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
KMcCarthy@gc.cuny.edu

Preliminary Syllabus

Please Note: Some of the readings may be changed in the final version.

Assignments: Students will each lead one to three discussion sessions, and have a choice of either (a) doing weekly abstracts on the assigned readings for the weeks in which they are not presenting, or (b) 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 students’ 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


2. The Legacy of the Revolution


Alternate: TBA
3. Native Americans and Slavery


4. Microhistory


5. Charity, “Sisterhood” and Class


6. Antebellum Social Reform


7. Religion


8. **Civil War**


-OR-


9. **Suffrage and Memory**


10. **Capitalism, Class and Culture**


-OR-


11. **Immigration**

12. Race


13. Political Culture and Reform


14. Conclusion and Discussion of Proposals