

HISTORY 301 (UG19)

Women's History

Class Meets In-Person Monday, Wednesday, & Friday
From 11:00–11:50
Glidden Hall #212



Professor Lindsey R. Peterson

Virtual Office Hours:
Monday from 2:00–3:00 pm
Wednesday from 2:00–3:00 pm
Friday from 2:00–3:00 pm
or by appointment

Cell (Call/Text/FaceTime): 601-447-6169
Email: lindsey.peterson@usiouxfalls.edu

Course Description:

Inspired by the saying “well-behaved women seldom make history,” HIS 301 will examine the “bad girls” of American history by spending a semester looking at American women who violated gender norms. We will explore the lives of numerous infamous women who committed crimes, those who were falsely accused of crimes, and those who bucked social gender roles. This course will jump from scandal to scandal to examine what was expected of American women and how they contested and challenge those expectations.

Course Objectives:

At the end of this course, students will:

- 1.) be able to identify popular gender norms throughout US history from first contact to contemporary times.
- 2.) analyze how women challenged those norms and expanded and remade gender roles throughout US history.
- 3.) understand the ways in which historians use primary sources to gather information, identify biases, and craft evidence-based arguments.
- 4.) practice their own reading and understanding of historical documents through critical thinking and reading in discussion and writing.
- 5.) have developed their professional skills in writing and oral communication, critical thinking and reading, and problem solving.

Course Question:

This course is organized around a central question that you will reference throughout the semester in our discussions and in your writing assignments. When approaching this question, you will consider change over time, as well as a multitude of diverse perspectives.

How have American women contested gender roles throughout history?**Credit Hour Policy: Lecture and Discussion**

HIS 120 is a face-to-face format course that meets one 50-minute session per week per credit hour with an expectation of two hours of out-of-class work per week per credit hour for an approximate 15-week semester.

Readings:

- 1.) Erica Armstrong Dunbar, *Never Caught: The Washingtons' Relentless Pursuit of Their Runaway Slave, Ona Judge*. ISBN: 1501126415
 - a. Chapter 3: New York in Black and White, 16 pp.
 - b. Chapter 5: The Blacks in the Family, 14 pp.
 - c. Chapter 8: The Fugitive, 18 pp.
 - d. Chapter 11: The Negotiator, 20 pp.
 - e. Chapter 12: Mrs. Staines, 16 pp.
- 2.) Patricia Cline Cohen, *The Murder of Helen Jewett*. ISBN: 0679412913
 - a. Chapter 1: Snow in April, 17 pp.
 - b. Chapter 2: Sensational News, 17 pp.
 - c. Chapter 4: New York's Sex Trade, 18 pp.
 - d. Chapter 5: Acclaim for a Woman of Spunk, 14 pp.
 - e. Chapter 6: The Brothel Business, 25 pp.
 - f. Chapter 10: Tracing Seductions, 25 pp.
 - g. Chapter 14: Overconfident Youth, 29 pp.
 - h. Chapter 15: Trial in June, 34 pp.
- 3.) Saidiya Hartman, *Wayward Lives, Beautiful Experiments: Intimate Histories of Riotous Black Girls, Troublesome Women, and Queer Radicals*. ISBN: 0393357627
 - a. A Note on Method
 - b. A Minor Figure
 - c. A Chronicle of Need and Want
 - d. 1900. The Tenderloin. 421 West 41st Street
 - e. 1909. 601 West 61st Street. A New Colony of Colored People, or Malindy in Little Africa
 - f. Revolution in a Minor Key
 - g. Riot and Refrain
- 4.) Elizabeth Escobedo, *From Coveralls to Zoot Suits: The Lives of Mexican American Women on the World War II Home Front*. ISBN: 1469622092
 - a. Chapter 1: The Pachuca Panic, 28 pp.
 - b. Chapter 4: Respectable Rebellions, 22 pp.
- 5.) Toni Morrison, *Race-ing Justice, En-Gendering Power: Essays on Anita Hill, Clarence Thomas, and the Construction of Social Reality*. ISBN: 0679741453
 - a. "Introduction: Friday on the Potomac"

- b. “Remembering Anita Hill and Clarence Thomas” by Nellie Y. McKay, 21 pp.
- c. “Black Ladies, Welfare Queens, and State Minstrels” by Wahneema Lubiano, 38 pp.
- d. “Whose Story Is It Anyway?” By Kimberlé Crenshaw, 34 pp.

The Course Calendar has every reading assignment, lecture, discussion due date, writing assignment, and test listed in it. Please pay attention to the Course Schedule for your responsibilities throughout the semester.

Grading:

10%	Dunbar Discussion
10%	Hartman Discussion
10%	Cohen Discussion
10%	Escobedo Discussion
10%	Morrison Discussion
40%	Crime Project
10%	Oral Final Exam

- A – 100-89.5%
- B – 89.4-79.5%
- C – 79.4-69.5%
- D – 69.4-59.5%
- F – 59.4 -0%

Course Lectures:

This course is dependent on course lectures. Consequently, you must be present in order to do well in the course. In the case of your absence, you are responsible for procuring lecture notes from a fellow student, and I will not give you my lecture notes under any circumstance. If you cannot find someone to get notes from, contact me and I will find a student to share notes with you, or you can schedule a make-up meeting with me to discuss the course content. The PowerPoints for the lectures are available online, but they have minimal notes on them so you will still need to attend lectures and take thorough notes to do well in this course.

Discussion Participation and Attendance:

We will analyze and discuss the assigned secondary sources together, and you must contribute to the class in order to receive credit for participation. Full credit for participation requires students to add substantive,

provocative, meaningful, and logical thoughts and questions to the discussion. No credit will be given if you do not participate in this class, and since this is worth 500 points and 50% of your grade (each discussion is worth 100 pts at 10% each), it is important that you are prepared and contribute to the discussions.

Crime Project:

Students will create a fictional court case trying a fictional not so well-behaved woman in U.S. history. You will bring charges, hold her trial, cover the event in newspapers, and ultimately decide her fate. This assignment is meant to be creative and develop students' analytical, research, and communication skills. All projects are expected to incorporate diverse perspectives. All topics and ideas must be approved by me first. More details to follow via email and on our LMS page.

The Crime Project is worth 500 total points and 40% of your total final grade.

- Topic Due: Monday, August 31 paper copy in class
- Bibliography Due: Wednesday, September 9 paper copy in class
- Formal Charges Due: Monday, September 14 paper copy in class
- Biographies Due: Wednesday, September 30 paper copy in class
- Trial Transcript Part I Due: Friday, October 16 paper copy in class
- Newspaper Coverage Due: Friday, October 30 paper copy in class
- Trial Transcript Part II Due: Friday, November 13 paper copy in class
- Findings Due: Wednesday, November 18 paper copy in class
- Final Project Due: Friday, November 20 uploaded to the LMS by class

Oral Final Exam:

We will meet to hold a discussion, and you will be graded based on your participation in this discussion. The main question of this discussion will be the course question. You should be prepared to discuss how women have challenged gender roles throughout U.S. history, and be able to support your points with specific, detailed examples. You will also be discussing several course themes and connecting our course content to the present day. I will grade your participation and issue you a grade within 12 hours.

The Final Exam is worth 100 pts and worth 10% of your final grade.

- Final exam meeting times to be announced

Late Assignments:

Late assignments will be accepted if you contact me ahead of time. I am always willing to work with you, so stay in touch about your course needs.

Classroom Resources:

The best way to reach me is through my university email account: lindsey.peterson@usioxfalls.edu, but you may also reach me via my cell phone by calling, texting, or FaceTiming at 601-447-6169. I also encourage you to contact me however works for to discuss the class, your work, questions, life, whatever you need.

Academic Integrity:

All students at the University of Sioux Falls are expected to demonstrate the highest levels of academic integrity. Forms of academic dishonesty include (but are not limited to):

- 1.) Cheating (including copying from others' work)
- 2.) Plagiarism (representing another person's words or ideas as your own; failure to properly cite the source of your information, argument, or concepts)
- 3.) Falsification of documents
- 4.) Disclosure of test or other assignment content to another student
- 5.) Submission of the same paper or other assignment to more than one class without the explicit approval of all faculty members' involved
- 6.) Unauthorized academic collaboration with others
- 7.) Conspiracy to engage in academic misconduct

Engaging in any of these behaviors or supporting others who do so will result in academic penalties and/or other sanctions. If a faculty member determines that a student has violated our Academic Integrity Policy, sanctions ranging from resubmission of work to course failure may occur. Note that repeated acts of academic misconduct will lead to expulsion from the University.

Plagiarism is a serious academic offense. Put simply, plagiarism is intellectual theft. It is the use of someone else's ideas, writing, or research in your own work without marking it as such and giving credit to the

original author. As such, plagiarism is both theft (stealing someone's work) and deceit (presenting that work as one's own).

At minimum, any student caught plagiarizing any assignment for this course will receive an 'F' (zero points) for that assignment and probably an 'F' for the course, depending on the severity of the plagiarism. The decision to take things further and pursue formal charges of academic misconduct, which can lead to suspension or expulsion, is up to me, the professor. Any student caught using material from a term paper purchasing site, even if this material is from the 'free sample' of that site, will receive an 'F' for the course.

Compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act: The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact Learning Accessibility Services at (605) 331-6740 or access@usiouxfalls.edu. Accommodations can only be arranged through this office, which is located in the Academic Success Center (McDonald Center).

Compliance with Title IX:

In compliance with, among other laws, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX) and The Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act of 1990 (Clery Act), I am mandated to report to USF administrators facts disclosing the possible commission of a Clery Act offense or discrimination based upon sex in the provision of educational activities. Please be aware that all of our communications, or your communications that I have knowledge of but am not a party to, are not confidential and can form the basis for a mandated report. If you have questions, please contact Julie Gednalske, the Title IX Coordinator, at 605-331-6683 or at TitleIX@usiouxfalls.edu

Syllabus Changes:

The instructor reserves the right to make changes as necessary to this syllabus. If changes are necessitated during the term of the course, the instructor will immediately notify students of such changes both in class and via email.

Course Calendar:

- August 21: Class begins at 11:00 am
- August 31: Crime Project topic due
- September 4: Dunbar book discussion
- September 7: NO CLASS – Labor Day Holiday
- September 9: Crime Project bibliography due
- September 14: Crime Project formal charges due
- September 21: Cohen book discussion
- September 30: Crime Project biographies due
- October 5: Hartman book discussion
- October 16: Crime Project trial transcript part I due
- October 26: Escobedo book discussion
- October 30: Crime Project newspaper coverage due
- November 13: Crime Project trial transcript part II due
- November 16: Morrison book discussion
- November 18: Crime Project findings due
- November 20: Final Crime Project DUE
- November 21-23: Final Exam meeting TBA

See Course Calendar file for these dates in a calendar format.