

His 521: Women in the US since 1860.

Fall semester, 1986.

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4105 Humanities
263-1777

BOOKS RECOMMENDED FOR PURCHASE:

Baxandall et al., America's Working Women
DuBois, Elizabeth Cady Stanton/Susan B. Anthony: Correspondence,
Writings, Speeches
Ewen, Immigrant Women in the Land of Dollars
Giddings, When and Where I Enter
Gordon, Woman's Body, Woman's Right

OTHER READINGS:

The required textbook is Mary Ryan's Womanhood in America, 3rd ed. However, this book is now out of print, except in the expensive hardback edition. You have three options as to how to get it: (1) buy a used copy; (2) read it on reserve at H.C.White Library; (3) purchase a xerox of the assigned sections, which will be available at a commercial xerox place, to be announced.

All the required books are on reserve at the Helen C. White Library should you not wish to purchase them. So are books with some of the recommended readings, such as the Cott & Pleck anthology, A Heritage of One's Own.

In addition, everyone will be required to read one historical novel from a list which will be distributed.

A xeroxed anthology of readings will be required; where to get it and how much it will cost will be announced. All articles marked X are to be found in this xeroxed packet.

Two or more films will be shown in class time and they are a required part of the course materials.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

--2 short papers, 3-4 pages in length, typewritten, double spaced; on topics to be assigned; due Sept. 23 and Nov. 6
--in-class mid-term exam Oct. 16
--take-home final exam
--regular attendance

CLASS SCHEDULE

Sept. 2-4. INTRODUCTION. PATRIARCHY AND MODERN MALE SUPREMACY.

Reading: THE SYLLABUS! Make sure you understand it.

Ewen, chapters 2-3.

Gordon, chapter 1.

Recommended additional reading: Gordon, chapters 2 & 3; Ryan, Womanhood in America. This is the general textbook, supplying background. Those of you who have not taken His 520, the history of US women before the Civil War, should read chapters 2 and 3.

Sept. 9-11. FEMININITY, HETEROSEXUALITY, AND WOMEN'S RELATIONSHIPS IN THE 19TH CENTURY.

Reading:

Carroll Smith-Rosenberg, "Female World of Love and Ritual," X.

Barbara Welter, "Cult of True Womanhood", X.

Blanche Cook, "The Historical Denial of Lesbianism," X.

Gordon, chapter 5.

DuBois, document #12.

Recommended additional reading: Gordon, chapter 6; Nancy Cott, "Passionlessness," in Cott & Pleck, eds., A Heritage of Her Own.

Sept. 16-18. THE LEGACY OF SLAVERY AND ABOLITIONISM.

Reading:

Angela Davis, "The Legacy of Slavery, X.

Giddings, chapter II.

DuBois, introduction to Part I.

Sept. 23-25. THE WOMEN'S RIGHTS MOVEMENT.

Paper #1 due Sept. 23.

Reading:

DuBois, introductions to Parts I and II, documents ## 1, 9, 15.

Giddings, chapter VII.

Recommended additional reading: Ellen DuBois, Feminism and Suffrage; Eleanor Flexner, Century of Struggle (an older book but still the only general survey of the women's-rights movement); there is an excellent autobiography by Cady Stanton; William O'Neill's Everyone Was Brave is another useful survey.

Sept. 30-Oct. 2. WOMEN'S WORK.

Reading:

America's Working Women (hereafter abbreviated as AWW), pp. 38-56, 82-105, 128-138, 161-163, 213-218.

Bularzik, on the history of sexual harassment, X.

Martha May, "Bread Before Roses," X.

Kessler-Harris, "Where Are the Organized Women Workers?" X.

Start reading the historical novel you have chosen from the list now. You will have to include it in your short paper due Nov. 6.

Recommended additional reading: Jacqueline Jones, Labor of Love, Labor of Sorrow (on black women's labor); Ruth Rosen, The Silent Sisterhood (on prostitution); Alice Kessler-Harris, Out to Work (a textbook on the history of women's employment); Faye Dudden, Serving Women (on domestic service).

Oct. 7-9. WOMEN'S EXPERIENCE OF IMMIGRATION, ETHNICITY AND CLASS.

Reading:

Ewen, chapters 4, 6, 7, 9-13.

AWW, pp. 132-141, 173-176, 194-200.

Lucie Cheng Hirata, on Chinese immigrant prostitutes, X.

Recommended additional reading: Mary Ryan, chapter 4; Hasia Diner, Erin's Daughters in America (on Irish women); the rest of Ewen's book.

Oct. 14. Film in class; review for mid-term.

Oct. 16. Mid-term exam, in class, short answer.

Oct. 21-23. SOCIAL WORK AND FAMILY.

Reading:

Giddings, chapters V-VI.

Linda Gordon, "Child Abuse, Gender and the Myth of Family Independence," and "Single Mothers and Child Neglect," X.

Recommended additional reading: Gerda Lerner, ed., Black Women in White America, section 8; Allen Davis, Spearheads of Reform (on settlement house work); Jane Addams, Twenty Years at Hull House (recollections of the greatest feminist social worker); William Leach, True Love and Perfect Union (a rather hostile view of the prudish and controlling tendencies of feminists); Christopher Lasch, Haven in a Heartless World and Culture of Narcissism (two indictments of social control and feminism).

Oct. 28-30. WOMEN IN SOCIAL MOVEMENTS 1880-1920.

Reading:

AWW, pp. 77-80, 104-125, 167-218.

Tax, Rising of the Women, selections, X.

Giddings, chapter I, IX.

Recommended additional reading: Mari Jo Buhle, Women and American Socialism; Philip Foner, Women and the American Labor Movement (a sourcebook, not reliable for analysis); several excellent critical memoirs by women in the Communist Party, especially Peggy Dennis, Autobiography of an American Communist.

Nov. 4. SEXUAL REVOLUTION, 1890-1930.

Reading:

Gordon, chapters 9-10.

DuBois and Gordon, "Seeking Ecstasy on the Battlefield," X.

Ryan, chapter 5, to p. 244.

Recommended additional reading: Smith-Rosenberg, "The New Woman as Androgyne," in her Disorderly Conduct; in a very interesting anthology, Powers of Desire, ed. Snitow et al., two historical articles are of interest, by Epstein and Trimberger.

Nov. 6: 2nd short paper due.

Nov. 6-11. DEPRESSION AND WORLD WAR II.

Reading:

Ryan, pp. 244-259.

Milkman, "Women's Work and the Economic Crisis," X.

AWW, 223-298.

Giddings, chapter XIV, pp. 231-238.

Strasser, "Quick and Easy," X.

Recommended additional reading: Gordon, chapter 11; Giddings, chapters XII-XIV.

Nov. 11: ROSIE THE RIVETER, film.

Nov. 13. FEMININE MYSTIQUE AND MCCARTHYISM.

Reading:

Ryan, pp. 259-304.

Gordon, chapter 12.

AWW, pp. 299-353.

Giddings, chapter XIV, pp. 238-258.

Barbara Ehrenreich, *The Hearts of Men*, chapters 4-5, X.

Recommended additional reading: Gordon, chapter 13; Betty Friedan, The Feminine Mystique; Peter Biskind, Seeing is Believing (movie criticism, about 1950s films), chapters on gender in film.

Nov. 18-20. CIVIL RIGHTS, NEW LEFT, WOMEN'S LIBERATION, GAY LIBERATION.

Reading:

Ryan, chapter 7.

AWW, pp. 354-end.

Evans, "Tomorrow's Yesterday", X.

Recommended additional reading: Sara Evans, Personal Politics (on the origins of women's liberation from within the civil rights movement); Alice Walker, Meredian (a novel); John D'Emilio, Sexual Politics, Sexual Communities (on the rise of the gay movement).

Nov. 20-25. FEMINISM.

Reading:

Sheila Rowbotham, from Woman's Consciousness, Man's World,
chapter 2, X.

Giddings, chapters XV, XVI, XVII, XVIII.

Adrienne Rich, "The Lesbian Continuum," and response by
Ferguson, X.

Ann Koedt, "The Myth of the Vaginal Orgasm", X.

Excerpt on consciousness-raising, X.

Dec. 2-4. THE NEW CONSERVATISM AND CONTEMPORARY FAMILY ISSUES.

Reading:

Phyllis Schlafly, "What's Wrong with 'Equal Rights' for Women?", X

Andrea Dworkin, "Safety, Shelter, Rules, Form, Love: The Promise
of the Ultra-Right," X.

Gordon and Hunter, "Sexual Politics of the New Right," X.

(additional xerox material to be added)

Dec. 9-11. REVIEW AND/OR CATCH-UP

Final take-home exam, due Dec. 15.