assignments by the date listed on the syllabus, and complete discussion requirements for the participation grade.
- Each student must complete TWO book review assignments.
- Each student will take a mid-term exam and a final exam, both of which will be essay exams.
- Each student will complete a 7-8 page research assignment focusing on women's magazines. The sign-up deadline for the assignment is on 8/31.
- Details for all assignments can be accessed by accessing blackboard: <http://bb.clemson.edu> and following the prompts for logging in and finding this course available as a BLACKBOARD course. We will discuss how to log in on the first day of class, and you may email either me or the help desk if you have trouble logging in on your own.
- Each of the papers should be typed, double-spaced, and should follow the requirements established on the assignment page under blackboard. Each essay should begin with an introduction paragraph addressing your topic.
- The bodies of the papers should develop your thesis argument with examples from the reading(s). Each essay should end with a paragraph that summarizes your main points.
- The papers will be graded on: 1) clear and well-supported argument; 2) proper spelling and grammar; 3) original thoughts and analysis of the readings.

I WILL HAVE A SIGN-UP SHEET ON MY DOOR. YOU NEED TO SIGN UP FOR YOUR RESEARCH PAPER TOPIC.

- Due dates are listed on the sign-up sheet, on the syllabus, and on the assignment pages of blackboard. Once you sign up for a date, your research paper will be due on that day.
- It is your responsibility to write down the date YOUR paper is due—I will keep the sign-up sheet outside my door if you need to check it as a reminder.

All papers are due on the date listed in your syllabus at 12:30 PM. If you do not hand in your paper on time, you will receive a ZERO for that paper. There are no exceptions, so check your schedule, other class obligations, etc. BEFORE you sign up for your research project.

Grading:

Midterm: 25%
Book Reviews: 15%
Research Project: 20%
Participation: 10%
Final Exam: 30%

90-100: A, 80-89.5: B, 70-79.5: C, 60-69.5-D, 0-59.5: F

ATTENDANCE POLICY: If you miss 10% of the classes (4 CLASSES!), your final grade will drop 1 full letter grade. For every absence beyond the 4 classes, your final grade will drop an additional 4 points. If you miss 25% of the classes (9 CLASSES!), you will fail the course. YOU MAY ONLY BE EXCUSED FOR A COLLEGE-AUTHORIZED EVENT, and a dean's, professor's, or coach's note must accompany your absence. Medical problems, with the exception of long illnesses that require hospitalization/surgery, are not excused!!! Make-up exams will be given only in the case of extreme emergency or with a college-authorized excuse and must be arranged prior to the time of the original exam. You must take a make-up exam within ONE WEEK of the original exam. IF YOU MISS THE ROLL CALL, YOU WILL BE COUNTED AS ABSENT FOR THE DAY!!!!

A Note on Academic Integrity: As the provost has announced: "As members of the Clemson University community, we have inherited Thomas Green Clemson's vision of this institution as a 'high seminary of learning.' Fundamental to this vision is a mutual commitment to truthfulness, honor, and responsibility, without which we cannot earn the trust and respect of others. Furthermore, we recognize that academic dishonesty detracts from the value of a Clemson degree. Therefore, we shall not tolerate lying, cheating, or stealing in any form."

- All ideas or direct quotations taken from another work must be fully cited; failure to do so constitutes a case of plagiarism.
- All papers that you turn in must be your own work. That means that you may not copy from someone else or download papers or information off of the internet. This, too, is plagiarism and cheating.
- Cheating on exams will not be tolerated.
- If you choose to plagiarize or cheat on an assignment, the LEAST you will receive is a zero on that assignment.

REQUIRED TEXTS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE BOOKSTORE:

Linda Kerber and Jane Sherron DeHart, eds. *Women's America: Refocusing the Past*. 7th Ed. (ABBREVIATED *WA*)

Ellen Skinner, ed. *Women and the National Experience: Primary Sources in American History*. 2nd Ed. (ABBREVIATED *WTNE*)

Sally McMillen, *Seneca Falls and the Origins of the Women's Rights Movement*.

Susan Cahn, *Sexual Reckonings*.

ASSIGNMENTS/COURSE SCHEDULE

Week 1: Intro to the class

8/19: Introduction

Week 2: Colonial Issues

8/24: Encounters: *WA* 28-45; *WTNE* 11-12/Women of the Chesapeake: *WTNE* 14-15

8/26: Women of New England and the Middle Colonies: *WA* 47-60; *WTNE* 8-11

Week 3: Colonial Issues, Continued

8/31: Deviance in New England: *WA* 76-89; *WTNE* 3-5, 6-8

9/2: Reproduction, Slavery, Sex, and Power in the Colonies and Early Republic: *WA* 90-102, 116-133

Week 4: Revolutions and Women in the Early National Period

9/7: Women in the Revolution: *WA* 134-138; *WTNE* 18-29

9/9: Black and White Women in the Early National Period: *WA* 139-153, 164-173

Week 5: Antebellum Women

9/14: The Industrial Revolution and the Creation of Separate Spheres: *WA* 173-185; *WTNE* 29-31/Victorian Women's Culture: *WA* 189-204

9/16: Women in the Factories: *WA* 187-188; *WTNE* 34-41

Week 6: Feminism

9/21: Changes in the Nineteenth Century: *WA* 205-232, 42-70

9/23: The Women's Rights Movement: **ALL OF MCMILLEN, book review due**

Week 7: Southern Women, the Civil War

9/28: Women's Work in the Rural South

9/30: **MIDTERM EXAM!!!!**

Week 8: Women and Change in the Late 19th Century

10/5: The Civil War and Reconstruction: *WA* 283-308; *WTNE* 76-7, 92-9

10/7: Legal Changes(?): *WA* 309-18/The Rise of the "New Woman": *WTNE* 109-116

Week 9: Reforms/Women's Progressivism

10/12: Middle-Class Maternalism: *WA* 312-24, 338-343; *WTNE* 116-120, 121-125
151-160

10/14: For the Laboring White Women: *WA* 386-414; *WTNE* 136-151, 161-164

Week 10: African American Women and Women Suffrage

10/19: African American Women and "Race Progress": *WA* 349-355, 368-378; *WTNE* 127-135

10/21: Woman Suffrage: *WA* 342-348, 420-426, 163-171

Week 11: Assessing the 1920s

10/26: Assessing Suffrage: *WA* 430-451; *WTNE* 172-176, 183-184, 188-189

10/28: Consumerism in the 1920s: *WA* 451-492; *WTNE* 179-82, 186-8/Realities for Labor: *WA*
493-505; *WTNE* 176-9, 184-6

Week 12: Great Depression

11/2: Fall Break

11/4: The Great Depression and the New Deal; Their Effects on Women: *WA* 506-529; *WTNE*
190-202

Week 13: World War II and its Aftermath

11/9: Women in World War II: *WA* 553-565; *WTNE* 206-208

11/11: The Feminine Mystique: *WA* 591-607, *WTNE* 209-216/ Realities of the 1950s: Women's Activism, *WA* 577-590, 617-630

Week 13: Issues in Postwar America: Sexuality and Civil Rights

11/16: ALL OF CAHN: Book Review Due!!!

11/18: Women and Civil Rights: *WA* 631-644, 650-651, 664-671; *WTNE* 218-223

Week 14: Origins of Second-Wave Feminism

11/23: Origins and Ideas: *WA* 652-663; *WTNE* 226-245

11/25: Thanksgiving Break

Week 15: The Feminist Movement and Backlash

11/30: The Feminist Movement: *WA* 672-714, 719-730, 741-743; *WTNE* 226-245

12/3: Backlash and Beyond: *WA* 714-718, 731-734, 743-745, 764-765, 772-776

FINAL EXAM IS ON MONDAY, December 6, From 3-5:30