

History 74300
Readings in 19th Century U.S. Women's History
Professor Kathleen D. McCarthy
Mondays 6:30-8:30

Office Hours: Mondays 5:15-6:15
or by appointment
Room 5401
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Syllabus

Assignments: Students will lead one to three discussion sessions, and have a choice of doing weekly abstracts on the assigned readings for the weeks in which they are not presenting, or developing a research proposal on a women's history topic of their choice for the period between 1780 and 1900. Please use the *alternate readings* along with any articles that may have been assigned that week if you have already read the assigned book.

The goal of this course is threefold: 1) to help students to prepare for their written and oral examinations; 2) to deepen their knowledge of the ways in which women's history has reshaped our understanding of American history; and 3) to bolster their research, writing and analytical skills.

One third of your grade will be based on classroom participation, and the remainder on the abstracts or proposal.

1. Introduction

Joan Scott, "Gender: A Useful Category of Historical Analysis," *American Historical Review* 91:5 (December, 1986): 1053-75. Available on JSTOR.

2. The Legacy of the Revolution

Linda Kerber, *Women of the Republic: Intellect and Ideology in Revolutionary America* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1997). ISBN-13: 978-0807846322. \$30.00.

Alternate reading: TBA.

3. Slavery

Thavolia Glymph, *Out of the House of Bondage: The Transformation of the Plantation Household* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2008). ISBN-10: 0521703980 \$28.49.

Alternate Reading: Tiya Miles, *Ties that Bind: The Story of an Afro-Cherokee Family in Slavery and Freedom* (Los Angeles: University of California Press, 2005). ISBN-13:978-0520285637. \$28.76.

4. *Microhistory*

Patricia Cline Cohen, *The Murder of Helen Jewett* (New York: Vintage Books, 1999). ISBN-10: 0679740759. \$14.33.

Alternate: Rachel Hope Cleves, *Charity and Sylvia: A Same-Sex Marriage in Early America* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2014). ISBN-13: 978-0199335428. \$26.71.

5. *Charity, "Sisterhood" and Class*

Christine Stansell, *City of Women: Sex and Class in New York, 1789-1860* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1986). ISBN-10: 0252014812. \$23.63.

Alternate: Lori Ginzberg, *Women and the Work of Benevolence: Morality, Politics, and Class in the Nineteenth-Century United States*. (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1990). ISBN-13: 978-0300052541. Used; price varies.

6. *Antebellum Social Reform*

Kathryn Kish Sklar and James Brewer Stewart, eds., *Women's Rights and Transatlantic Antislavery in the Era of Emancipation* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2007). ISBN-10: 0300115938. \$37.44. Chapters TBA.

Manisha Singha, *The Slave's Cause: A History of Abolition* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2016). ISBN-13: 978-0300227116. \$19.00. Selected Chapters, TBA.

Alternate: April R. Haynes, *Riotous Flesh: Physiology and the Solitary Vice in Nineteenth-Century America* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2015) ISBN-13: 978-0226284620. \$27.50.

7. *Religion*

Laurel Thatcher Ulrich, *A House Full of Females: Plural Marriage and Women's Rights in Early Mormonism, 1835-1870* (New York: Vintage, 2018). ISBN-13: 978-0307742124, \$13.09

Alternate: Emily Clark, *Masterless Mistresses: New Orleans Ursulines and the Development of a New World Society, 1727-1834* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2007). ISBN-13: 978-0807858226 \$30.00

8. *Civil War*

Stephanie McCurry, *Confederate Reckoning: Power and Politics in the Civil War South* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2012). ISBN-13: 978-0521600804. \$21.64.

Alternate: Drew Gilpin Faust, *Mothers of Invention: Women of the Slaveholding South in the Civil War* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2004). ISBN 13: 978-0807855737. \$24.66.

-OR-

Judith Geisberg, *Army at Home: Women and the Civil War on the Northern Home Front* Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2012). ISBN-13: 978-0807833070. Kindle edition, \$14.74.

Plus selected articles, TBA.

9. Suffrage and Memory

Lisa Tetrault, *The Myth of Seneca Falls: Memory and the Women's Suffrage Movement, 1848-1898* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2014). ISBN-13: 978-1469614274. \$16.86 Kindle Edition.

10. Capitalism, Class and Culture

George Robb, *Ladies of the Ticker: Women and Wall Street from the Gilded Age to the Great Depression* (Chicago: University of Illinois Press, 2017). ISBN: 13: 978-0803235168. \$24.46 Kindle Edition.

Alternates: Kathleen D. McCarthy, *Women's Culture: American Philanthropy and Art, 1830-1930* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1993). ISBN-13: 978-0226555843. \$34.00.

-OR-

Maureen Montgomery, *Displaying Women: Spectacles of Leisure in Edith Wharton's New York* (New York: Routledge. 1998). ISBN-13:978-0415905664. \$45.15.

11. Immigration

Jennifer Guglielmo. *Living the Revolution: Italian Women's Resistance and Radicalism in New York City* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2012). ISBN-13: 978-0807872246. \$9.99 Kindle Edition.

12. Race

Talitha L. LeFlouria, *Chained in Silence: Black Women and Convict Labor in the New South* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2015). ISBN-13: 978-149622475. \$22.49.

13. Political Culture and Reform

Kathryn Kish Sklar, *Florence Kelley and the Nation's Work: The Rise of Women's Political Culture, 1830-1900* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1995). ISBN-10: 0300059124. From \$4.00 used. Prices vary.

14. Conclusion and Discussion of Proposals