

COMM 3090: Gender and Communication**Spring 2016****Dr. Hailey Gillen Hoke****Weber State University****TEXTBOOK:**

Wood, J. T. (2013). *Gendered lives: Communication, gender and culture* (10th ed.). Boston, MA: Wadsworth.

COURSE PURPOSE AND LEARNING OUTCOMES:

This course is designed to help students understand the influence that communication has upon the shaping of gender and the influence that gender has in shaping communication interactions (adapted from WSU course catalog description). Accordingly, upon completion of the course, students should be able to:

1. define and understand key terms and theories relevant to the study of gender and communication;
2. understand how gender is related to various cultural institutions, practices, and contexts;
3. reflect on their own experiences with gender, as well as gender identity, expression, and socialization; and
4. explain historical and social issues related to gender in the United States and the world.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

1. Exams: There will be 2 non-cumulative exams throughout the semester that must be taken at a University testing center during the times indicated in the schedule. These will include multiple choice, fill-in-the blank, and short-answer essay questions. Each exam is worth 50 points

2. Journals/Responses: Twelve weekly prompts will be posted to Canvas. You will be expected to reply to 8 of the 12 prompts by the Sunday of that week. While each prompt will be different and may require a different length/format of response (details will be indicated in each weekly prompt), the average response will be 1 doubled spaced page. Each journal response is worth 15 points.

3. Online Discussions: At 4 points throughout the semester, you will post a discussion board topic presenting an artifact (an article on a current event, a piece of popular culture, a video, an advertisement, a meme, etc) relevant to our content. In addition to posting the artifact, you will briefly explain how/why the artifact relates to course content. In addition, you will be expected to reply to 10 topics posts from your classmates (responses must be split over at least 5 weeks). Discussion posts are worth 10 points each, and responses are worth 3 points each.

4. Autobiography/Self-Reflection Paper: For this assignment, you will write a 3-4 page paper about your own experience with gender. You will have flexibility with that you write about, but you need to discuss at least 2 course concepts. The autobiography paper is worth 50 points.

5. Final Project: You will choose from three options for your final project. In addition to your final project paper, you will turn in a 2-page proposal outlining your plans for the project. The proposal is worth 20 points and the final paper is worth 100 points.

- Option #1: This option requires you to write a 6-8 page research paper on a topic related to an issue covered in class or otherwise relevant to the study of gender and communication.
- Option #2: This option requires you to write a 6-8 page paper on a piece of media (film, tv, music, etc) as it relates to gender and communication. You will analyze your chosen artifact in relation to course content.
- Option #3: This option requires you to find a volunteer opportunity related to issues of gender and communication, volunteer 8-10 hours with that organization, keep a journal on your experiences, and write a 5-6 page paper reflecting on your experiences as they relate to course content.

6. In-class Activities and Participation: In addition to attending class, you are expected to actively participate in discussions and any in-class activities. Attendance and Participation is worth 75 points.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

Week	Topic	Reading
1	Introductions/Syllabus Gender and Communication	Textbook Introduction
2	Gender, Communication, Culture	Textbook Chapter #1
3	Theories about Sex and Gender	Textbook Chapter #2
4	Becoming Gendered/ Gender and Children	Textbook Chapter #7
5	Women's Movements Men's Movements Autobiography/Self-Reflection Paper Due	Textbook Chapter #3 Textbook Chapter #4
6	Gender and Education	Textbook Chapter #8
7	Gender and Relationships Exam #1	Textbook Chapter #9

8	Gender and Verbal Communication Gender and Nonverbal Communication	Textbook Chapter #5 Textbook Chapter #6
9	Gender, Power and Violence	Textbook Chapter #12
10	Gender and Emotion	Supplementary Reading
11	Gender and Media Final Project Proposal Due	Textbook Chapter #11
12	Gender and Organizations	Textbook Chapter #10
13	Gender and Sport	Supplementary Reading
14	Course Wrap-Up Exam #2 Final Project Due	