Research collaboration with the CUNY Public Science Project and Brooklyn Law School on impact of Domestic Violence Survivors Justice Act (DVSJA)

In May 2019, the Domestic Violence Survivors Justice Act (DVSJA) was passed into law in New York State, a result of over a decade of advocacy led by formerly incarcerated women who had survived abuse and violence. Recognizing that the DVSJA could create large shifts in practice and a significant impact on outcomes in criminal cases across the state, the Center for the Study of Women and Society and the CUNY Public Science Project, in collaboration with the Brooklyn Law School, and with funding from the New York Women’s Foundation, developed a "rapid response" feminist research and action project, tracking and linking legal counsel with women currently in prison for crimes committed while experiencing domestic violence. We are joining a vast state-wide network of lawyers, activists, survivors, formerly incarcerated women, and family members, to identify women currently incarcerated who might be eligible for a DVSJA petition, to have their sentences re-tried, and perhaps recommended to Governor Cuomo for early release due to COVID. Where activism and scholarship meet, the DVSJA can be an impetus for re-thinking, bringing to the forefront critical issues of race, gender, and class in the criminal legal system.

WHAT IS THE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SURVIVORS JUSTICE ACT?

The DVSJA seeks to mitigate harsh punishments imposed upon eligible defendants whose crimes can be directly linked to a history of domestic violence. Penal Law § 60.12, as amended effective May 14, 2019, sets forth alternative sentences for defendants who can establish that they were victims of domestic violence and meet statutory criteria. In addition, the DVSJA provides for re-sentencing relief. Effective August 12, 2019, new CPL 440.47 allows for re-sentencing applications by defendants who were victims of domestic violence and meet statutory criteria (NYS Office of Indigent Legal Services).
What a moment we are in. A moment of outrage and concern during a global pandemic and anti-black state violence. All the lids on the jars of injustice have been blown off and we so clearly see the epidemics of racism, white supremacy, fragile infrastructure, patriarchy, capitalism, and the dominance of prison, medical, and other industrial complexes.

Yet we are also at a moment of where the exploitations of the world have been met with sustained protests by Black and Brown people and their allies. They have made the charge that we must end racialized and gendered state-sanctioned violence and have put forth ideas and policies to address the multitude of issues that shape people’s lives.

The Center for the Study of Women and Society and the programs it oversees, the MA Program in Women’s and Gender Studies and the Women’s Studies Certificate Program, is a space where an expansive vision of justice frames the core of our work. We are pleased to be engaged in both intellectual, practical, and activist projects that make us accountable to liberation. You can read about one project that CSWS is doing in collaboration with the Public Science Project and CUNY Law School on the cover page. We are training students in WGS, Critical Psychology, and Law to document the implementation of the Domestic Violence Survivors Justice Act.

In this issue of the newsletter, we applaud our graduates who were unable to have a formal traditional graduation. However, they received a hopeful message from Cherrie Moraga, who reminded our students that we need each other to be brave hearts to make change. She asked that we cultivate a daily consciousness and to want something more in this life, to figure out what the present inequities has taught us about the great disease this country has had since its inception: “Maybe this is such a time of radical change and action because the world requires it on a scale unprecedented. I wish you every good thing in the world.” Congratulations to the Class of 2020: Charlene Adams, Solange Castellar, Kirsten Cornelisson, Michela Demelas, Lo Ferguson, and Unnati Patel. Charlene Adams will continue her work as a journalist and as a Digital Editor of SUM at The Graduate Center, CUNY, Kirsten Cornelison will start a PhD Program at the University of Kentucky in Fall 2020, and Lo Ferguson will apply to law school in the Fall.

We are also so pleased to welcome our incoming class of MA Students – one of the largest incoming classes in the program’s four-year history (meet them on page 11). And while we all tango with the new virtual realities, we are still committed to having our programming. This year we are so excited that we will host talks and conversations with Savannah Shange, Wendy Luttrell, and Red Washburn (more details on page 16)!

As we enter this new academic year, we will face a challenging beginning. But as Cherrie Moraga said in her message to our 2020 graduates, “It is an incredible time to be alive. There is so much work to be done that it is impossible not to find someplace in which you can contribute to this changing world with the great gifts you have.” Let’s do the work. Find your calling and walk with it.

In Solidarity,

DÁNA-AIN DAVIS
CONGRATULATIONS
2020 MA GRADUATES IN WOMEN’S & GENDER STUDIES!

CHARLENE ADAMS
Thesis: If It Wasn't for the Women: An Exploration of Works by Renita Weems, Wil Gafney, and Kelly Brown Douglas
ADVISOR: Dagmar Herzog

SOLANGE CASTELLAR
THESIS: "I'm Real I Thought I Told Ya": Developing Critical Media Literacy Through U.S. Latinx Media Representations
ADVISOR: Jillian Báez

KIRSTEN CORNEILSON
THESIS: Cracks in the Bathroom Stall: A Discourse Analysis on Transgender Bathroom Usage at Garden Spot High School
ADVISOR: Sherry Deckman

MICHELA DEMELAS
THESIS: Legitamizing Violence at the European Border: Gendered Misrepresentations at Sea and the Vulnerable Other
ADVISOR: Dána-Ain Davis

LO FERGUSON
THESIS: Transgender in College: Engaging Marginalized Collegiate Students
ADVISOR: Paisley Currah

UNNATI PATEL
THESIS: Desexualizing Queer Identities: Methods to Validating Non-Sexual Romantic Attraction and Relationships
ADVISOR: Mario DiGangi
How did you decide to become a professor? What got you interested in Sociology?

I started out with a Ph.D. in French history. While I was teaching in my first job (at Yale, where I got my doctorate) the events of 1970 on campus made it impossible to keep teaching French intellectual history, when my students challenged me to teach something more relevant. This student rebellion led me to take a job at Barnard running the Experimental College, another outgrowth of the 1968 Columbia student uprising, and soon I was involved in helping to found the Women’s Studies Program. Personal considerations—neither my then-husband, from Sydney, nor I had any prospect of getting tenure—led me to Australia, where I served as a “femocrat” in the New South Wales state government under Neville Wran. When the Labor government fell, and my marriage fell apart, I returned to the US and got a job at the State University of Buffalo in the American Studies Department. I was recruited from there to run the Women’s Studies program at Queens College, CUNY, in 1996. When my term as director ended, I was folded into the Sociology Department at Queens and The Graduate Center. Like many in my generation, Women’s and Gender Studies required me to develop a broad interdisciplinary approach and that is how I went from history to sociology.

What were the most memorable aspects of being a professor?

The most memorable parts about being a professor: this is hard to summarize. But the experience of being in a classroom with so many bright and engaged young people is like nothing else.

Teaching at the undergraduate or graduate level is a continual challenge: what will the students say? How will I answer their questions? And what emerges from the dialogue is a live encounter with ideas that stretches you to arrive at what you really think, while involving as many of the students as you can in the debate. After more than 50 years in the classroom (with the exception of an interval of 8 years as a femocrat, although this job also involved a lot of lecturing), I still found walking into class exciting, filled with unexpected exchanges. Even in the last few months of teaching online, I found the experience rich, complicated, and rewarding. And of course being paid to write and think and develop your own ideas is an unparalleled luxury.
CONGRATULATIONS

We learned during the Women's and Gender Studies' End-of-Year Celebration that you lived in Paris, France for a period, as well as did work with the Black Panthers. Can you tell us more?

I spent 1964-5 and 1967-8 in Paris, doing the research for my dissertation on Victor Cousin, a French philosopher, educator, and politician. My experience with the Black Panthers came in 1970 at Yale, when there was a major upheaval around the trial of leaders Bobby Seale and Erika Huggins for the alleged murder of their colleague Alex Rackley, and the campus came to a halt with protests and demonstrations (the proceedings finally ended with a mistrial.) My role was to serve on a faculty-student committee that was appointed by the administration to calm the waters by consulting widely with the different constituencies on campus. Hardly a radical role! But the experience was similar to what we are going through now: a widespread realization among white students and faculty of the depth and impact of racism toward Black people, especially Black radicals.

What was your favorite book that you read this year and why?

My favorite book this year: I would say Ashley J. Bohrer, *Marxism and Intersectionality: Race, Gender, Class and Sexuality Under Contemporary Capitalism* (Transcript Verlag, 2019). I actually haven’t finished reading it, as it is dense and complex. But it is a brilliant reading of why it is a mistake to have to choose between a Marxist framework and an intersectional framework when talking about the radical changes we have to make in our increasingly fractured and dangerous society.

What are three books that have inspired you?

Three books that have inspired me: the writings of Simone de Beauvoir; Ellen Meiksins Wood, *The Origin of Capitalism* (Verso, 2017); and the work of Black feminists such as bell hooks and Patricia Hill Collins. But you can get a more complete sense of my intellectual framework by looking at the bibliography of my most recent book, *Feminism Seduced: How Global Elites Use Women’s Labor and Ideas to Exploit the World* (Routledge, 2009).

What wisdom would you like to impart on the incoming class?

Wisdom for the incoming class? I would say, always try to connect your learning and research with the political and social issues confronted by your generation. There is nothing more sterile than scholarship that is disconnected from activism.
The Women's Studies Certificate Program is an optional course of study for students already enrolled in a Ph.D. program at The Graduate Center, CUNY. It is designed to complement existing doctoral programs and to accept as electives those courses that the student uses to fulfill degree requirements elsewhere in The Graduate Center. The certificate is awarded when the graduate degree is conferred.

How Capitalism Forms Our Lives (2020)
Alyson Cole and Estelle Ferrarese. London: Routledge

By using the concept of capitalism as a “form of life”, the authors in this volume re-conceive capitalism, its mechanisms and effects on our bodies, and on our common life. The idea that capitalism is more than a discrete economic system and instead a “form of life” that shapes our relationships with others, our sense of ourselves and our capacities, practices, bodies, and actions in the material world should be rather obvious. Yet efforts—whether through criticism or policy remedies—to redress the vast inequalities, inherent exploitation, alienation, and the manifold destructive effects of capitalism on the environment, typically proceed without grappling fully with the entwinement of the economic with the social and cultural, much less the ethical, ontological, and phenomenological. This volume proposes “form of life” as a heuristic tool, connecting literatures that often remain isolated from one another—the Frankfurt School, neo-materialism, Wittgenstein’s philosophy, Foucault’s and Agamben’s biopolitics, and Marx’s discussion of reproduction. In emphasizing economic practices, as opposed to capitalism as a system, they conceive of “the economic” as an integral and integrated dimension of life, and thus develop new possibilities for critique. Viewing human beings as “economic bios,” provides a needed alternative to analyses that position neoliberalism as an economic logic imposed upon the social and cultural.
ACCOMPLISHMENTS
FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

Italian Prisons in the Age of Positivism, 1861-1914 (2019)
Mary Gibson. London: Bloomsbury Academic

During a period dominated by the biological determinism of Cesare Lombroso, Italy constructed a new prison system that sought to reconcile criminology with nation building and new definitions of citizenship. Italian Prisons in the Age of Positivism, 1861-1914 examines this "second wave" of global prison reform between Italian Unification and World War I, providing fascinating insights into the relationship between changing modes of punishment and the development of the modern Italian state.

Demography and Democracy: Transitions in the Middle East and North Africa (2018)
Elhum Haghighat. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press

The Middle East and North Africa have recently experienced one of the highest population growth rates in the world, something which has profoundly affected the wider region and its institutions. In addition, the recent period of unprecedented political turbulence has further complicated the picture, resulting in uprisings and resistance movements that have coincided with intense shifts in socio-cultural norms, as well as economic and political change. Through highlighting the links between population dynamics and the social and political transitions, this book provides a new view of these recent regional changes. The complexity of the changes is further explained in the context of demographic transitions (mortality, fertility, migration) that work hand in hand with development (economic and social modernization) and ultimately, democratization (political modernization). These three Ds (Demographic, Development, and Democratic transitions) are central to Elhum Haghighat's analysis of the Middle East and North Africa at this crucial time.

Jean Halley. Georgia: University of Georgia Press

Horse Crazy: Girls and the Lives of Horses looks at the relationships between girls and horses through the frameworks of Michel Foucault's concepts of normalization and biopower, drawing conclusions about the way girls' agency is both normalized and resistant to normalization. Segments of Halley's own experiences with horses as a young girl, as well as experiences from the perspective of other girls, are sources for examination. "Horsey girls," as she calls them, are girls who find a way to defy the expectations given to them by society—thinness, obsession with makeup and beauty, frailty—and gain the possibility of freedom in the process.
Fritz Morgenthaler was a crucial figure in the return of psychoanalysis to post-Nazi Central Europe. An inspiring clinician and teacher to the New Left generation of 1968, he was the first European psychoanalyst since Freud to declare that homosexuality is not, indeed never, a pathology, and in *Technik*, developed revolutionary ideas for transforming clinical technique. *On the Dialectics of Psychoanalytic Practice* offers the first publication in English of this psychoanalytic, counterculture classic. Those who first picked up *Technik* encountered it at a historical moment when Marxist psychoanalyst Wilhelm Reich, popular New Left cultural critic Klaus Theweleit, and the texts of the Frankfurt School were already required reading. While not a political text in the same direct way, Morgenthaler’s *Technik* nonetheless shared many of their preoccupations and conclusions about human nature. It was read as technical guidance for psychoanalysts, but also as a manifesto dedicated to the problem of how it might be possible genuinely to live a postfascist, and nonfascist, existence. Morgenthaler was a protorelationalist who recombined the traditions of ego and self psychology as he retained a commitment to drive theory. Here Dagmar Herzog makes his work available to a new generation of analysts, providing essential source material, annotations, and groundbreaking analysis of the continued importance of the work for historians and therapeutic practitioners alike.

Gail Levin. London: Thames & Hudson

Lee Krasner’s stirring work and charismatic personality could have made her a superstar of the Abstract Expressionist generation. Yet for years she was better known as Jackson Pollock’s wife, her art ignored and her story mistold. Gail Levin redresses the balance with this engrossing biography of the pioneering painter, firebrand, and trailblazer for women’s rights. Her personal interviews, original research, and lucid prose restore Krasner’s voice and illuminate an exceptional artist who led a truly fascinating life.

For more information on WGS and WSCP Faculty please check out, https://bit.ly/GCWGSWSCPFaculty.
Meet the incoming MA Students in Women's and Gender Studies!

Ivy Barrett Fox Bryan is an award-winning women and gender studies scholar and queer woman from Brooklyn, NY. Ivy has led and been a part of numerous panels and discussions about gender and democracy since 2018 from RuPaul’s DragCon to San Francisco Pride. Ivy has been interviewed by Soledad O’Brien and spoken at WeDay UN 2018. Ivy is so excited to start her next academic journey at The Graduate Center in the Women’s and Gender Studies Program.

Tess Chapin was born and raised in New York City. She graduated in 2016 from SUNY New Paltz with a BA in International Relations with a focus on the post-Soviet Eurasian region, after transferring in her Junior year from a small university in Quebec. During her undergraduate years, she studied in Istanbul, Turkey and Astana, Kazakhstan. After graduating, she worked as a professional nanny and a freelance writer here in NYC. In 2018-2019, she earned a post-graduate diploma from the University of Glasgow in Russian and Eurasian Studies. Her hobbies include thrift shopping, reading, traveling, making jewelry, and cooking. She has a deep interest in gender and the construction of “normal.” Tess believes that issues relating to gender inequality transcend almost everything else in our society and is interested in learning how we can build a more accepting and fair future for the generations to follow.

Neyshka Diaz is from the Caribbean archipelago of Puerto Rico. While doing her bachelor’s degree in Psychology as a Puerto Rican woman, she realized that her fuel in life has been to fight for human rights and more so for women of color. Protecting these liberties for the mental and emotional health of women of color are of great importance to her. Neyshka hopes for a better world, and aims for the freedom of Puerto Rico and the downfall of the patriarchy. She feels it would be an honor to have the opportunity to pursue a career that encompasses all of these topics and make a difference for future generations.
Elizabeth Houde is thrilled to be attending the Graduate Center this fall. Elizabeth is originally from Vermont and graduated in 2017 from Guilford College where she studied Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, English, and Communications. She currently works at McGraw-Hill as an editorial coordinator and lives in Brooklyn and enjoys cooking, writing, and gardening.

Shadley Hobour is excited and honored to take part in this program. She is a community organizer working with several groups throughout Brooklyn that prioritize and center Black women. Her advocacy ranges from prison abolition, Black liberation, women’s liberation, and the rights of sex workers. She would describe herself as an extremely nurturing person, passionate, and calm all at once. She is a force to be reckoned with and her community is women whose deep desire is to tear this current world apart in the ways it’s organized and create a world where love is always the intent.

Yelena Dzhanova is a politics reporter at CNBC, covering the Trump administration, 2020 elections, voting rights, and congressional activity. She graduated from Baruch College with a triple major in English, political science, and journalism.

Amy Iafrate is a recent graduate of NYU’s College of Arts and Sciences where she studied Linguistics and Anthropology. She is passionate about the interactions between language, gender, and technology, and plans on pursuing a research project in these fields while at the WGS program.
Jessica Lin graduated magna cum laude from Hunter College, CUNY, in 2017 with a BA in Psychology and minor in Japanese. She is committed to critical research on the intersection between gender roles, sexuality, and culture. Guided by the reality of struggles that sexual minority women face within East Asian culture, Jessica aims to explore how these women overcome normative social influence, prejudice, and oppression.

Johanna M. Roa is a Colombian-American Visual Artist and Art Historian. She has been dedicated to various cultural practices since 2000: radio, cinema, teaching, research, curatorship, and production. She graduated with a Masters in Visual Arts at the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM), and has a bachelor’s degree in Visual Arts from the Instituto Departamental de Bellas Artes in Colombia. She studied Urban Ethnography at the Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana (UAM) and The Centro de Investigaciones y Estudios Superiores en Antropología Social (CIESAS) in Mexico City. She was a teacher and researcher of the Masters in Conservation of Documentary collections of ENCRYM-INHA in Mexico and a Professor of Visual Arts at the Javeriana University in Cali, Colombia. In 2014, she obtained the National Stimulus Scholarship for Young Creators from the Colombian Ministry of Culture. She has directed the CALCO project since 2017, carried out around 25 curatorial projects, between collective and individual exhibitions. In 2008, she was a journalist for Norsan Radio USA from Mexico City and a cultural journalist for Todelar in Cali, Colombia.

Jillian Silvia is currently a dedicated dog mom and bookworm living on the Upper West Side of Manhattan. She moved to NYC at 18 to begin her education at Fordham University and ended at Marymount Manhattan College in Spring 2019 with her BA. She was a dual major in Gender and Sexuality studies, with a focus on intersectional feminism and race theory, and Religious Studies, with a focus on the Abrahamic religions and Feminist and Womanist Theology. After a year in the workplace Jillian cannot be more enthusiastic about returning to the classroom and being a part of this incredible community as a student once again!
Keara Small was born and raised in Brooklyn, New York, and is a recent graduate of Brooklyn College where she majored in Secondary Education with a concentration in History. She enjoys watching documentaries, walking her dog, and gaining new experiences to bring back to her future classroom. Keara is excited to be a student in MA Program in Women’s and Gender Studies at The Graduate Center and looks forward to acquiring knowledge, skills, and experiences.

Noah Souder-Russo is a musician, performing artist and educator born and raised in New York City. He works as a recording artist for Flocabulary (now Nearpod), an educational tech company that uses hip-hop as a learning tool for students. Noah is interested in creating spaces for boys and men to explore and unpack patriarchy, masculinity and its impact on society and the individual. He's the co-creator of PASOS, a group that supports the spiritual and emotional development of men through a feminist lens.

Kelly Waltz is a Brooklyn-based advocate for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault. She will center her studies at the Graduate Center around her personal interest and academic background in political science and intersectional feminism.

Laura-Lee Williams earned their Bachelor of Arts in Gender, Women’s, and Sexuality Studies from Appalachian State University. Laura-Lee’s research interests include Transnational Feminisms, Ecofeminisms, Postcolonial Studies, Food Studies, Critical Race Studies, and Queer Theory.

We also welcome: Nicolle Marquez!
**FALL COURSES**

**CORE COURSES FOR M.A. AND CERTIFICATE PROGRAM STUDENTS**

**FEMINIST TEXTS & THEORIES**

NATALIE HAVLIN
M 2:00-4:00PM
3 CREDITS

This course will explore the work of reading, writing, and publishing feminist texts and theories, emphasizing the historical context and means of production of feminist scholarship. Topics will include inquiries into various feminist presses, writing and media collectives, women's studies journals, and digital archives (such as the Kitchen Table/Women of Color Press, the Feminist Press, the Combahee River Collective, Triple Jeopardy, Hijas de Cuauhtémoc, off our backs, Feminist Theory, Meridians, WSO, GLQ, TSQ, feministskijloys, equalityarchives). The course will also demystify the work of submitting to and editing for an interdisciplinary journal of women's, gender, and sexuality studies.

**GLOBAL FEMINISM**

RUPAL OZA
M 11:45-1:45PM
3 CREDITS

With the rise of authoritarian regimes around the world, what insights do feminist movements and theorizing offer? What are the fault lines between different forms of feminisms? How do liberal feminist ideals and principles intertwine with an imperial agenda? What are the links and divergences between islamaphobia and racism? Who should be the arbiter of “equality,” “fairness,” and “human rights”? What ethical questions shape the practices of feminism and feminist politics both domestically and internationally? What is the relationship between modes of production, political economy, and gender politics? What are the possibilities and limits of a transnational feminist politics? What are the material conditions/structural factors which enable and/or undermine transnational feminist solidarity? This course grapples with some of these questions in the wake of rapid world altering changes.

**ELECTIVE COURSES IN WOMEN’S AND GENDER STUDIES**

Urban Revolutions
Prof. Isa Susser
W. 4:15-6:15PM, 3 credits.

Geography and Gender/ Sexuality and Space
Prof. Cindi Katz
W. 2:00-4:00PM, 3 credits.

Racial, Religious, and Sexual Queerness in Medieval Literature
Prof. Steven Kruger
Th. 11:45-1:45PM, 2/4 credits.

Feminism and Globalization
Prof. Sonali Perera
T. 2:00-4:00PM, 2/4 credits.

The Nation and its Others: France and Frenchness in the Age of Louis XIV
Prof. Donna Stanton
T. 4:15-6:15PM, 2/3/4 credits.

Psychoanalysis and Politics: History and Theory
Prof. Dagmar Herzog
T. 2:00-4:00PM, 3 credits.

Black Women in Slavery and Freedom
Prof. Tanisha Ford
W. 4:15-6:15PM, 3 credits.

Violence in Islamic History
Prof. Anna Akasoy
W. 6:30-8:30PM, 3 credits.

Introduction to Gender and Sexuality Studies
Prof. James Wilson
M. 6:30-8:30PM, 3 credits.

Women, Work, and Public Policy
Prof. Janet Gornick
T. 4:15-6:15PM, 3 credits.

The American Presidency
Prof. Ruth O'Brien
Th. 6:30-8:30PM, 3 credits.

African Politics
Prof. Zachariah Mampilly
W. 2:00-4:00PM, 3 credits.

Critical Methods
Prof. Michelle Fine
M. 2:00-4:00PM, 3 credits.

Food, Culture, and Society
Prof. Barbara Katz Rothman
W. 6:30-8:30PM, 3 credits.

Capitalism and Crisis
Prof. Roslyn Bologh
T. 6:30-8:30PM, 3 credits.

Gender and Violence
Prof. Jayne Mooney
M. 6:30-8:30PM, 3 credits.

(De)Constructing Black Girlhoods
Prof. Sherry Deckman
T. 4:15-6:15PM, 3 credits.

Dr. Tsedale M. Melaku (right) discussing her new book, *You Don’t Look Like a Lawyer: Black Women and Systemic Gendered Racism* with Dr. Angie Beeman (left).

Dr. Marisa Solomon during her talk, “Waste as an Afterlife of Slavery: Black Disposability and the Plantation Logic of Cleaning.”
UPCOMING EVENTS

SAVANNAH SHANGE
"Abolition as Method: Fieldwork at the End of the World"
Tuesday, September 22nd from 6:00-7:30 PM

On the heels of transnational rebellion, “defund the police” has entered the mainstream lexicon as a baseline demand of Black struggle. While police departments across the nation are being held accountable for the harms they have caused, this talk turns our attention to the policing that happens without a badge or a gun, in the daily interactions between young people and the systems that purport to protect them. As a methodological approach, Savannah Shange offers abolitionist anthropology as a scholarly practice that defends Black life. Given the momentum ‘abolition’ has as a political critique of prisons and policing, what does it offer us as scholars trying to apprehend the broader set of violences that compose the current moment? Put another way, what does abolition demand of us?

Co-sponsored with the PhD Programs in Anthropology and Urban Education, The Graduate Center Library, and the PublicsLab.

WENDY LUTTRELLE
Children Framing Childhoods: Working-class Kids’ Vision of Care
with Asilia Franklin-Phipps, Cindi Katz, and Lauren Silver
Tuesday, October 20th
6:00-7:30 PM

Urban educational research, practice, and policy is preoccupied with problems, brokenness, stigma, and blame. As a result, too many people are unable to recognize the capacities and desires of children and youth growing up in working-class communities. This book offers an alternative angle of vision—animated by young people’s own photographs, videos, and perspectives over time. It shows how a racially, ethnically, and linguistically diverse community of young people in Worcester, MA used cameras at different ages (10, 12, 16 and 18) to capture and value the centrality of care in their lives, homes, and classrooms. Luttrell’s immersive, creative, and layered analysis of the young people’s images and narratives boldly refutes biased assumptions about working-class childhoods and re-envision schools as inclusive, imaginative, and careful spaces. With an accompanying website featuring additional digital resources (childrenframingchildhoods.com), this book challenges us to see differently and, thus, set our sights on a better future.

Co-sponsored with the Advanced Research Collaborative (ARC), the Dean’s Office for Masters Programs, The Feminist Press, the PhD Programs in Anthropology, Sociology, and Urban Education, and the Public Science Project.
In this talk, Red Washburn explores women’s contributions to the anti-colonial civil rights movements during the Troubles in the Six Counties of Ireland from the late 1960s to the late 1990s. They connect the work of Irish women leaders and writers by examining their leadership roles, individual voices, and cultural productions. This project analyzes political communiqués and petitions, news coverage, prison files, governmental files, personal letters, poetry and short prose, and memoirs of Irish women. Washburn highlights the personal correspondence, auto/biographical narratives, and poetry of the following key leaders and writers: Bernadette Devlin McAliskey, Margaretta D’Arcy, Roseleen Walsh, Martina Anderson, Ella O’Dwyer, and Mairéad Farrell. These women address similar themes in their prison writing and work either through direct communication (i.e., political communiqués and personal correspondence) and/or indirect expression (i.e., news coverage and auto/biographical responses to it). Drawing on interviews with selected writers for supplemental data in interpreting their personal histories and writing, Washburn analyzes the politics and prose and poetry of Irish women, documenting moments of prison solidarity among them.

Co-sponsored with the Advanced Research Collaborative (ARC), the Center for LGBTQ Studies (GLAGS), The Feminist Press, and the Public Science Project.

For more information on events or to RSVP, please take a look at the CSWS website, http://bit.ly/CSWSEvents.
UPCOMING EVENTS

NEVERTHELESS, SHE PERSISTED: 30 YEARS OF WOMEN WRITING WOMEN'S LIVES

Monday, October 5th from 3:00-6:00 PM

Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of women’s suffrage and WWWL’s 30th anniversary, the Women Writing Women’s Lives seminar will host an online celebration, open to the public. Alix Kates Shulman and Honor Moore, two of WWWL’s original members, will speak on: “Nevertheless, They Persisted: Writing Women’s History from Second Wave Feminism and Beyond.”

Three panels will follow, each with an audience Q&A:
• Nevertheless, Our Foremothers Persisted: Reflects on the 100th Anniversary of U.S. Women’s Suffrage
• Nevertheless, Our Subjects Persisted: Pushing Boundaries in their Chosen Fields
• Nevertheless, We Persisted: Challenges in Research, Writing and Publishing Biographies of Women

Co-sponsored with The Center for the Humanities, The Feminist Press, The Leon Levy Center for Biography, the MA Program in Liberal Studies, and the PhD Programs in History and English.

SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF WOMEN IN THE RENAISSANCE

"We have heard her much admiring God’s free grace: Black Women and the Stakes of Respectability in the Early Americas"
Cassandra L. Smith
Thursday, September 17th
6:00-7:30 PM
On Zoom, RSVP here:

“Female Suffering and Shakespearean Calculation: Edward Bond’s Bingo”
Jean E. Howard
Thursday, October 15th
6:00-7:30 PM
On Zoom, RSVP here:

“London, Venice, Ferrara: Mothers and Daughters in Early Italian Accounts of the Anglican Schism”
Fabio Battista
Thursday, November 19th
6:00-7:30 PM
On Zoom, RSVP here:

Co-sponsored with the Society for the Study of Women in the Renaissance (SSWR) and the CUNY Academy for Humanities and Sciences.
Meet the new Editors of *Women's Studies Quarterly* (WSQ), Red Washburn and Brianne Waychoff

Since 1972, *Women's Studies Quarterly* (WSQ) has been an interdisciplinary forum for the exchange of emerging perspectives on women, gender, and sexuality. WSQ is a peer-reviewed interdisciplinary journal published twice a year in June and December. Along with scholarship from multiple disciplines, it showcases fiction and creative nonfiction, poetry, book reviews, and the visual arts.

**Red Washburn** (they/ them/ theirs) is Associate Professor of English and Director of Women's and Gender Studies at Kingsborough Community College (CUNY). Red also teaches Women's and Gender Studies at Brooklyn College (CUNY).

**Brianne Waychoff** (she/ her/ they/ them) is Associate Professor and Deputy Chair of Speech, Communication, and Theatre Arts, Co-Coordinator of Gender & Women's Studies AA Program, and Co-Coordinator of Communication Studies AA Program at Borough of Manhattan Community College (CUNY).

**Red Washburn**: *Women’s Studies Quarterly* has been integral to transdisciplinary conversations on Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies for approximately 50 years. I am honored to follow the editors who came before me as well as grateful to them for creating this groundbreaking space and paving the path for me. I am honored to work with my co-editor Dr. Waychoff, the WSQ editorial board, and the *Feminist Press* to expand, strengthen, and document the journal’s commitment to genealogies of feminist scholarship across the spectrum of difference during this critical time. I am also thankful for the support from the Center for the Humanities' "Lost and Found: The CUNY Poetics Document Initiative," as well as internship positions from the Center for the Study of Women and the MA Program in Women’s and Gender Studies at The Graduate Center. I am excited for this important project and the ways to use it to further archive histories, voices, public memory, intellectual study, community work, creativity, civic engagement, and social justice.

**Brianne Waychoff**: I am thrilled and humbled to take on this role. I admire the institutions that we are working with to fund operations and the work of the *Feminist Press*. I am also excited to work with Dr. Washburn in a formal setting. In addition to the important points Dr. Washburn raises, such as archiving genealogies, it is particularly significant for me to take on a more curatorial role than authorial.
Brianne Waychoff (continued): I am excited at the opportunity to create space for the voices of others not often heard in academe. I recognize at this point in my career and life as a feminist, that my voice should not be the loudest in the room. Having this opportunity to include branches on this genealogical tree that have been marginalized in academia is particularly important right now. Working at a community college has shifted my perspective as an educator, scholar, activist, and artist. I think this perspective will expand the ways we think about issues we want to address like public memory, intellectual study, social justice, all of those things Dr. Washburn mentions. It is also significant that so many different groups came together to keep this journal at a public institution. Having the journal supported by two CUNY community colleges is significant.

As Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies faculty at community colleges, we often occupy a liminal space. We find ourselves frequently explaining ourselves to others: to our administrators we must justify the existence of our programs and to the institution that is higher education in this country we are constantly explaining that we are indeed a “real” college and we do indeed do scholarship. This journal is important to the discipline of Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies; we hope to keep that tradition. At this moment, it becomes even more important to have programs and publications that work to dismantle structural inequities and empower the voices of the most marginalized.


Women’s Studies Quarterly (WSQ) website, https://www.feministpress.org/wsq
Audience member asking Dr. Marisa Solomon a question during her talk, “Waste as an Afterlife of Slavery: Black Disposability and the Plantation Logic of Cleaning.”