This course focuses on gender ideologies and gender roles cross-culturally, drawing on examples from foraging to post-industrial societies. Engaging with ethnographic research, historical research, life histories, and other primarily qualitative methods and approaches, we will consider the range of human gender arrangements past, present, and potentially future. Our analyses will take us from small-scale, gender egalitarian societies to the rise of social inequality in agrarian and industrial societies. Taking a holistic approach, we will focus on gender variation in historical, economic, political, and religious perspectives. We will consider the cultural and impacts of social movements and globalization on constructions of gender and sexuality in a range of societies, with particular attention to intersections with race, ethnicity, and indigeneity.

Required texts

Shostak, Marjorie  

Lepowsky, Maria  

Ehrenreich, Barbara, and Arlie Hochschild, eds.  

Hoang, Kimberly Kay  

Boehm, Deborah  

All texts are paperback. They are available at A Room of One's Own Bookstore, 317 West Johnson, just west of State Street, and online.

Copies of the required texts will be on reserve at the Social Science Reference Library,
8432 Social Science Building.
There will be no course reader. Instead, assigned articles and chapters of books will be placed on electronic reserve for this course. You will be able to access and print out this material online via MyUW and your GWS 420 link to library reserves. You will also be expected to read and discuss current news articles and other online material on women and gender in cross-cultural perspective that will be distributed electronically during the semester.

Student Responsibilities

There will be a **take-home essay midterm** due in class on **Thursday, October 19**.
There will also be a **take-home essay final**. The final exam is due in my office, 5454 Social Science, during our assigned examination period, Monday, December 18, from 12:25-2:25.

Each student will write a **book review**, about 3 pages in length, that critically analyzes a book focusing on the study of women, or on gender issues in a particular culture. A list of suggested books will be circulated early in the semester so that you may choose one to review. You may choose a book that is not on the list, but your selection must be approved in advance by the instructor. The book review will be due in class on **Tuesday, October 3**.

Graduate students, and undergraduate students taking the class for honors credit, will also write a **term paper**, approximately 10-12 pages in length excluding bibliography, on a topic related to the study of women or gender in cultural or cross-cultural perspective. The topic must be approved in advance by the instructor after you have submitted a one-page outline or summary plus working bibliography, due **Tuesday, October 3**. The term paper is due **Tuesday, December 5**. No late papers will be accepted. A bibliography will be circulated early in the semester to assist you in choosing a paper topic and locating references.

Each student will act as a **team discussion leader** during one class meeting. Students will form teams of 3-4, then take responsibility for stimulating and leading discussions of readings assigned for their chosen week. Team members will carefully read the material ahead of time, discuss it before class with one another, contextualize the material with other class readings or lectures, and jointly draw up a list or page of questions or points for discussion. The team will email the list of suggested discussion points or questions to the instructor, as well as directly to the class email list, by 5 p.m. the day before class.

Each student in the class is responsible for looking over the discussion points before coming to class. In class, team members will offer brief, informal remarks and then open the floor to class discussions, which they (backed up by the instructor) will facilitate. Team presentations are intended to promote more in-depth critical reading, peer learning, discussion participation, and dialogue.

Performance of team discussion leaders will be graded on a satisfactory or unsatisfactory basis. After the class discussion, each team member will write a **2-3 page individual essay** reflecting on the team’s analyses of the readings and suggested discussion points and on the in-class discussion. The report will be **due in class one week later**.

Each student will also be graded on her/his/their **class participation** over the course of the semester. An **attendance sheet** will be circulated during each class. **Regular attendance**, and
active participation in **class discussions** plus as part of your **discussion team**, are required. You are expected to keep up with required readings. Read the assignments for each week before class so that you may participate meaningfully in class discussions and better understand lectures. When appropriate, you will be notified ahead of time which of the week’s readings we expect to discuss in class on a given Tuesday or Thursday.

**Academic standards and grading policy:**
This class will adhere strictly to prevailing academic standards, UW regulations, and civil law regarding plagiarism, fair use of other people’s intellectual property, and cheating on class assignments. Please ask if you have any questions about what constitutes fair use or proper behavior. The basic rules are to do your own work, respect the work of others - whether that of a classmate or a published author - and do not attempt take unfair advantage of your classmates as you complete the assignments for this class. Any suspected violations of academic standards will be promptly investigated. Confirmed offenses will result in a failing grade for the course and will be reported to the Dean of Students Office.

**Classroom etiquette:** So that you will not be a distraction to your classmates or to your instructor, and so that you are able to focus on class while in class, **no non-class-related use of the Internet, or of any communication device, is allowed.** This means no texting, Tweeting, or checking email, Facebook, or other websites. No online searches for non-class purposes. Remember to turn all your phone/electronic device ringers off before class. Also, **no reading of newspapers or other non-GWS 420 material is permitted** once class has begun. **Violation of these rules will be counted against your class participation grade.** Please respect your classmates and your instructor and avoid embarrassment by adhering to these standards of classroom etiquette without having to be reminded in class.

**Grades** will be based on the following:
• Take-home essay midterm 25%
• Book review 10%
• Individual essay on team research and class discussion 10%
• Take-home essay final exam 30%
• Overall class participation, including regular attendance, participation in class discussions, and participation in team research and discussion 25%

In the case of borderline grades, your improvement over the course of the semester will count in your favor.

[For students submitting term papers, your paper will count for approximately 20% of your grade, your midterm and final 20% each, your book review 10%, your individual report on team research 10%, and your overall participation 20%.

If you have questions about a grade, please discuss it with the instructor first.

If the question is not resolved, speak with the Department of Gender and Women's Studies Chair or Associate Chair. One of them will attempt to resolve the issue informally, and will inform you of the Appeals Procedure if no resolution can be reached informally.
CLASS SCHEDULE

September 7, 12, 14

Readings for September 12, 14
Shostak 41-92

Joyce, Rosemary

Weismantel, Mary

September 19, 21

Readings for September 19, 21:
Shostak 1-39, 309-332
Lepowsky vii-xviii, 1-80

Endicott, Kirk, and Karen Endicott

September 26, 28:
Gender and the life course. Growing up female, male, trans in cross-cultural perspective. Culture, personal autonomy, and social transformations.

Readings for September 26, 28
Shostak 95-157
Lepowsky 81-124  
Gottlieb, Alma  
2017 From pollution to love magic: The new anthropology of menstruation.  In  
New York: Routledge.  

October 3, 5  
Gendered economies.  Social inequality, gender roles, and gender ideologies.  The  
sexual/gendered division of labor.  Who is supposed to do what, and why?  Women, men, and  
Globalization and the rise of feminism.  
October 3:  Book review due - all students.  
October 3:  Outline/abstract of term paper due (honors and graduate students only)  
October 5:  Guest lecturer Professor Lydia Liu, Columbia University  

Readings for October 3, 5  
Hoang: Introduction and Chapters 1-3, Pages 1-77  
Boehm: Chapters 1-3, Pages 1-70  
Ehrenreich and Hochschild:  
Introduction 1-14  
The care crisis in the Philippines 39-54  
Maid to order  85-103  

Liu, Lydia, 2016  Chapter excerpt.  

October 10, 12  
Gender ideologies.  Sexualities and sexual meanings.  Gender symbolism and gendered values.  
October 12:  Take-home midterm questions distributed in class.  
Film: Tales of the Waria [Indonesia 56 minutes]  

Readings for October 10, 12:  
Shostak 159-270  
Lepowsky 125-166  

Ortner, Sherry, 1974, Is female to male as nature is to culture?  In Michelle Rosaldo and  
Pages 67-87.  

Ortner, Sherry, 1996, So, is female to male as nature is to culture?  In Making Gender:  

October 17, 19  
Gender symbolism (continued).  Is male dominance universal?  Women, religion, and ceremonial  
life.  Autonomy, choice, and resistance.  
October 19:  Take-home midterm due in class.  
Film – Pilgrims and Tourists [Winnemem Wintu, California] 30 minutes]
Readings for October 17, 19:
Lepowsky 167-205

October 25, 27
Gender in religion and ritual (continued). Religion and gender ideologies. Goddesses, shamans, priestesses, healers, witches.

Readings for October 24, 26:
Lepowsky 206-306
Shostak 270-306

October 31, November 2:
Historical perspectives on gender and sexuality. Gendered intersections of race, ethnicity, indigeneity, sexuality.

Readings for October 31 November 2:
Stoler, Ann

Johnson, Susan

Ipsen, Pernille

November 7, 9, 14, 16

Readings for November 7, 9, 14, 16
Williams, Patricia

Sinnott, Megan

Stryker, Susan

Kulick, Don

November 21, 28, 30 [November 23 Thanksgiving]

Readings for November 21, 28, 30
Hoang: Chapters 4-7, Pages 78-180.
Boehm: Chapters 4-5, Pages 71-110

Ehrenreich and Hochschild:
Blow-ups and other unhappy endings 55-69
Filipina workers in Hong Kong homes 115-141
Selling sex for visas 154-168
Global cities and survival circuits 254-274

December 5, 7, 12
Term paper due on Tuesday, December 5 (honors and graduate students only)
Take-home final exam questions distributed in class on Tuesday, December 12.

Readings for December 5, 7, 12:
Boehm: Chapters 6-7, Conclusion, Postscript: 111-152

Ferree, Myra Marx

Mahmood, Saba
Abu-Lughod, Lila

Hobson, Janell

The final exam is due in the Department of Anthropology Office, 5240 Social Science, during the class’s assigned examination period, **Monday, December 18, from 12:25-2:25**. There is a drop slot below the mailboxes that you can use if you arrive during the lunch hour. Take-home finals may also be turned in early at the Department of Anthropology office. Make a copy of your exam for safekeeping.