M.A. Program in Women's and Gender Studies and Center for the Study of Women and Society
Women's Studies Certificate Program
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The Center for the Study of Women and Society organizes events to promote scholarship in women’s and gender studies. In Fall 2017, we ask you to join us for our series on Women’s Lives, featuring events cosponsored with our sister organizations, including the Women Writing Lives Women’s collective (the Dorothy O. Holly Lecture), CLAGS (Center for LGBTQ Studies), and the Society for the Study of Women in the Renaissance, among others.

Please see calendar for details.

Highlights:

Thursday, September 14, 2017
Black Power and Women’s Liberation: Reconsidering the History of the Black Panther Party in Oakland, CA
ROBYN SPENCER

Friday, October 27, 2017
LEITH MULLINGS

Women’s Studies Speakers Series

More Women’s Lives

Thursday, September 14, 2017
Time: 4:00-5:30pm
Room: 6034.11

Kissi, Our Language: The Story of Colo and Sadiki/ PERRY GILMORE, a sociolinguist, educational anthropologist, professor of Language, Reading and Culture (LRC), and Swahili Language Acquisition and Teaching (SLAT) faculty at the University of Arizona, will speak about a recent book, Kissi (Our Language). The Story of Colo and Sadiki. Kissi’s documents the Colos Swahili pidgin language spoken by two five-year-old friends in postcolonial Kenya. Far from being a typical linguistic case study, and part mother’s memoir, this mixed genre story presents an unflinching, interdisciplinary narrative that explores the complex and nuanced voices of these two young language activists that effectively disrupted the colonial linguistic landscape to carve a safe space for their friendship.

Part of the Public Science Project Book Series-Fall 2017

Thursday, September 14, 2017
Time: 6:00-7:30pm
Room: 4025

A Critique of Sara Safo’s Rejection of the Japanese Military’s “Comfort Women” System as Sexual Slavery
PYONG GAP MIN, distinguished professor of sociology at Queens College and the Graduate Center of CUNY, will give a talk on his critique of Sara Safo’s rejection of the Japanese “comfort women” system as sexual slavery. According to Min, Safo’s 2008 book, The Comfort Women: Sexual Violence and Postcolonial Memory in Korea and Japan, is the only comprehensive English-language book that covers both the “comfort women” issue and the redress movement for women who were subjected to sexual slavery, but it has provided many controversial arguments. Prof. Min will try to show that many of Safo’s arguments provided to reject the sexual slavery issue has both legally and logically unsound. Prof. Min is completing a book project looking at the redress movement for the victims of Japanese military sexual slavery. Co-sponsored with Sociology Immigration Speaker Series, Fall 2017

Thursday, October 10, 2017
Time: 6:00-7:30pm
Room: 4025

Troubling Devotion: Laywomen and the making of colonial Catholicism in New Spain
JESSICA DELGADO will present some of the significant historiographical contributions of studying religion in colonial Mexico from the starting point of laywomen’s participation and experience. Looking at laywomen’s interactions with clergy, ecclesiastical courts, sacraments and other church rituals, and obelisk, the larger study from which this talk is taken argues that women were central in the gradual process creating colonial religious culture in New Spain. This talk synthesizes some of the most important findings of this larger project and the impetus for centering laywomen impacts a number of historical and theoretical debates in the field of colonial Latin American history the history of early modern Catholicism. Co-sponsored with the Society for the Study of Women in the Renaissance (SSWR) and the CUNY Academy for Humanities and Sciences

Thursday, October 26, 2017
Time: 6:00-7:30pm
Room: 4025

A Challenging Journey in-between Turkey and the U.S.: Women’s Touch in Architectural Practice
MERAL EKINCIOGLU, professor of architecture at the MIT, HTC program (2014-2016) who received her PhD in architecture from Rice University in 2011, will elaborate and discuss some significant Turkish women practitioners dealing with commercial architecture, urban planning, historic preservation in the U.S. in architecture and their contribution to the built environment from the 1990s until today. Most of the Turkish women architects are silent on their career and their cross-cultural encounters have been lost out of the academic history of postwar architecture. Considering the lack of a collective memory that connects those women architects in the U.S. and the Republic of Turkey, their continued absence in the scholarship literature raises a question: Can their presence in their practice be strategically constructed and maintained in architecture history?

Friday, October 27, 2017
Time: 6:00-7:30pm
Room: 4025

The Story of Colin and Sadiki: Kissing Our Language
DEIRDRE BAIR was a newly minted Ph.D. who thought she was going to write a critical study of Samuel Beckett. One thing led to another, and she—who had never read Beckett—found herself writing one. Her talk will explore how two living subjects. It will include her coming of age memoir, this mixed genre study presents an unfolding ethnography, part linguistic case study, and part a mother’s creative invention of a private Swahili pidgin language by two five-year-old friends in postcolonial Kenya. Far from being a typical linguistic case study, and part mother’s memoir, this mixed genre story presents an unflinching, interdisciplinary narrative that explores the complex and nuanced voices of these two young language activists that effectively disrupted the colonial linguistic landscape to carve a safe space for their friendship.

Part of the Public Science Project Book Series-Fall 2017

Friday, November 14, 2017
Time: 6:00-7:30pm
Room: 9204

Moral Constellation: Elizabeth Cary’s Tragedy of the Color of Blood
KIMBERLY ANNE COLES Any feminist inquiry must assert that the gravity of political power looms upon the sexual subject, irrespective of other considerations of subject position. Years ago, Cynthia Callahan wrote brilliantly and probatively about how Elizabeth Cary’s “depicts and manipulates the concept (of race) as a vital aspect of her construction and interrogation of femininity” in her drama, The Tragedy of Mariam. In this talk, Kimberly Coles revises this question believing that a different concept of race needs to be applied to Cary’s interrogation than any modern apprehension of the term affords. Recent scholarship has opened up the question of the continuities and discontinuities between early modern and contemporary (early modern) application of the concept of race, she will argue that Cary’s play puts the question “Can this production of their practice be strategically constructed and maintained in architecture history?”

Women’s Studies Speakers Series