

Professor Kathleen Clark
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Office hours:
T 1:30-3:20 and by appt.

History 7710
Gender in History
Spring 2003

This course offers an overview of historical literature on gender in the nineteenth-century United States. We will explore historiographical and theoretical developments from early efforts to “place women in history” to more recent attempts to utilize gender as a category of historical analysis and understand gender in relation to race, class, and sexuality. Most especially, we will examine gender’s significance for reshaping historian’s understanding of significant aspects of nineteenth-century U.S. history, from antebellum households to the Spanish-American War.

Course Requirements:

- 1) Completion of readings. Attendance and participation in class meetings.
- 2) Weekly submission of questions for discussion. Each week, students will submit a question (or questions) to help organize and generate meaningful discussion of the reading. Questions may be e-mailed to me at katclark@arches.uga.edu by noon on the Wednesday before we meet.
- 3) Intellectual autobiography. Each student will write a 1-2 page intellectual autobiography. **Due Tuesday, January 14, 3:00 PM**
- 4) Book review: Each student will write a 6-8 page paper analyzing the strengths and weaknesses of **one** of the following texts: *Beyond the Household*; *Home and Work*; *City of Women*. **Due Tuesday, February 25, 5:00 PM**
- 5) Historiographical Essay: Each student will write a 12-15 page historiographical essay on a subject/question concerning gender and American history.
Topic/question due: beginning of class, **Thursday, February 6**
Initial bibliography due: beginning of class, **Thursday, March 6**
Final paper due: **May 1, 5:00 PM**
- 6) Student presentations: Each student will choose a week between January 30 and April 3 for a presentation on the readings. Additionally, each student will prepare a 10 minute presentation and bibliography on her/his historiographical research for the weeks of **April 10, 17 and 24**

Required Readings:

Peter Bardaglio, *Reconstructing the Household: Families, Sex, and the Law in the Nineteenth-Century South*
Gail Bederman, *Manliness and Civilization: A Cultural History of Gender and Race in the United States, 1880-1917*
Jeanne Boydston, *Home and Work: Housework, Wages, and the Ideology of Labor in the Early Republic*
Laura Edwards, *Gendered Strife and Confusion: The Political Culture of Reconstruction*
Rebecca Edwards, *Angels in the Machinery: Gender in American Party Politics from the Civil War to the Progressive Era*
Kristin L. Hoganson, *Fighting for American Manhood: How Gender Politics Provoked the Spanish-American and Philippine Wars*
Cynthia Kierner, *Beyond the Household: Women's Place in the Early South, 1700-1835*
Louise Michele Newman, *White Women's Rights: The Racial Origins of Feminism in the United States*
Nell Irvin Painter, *Sojourner Truth: A Life, A Symbol*
Lyde Cullen Sizer, *The Political Work of Northern Women Writers and the Civil War*
Bonnie G. Smith, *The Gender of History: Men, Women, and Historical Practice*
Amy Gilman Srebnick, *The Mysterious Death of Mary Rogers: Sex and Culture in Nineteenth-Century New York*
Christine Stansell, *City of Women: Sex and Class in New York, 1789-1860*

In addition, a packet containing required articles is available at Bel-Jean Copy Center.

Grading:

20% Attendance, Participation, Questions, Intellectual autobiography
20% Presentations
20% Book review
40% Historiographical essay

Class Schedule:

Thursday, January 16: Everyman His Own Historian?

Elizabeth Fox Genovese, "Placing Women's History in History"; Elsa Barkley Brown, "'What Has Happened Here': The Politics of Difference in Women's History and Feminist Politics;" Nancy A. Hewitt, "Compounding Difference;" Joan Scott, "Gender: A Useful Category of Historical Analysis;" Joan Huff, "Gender as a Postmodern Category of Paralysis." All in packet.

Thursday, January 23: Daughters of Liberty?

Cynthia Kierner, *Beyond the Household: Women's Place in the Early South, 1700-1835*

Thursday, January 30: Separate Spheres

Jeanne Boydston, *Home and Work: Housework, Wages, and the Ideology of Labor in the Early Republic*

Carroll Smith-Rosenberg, "The Female World of Love and Ritual," in packet

Molly McGarry, et al., "Women's History in the New Millennium: Carroll Smith

Rosenberg's 'The Female World of Love and Ritual' after Twenty-Five Years," handout

Thursday, February 6: Defining Relationships

Chris Stansell, *City of Women: Sex and Class in New York, 1789-1860*

Brenda Stevenson, "Gender Convention, Ideals, and Identity Among Antebellum Virginia Slave Women," handout.

James Oliver Horton, "Freedom's Yoke: Gender Conventions among Free Blacks," packet.

Historiography question/topic due, beginning of class

Thursday, February 13: Southern Households

Peter Bardaglio, *Reconstructing the Household: Families, Sex, and the Law in the Nineteenth-Century South*

Stephanie McCurry, "The Two Faces of Republicanism: Gender and Proslavery Politics in Antebellum South Carolina," packet.

Nell Irvin Painter, "Soul Murder and Slavery: Toward a Fully Loaded Cost Accounting," packet.

Thursday, February 20: Women in Public

Nell Irvin Painter, *Sojourner Truth: A Life, A Symbol*

Kirsten E. Wood, "'One Woman So Dangerous to Public Morals': Gender and Power in the Eaton Affair," *Journal of the Early Republic* 17 (Summer 1997): 237-275. handout

****Review essay due Tuesday, February 25, 5:00 PM**

Thursday, February 27: Sex and Sexuality

Amy Gilman Srebnick, *The Mysterious Death of Mary Rogers: Sex and Culture in Nineteenth-Century New York*

Michele Mitchell, "Silences Broken, Silences Kept: Gender and Sexuality in African American History," packet.

Arend H. Huussen article, handout.

Thursday, March 6: Engendering the Civil War

Lyde Cullen Sizer, *The Political Work of Northern Women Writers and the Civil War*

Stephanie McCurry, "Citizens, Soldiers' Wives, and 'Hiley Hope Up' Slaves: The Problem of Political Obligation in the Civil War South," packet.

Bibliography due, beginning of class

Thursday, March 20: Gendered Reconstructions

Laura Edwards, *Gendered Strife and Confusion: The Political Culture of Reconstruction*

Thursday, March 27: Political Affairs

Rebecca Edwards, *Angels in the Machinery: Gender in American Party Politics from the Civil War to the Progressive Era*

Paula Baker, "The Domestication of Politics," [handout](#).

Thursday, March 27: Feminism(s)

Louise Michele Newman, *White Women's Rights: The Racial Origins of Feminism in the United States*

Elsa Barkley Brown, "Womanist Consciousness: Maggie Lena Walker and the Independent Order of Saint Luke," [packet](#)

Jacquelyn Dowd Hall, "O. Delight Smith's Progressive Era: Labor, Feminism, and Reform in the Urban South," [handout](#).

Thursday, April 10: Rewriting HIStory

Gail Bederman, *Manliness and Civilization: A Cultural History of Gender and Race in the United States, 1880-1917*

Bruce Traister, "Academic Viagra," *American Quarterly* 52, no. 2 (2000): 274-304.
[handout](#)

Begin historiography presentations

Thursday, April 17: Fighting Men

Kristin L. Hoganson, *Fighting for American Manhood: How Gender Politics Provoked the Spanish-American and Philippine Wars*

Continue historiography presentations

Thursday, April 24: Gender and History

Bonnie G. Smith, *The Gender of History: Men, Women, and Historical Practice*

Conclude historiography presentations

Historiography paper due May 1, 5:00 PM