

HIGR 205

**Writing Women into History [officially called Feminist Historiography]**

740968

Class meets Thursday mornings 10:15 a.m.–12:30 p.m. in HSS 6008

Spring 2012

**Professor Deborah Hertz**

HSS 6024

Office Hours: 1:00 p.m.–3:00 p.m. Tuesdays

534 5501

**Class Requirements**

Students are expected to do the readings and come to class prepared for vigorous debate. The only required written work are your essays and the various mini-assignments throughout the quarter as you prepare the essay.

Your grades will be based on the following quantitative assessments of your work: class discussion 10 points; preparatory mini-assignments 10 points, and final version of the essay 80 points.

**Essays**

To choose a topic for their essay, students should try to use the readings and themes of this course to deepen their intellectual perspective on their doctoral thesis. If your thesis will be in history, this will obviously be more elegant than if your thesis is in another discipline. Note that all essays for this course should be works of history, even if this is not your home discipline.

Beginning on the first day of the seminar, choose the following rubrics to begin to narrow your topic: a people or a nation state or a region; a twenty-five-year historical period between 1750 and 1945; a kind of history [social, economic, cultural, political]; focus on women or on gender, and finally, a particular biography, collective biography, or micro-history episode.

You will be asked to turn in your work at two-week intervals throughout the seminar, as noted in the class schedule.

Be prepared to submit your final draft on May 31, in hard and electronic copies to our web board. Essays should be twenty pages in length.

## **Book List**

Deborah Simonton, *Routledge History of Women since 1700*, Routledge 978 0415438131

Mary Hartman, *The Household and the Making of History*, Cambridge University Press, 978 0521536691

Judith Bennett, *History Matters: Patriarchy and the Challenge of Feminism*, U of Penn Press, 978 0812220049

N Chaudhuri and M Strobel, eds., *Western Women and Imperialism*, Indiana University Press, 978 0253207050

Mary Wollstonecraft and Janet Todd, eds., *A Vindication of the Rights of Women*, Oxford University Press, 978 0199555468

Dagmar Herzog, ed., *Brutality and Desire: War and Sexuality in Europe's Twentieth Century*, in *Europe's Twentieth Century*. Palgrave Macmillan 978 0230285637

## **Course Schedule**

### **April 5 Introduction to the Course**

Read after class: Simonton, Introduction

### **April 12 Demographic Structures of the Old Regime**

Read: Hartman, Chapters One and Two

Submit the provisional topic for your essay.

### **April 19 Female Experience Becomes Political in the French Revolution**

Read: Janet Todd's "Introduction" to Mary Wollstonecraft volume, as well as *A Vindication of the Rights of Men* and *A Vindication of the Rights of Women*.

### **April 26 Domestic Service and Factory Labor**

Read: Simonton, "Women Workers: Working Women," in Simonton

Submit a two-page outline of your essay.

### **May 3 Careers Open to Female Talent**

Read: Rogers, "Learning to be good girls and women: education, training and schools" and Reynolds, "Mistresses of creation: women as producers and consumers of art since 1700," in Simonton

### **May 10 Women in European Politics**

Read: Hartman, Chapter Seven; Karen Hunt, "Women as Citizens," and Jane Potter, "Valiant Heroines or Pacific Ladies?" both in Simonton

Submit a one-page bibliography for your essay.

### **May 17 Women's Contribution to Colonialist Projects**

Read: Callaway and Helly, "Crusader for Empire," Ramusack, "Cultural Missionaries, Maternal Imperialists, Feminist Allies," and Birkett, "The White Woman's Burden" all in Chaudhuri and Strobel.

### **May 24 Was Fascism about Women?**

Read: Herzog, "Introduction," Matard-Bonucci, "Italian Fascism's Ethiopian Conquest," Sommer, "Camp Brothels," Muehlhaeuser, "Between Racial Awareness and Fantasies of Potency," and Na'ama Shik, "Sexual Abuse of Jewish Women," all in Herzog.

### **May 31 Does Theory Matter? How?**

Read: Hartman, Chapter Eight and Epilogue; Judith Bennett, entire book

Post your essays on our website and submit a hard copy as well.

**June 7 Discussion of student essays**