

HSPS Tripos 2017-2018

Part II

SOC10: Sociology of Gender

Paper Guide

UPDATED: 20/09/2017

Course Organiser and Supervision Coordinator

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Lecturers

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Dr Lucy van de Wiel, lvdw2@cam.ac.uk

Lecture Time and Location

Wednesdays, 14:00-16:00

Sociology Seminar Room, Free School Lane (Lectures 1-8)

Room E, 17 Mill Lane (Lectures 9-14, Lecture 16 and Revision Session)

Room G, 17 Mill Lane (Lecture 15)

Paper Details

Aims and Objectives

- o To introduce key concepts and debates in the sociology of gender
- o To develop familiarity with the intersectional analysis of race, class, gender and sexuality
- o To improve critical skills of reading, writing and argumentation

Teaching Format

The course will be taught in 16 two-hour lectures in the Michaelmas and Lent terms, followed by a revision session in the Easter term. The lectures are designed to be interactive and require pre-preparation of assigned readings: an hour lecture is followed by questions, discussion and careful examination of assigned texts. There will be a strong emphasis on seminar-style discussion and participation from all students is expected throughout the year.

Throughout the year, students are expected to attend at least six supervisions, for which they need to write a minimum of four short essays addressing the supervision essay questions listed in this paper guide. Supervisions will take place in small groups, with supervisors assigned to specific lectures rather than particular students. Supervisions will be arranged at the beginning of each term.

Mode of Assessment

The paper will be examined by a three-hour exam at the end of the year, in which students must answer three questions from an undivided paper.

Student Feedback

Student feedback will be collected via hard-copy anonymous questionnaires distributed at the end of the Michaelmas and Lent terms.

Lecture Outline

Michaelmas Term 2017

Lecture 1. Introduction: What is the Sociology of Gender? (11 October, Professor Franklin)

Lecture 2. The UN Decade and Global Feminism (18 October, Professor Franklin)

Lecture 3. Black Feminism (25 October, Professor Ahmed)

Lecture 4. Intersectionality and Feminist Research (1 November, Professor Ahmed)

Lecture 5. Intersectionality and Lived Experience (8 November, Professor Ahmed)

Lecture 6. Gender, Migration and the Global Care Chains (15 November, Dr Smietana)

Lecture 7. Gender, Nature and the Environment (22 November, Dr Dow)

Lecture 8. Cyborg Feminism (29 November, Dr Merleau-Ponty)

Lent Term 2018

Lecture 9. Medicine, Science and the Gendered Body (24 January, Dr Merleau-Ponty)

Lecture 10. Gender and Reproductive Technologies (31 January, Dr Smietana)

Lecture 11. Masculinity (7 February, Dr Pralat)

Lecture 12. Sexuality (14 February, Dr Pralat)

Lecture 13. Queer and Trans (21 February, Dr Smietana)

Lecture 14. Reproductive Politics (28 February, Professor Franklin)

Lecture 15. Fertility (7 March, Dr van de Wiel)

Lecture 16. Gender, Emotions and Feminism (14 March, Dr Page)

Easter Term 2018

Course Review and Revision Session (9 May, Dr Pralat)

General Background Reading

- Ahmed, Sara 2016 *Living a Feminist Life* Duke University Press
- Barrett, Michele 1980/2014 *Women's Oppression Today: The Marxist/Feminist Encounter* Polity/Verso
- Collins, Patricia Hill and Bilge, Sirma 2016 *Intersectionality* Polity
- Davis, Angela 1990 *Women, Culture and Politics* Vintage
- Ehrenreich, Barbara and Hochschild, Arlie Russell 2003 *Global Woman: Nannies, Maids, and Sex Workers in the New Economy* Henry Holt
- Franklin, Sarah (ed) 1996 *The Sociology of Gender* Edward Elgar
- Franklin, Sarah (ed) 2016 *Before and After Gender: Sexual Mythologies in Everyday Life*, by Marilyn Strathern (with an Afterword by Judith Butler) Hau
- Guillaumin, Colette 1995 *Racism, Sexism, Power and Ideology* Routledge
- Haraway, Donna 1991 *Simians, Cyborgs, and Women: The Reinvention of Nature* Free Association Books
- Mitter, Swasti 1986 *Common Fate, Common Bond: Women in the Global Economy* Pluto
- Oakley, Ann 2002 *Gender on Planet Earth* Polity
- Oakley, Ann 2005 *The Ann Oakley Reader: Gender, Women and Social Science* Policy Press
- Pateman, Carole 1988 *The Sexual Contract* Stanford University Press
- Sydie, Rosalind Ann 1987 *Natural Women, Cultured Men: A Feminist Perspective on Sociological Theory* Methuen

Lecture Details

Michaelmas Term 2017

Lecture 1. Introduction: What is the Sociology of Gender?

Professor Sarah Franklin

This lecture introduces the sociology of gender from within and outside of the discipline, and from the 1970s until the present, with reference to the rise of two key concepts within gender theory: 'intersectionality' and 'trans'. On the one hand, a struggle for feminist theory has been to challenge existing sociological concepts, such as 'political economy', 'historical materialism' and 'the family', in order to take account of the forms of power, inequality and experience they often exclude. At the same time feminists have attempted to develop new theories based on the intersections between gender, race and class oppressions, developing alternative concepts such as 'capitalist-patriarchy', 'cyborg feminism' or 'sexual politics' – to name but a few. Amidst the current political climate of uncertainty about both established norms of social progress and effective means of political participation, new combinations of older and more recent concepts from gender theory and feminist scholarship are the subject of experimentation both within sociology and well beyond the academy. Since the goal of the series of lectures designed for this paper is to increase your ability to understand, compare, critically assess, and use the various concepts, case studies, readings and arguments that inform contemporary sociological theories of gender, we begin with two key concepts that will recur across the paper as a whole, whilst also looking back at their origins.

Core Reading

Firestone, Shulamith 1970 *The Dialectic of Sex: The Case for Feminist Revolution*. New York: William Morrow

Davis, Angela 1981 *Women, Race and Class*. New York: Vintage

Supervision Essay Question

How has the distinction between sex and gender changed since the 1970s?

Lecture 2. The UN Decade and Global Feminism

Professor Sarah Franklin

This lecture examines the emergence of a global feminist movement in the 1970s in the context of the UN Decade for Women, and focuses on how the concept of gender evolved and changed as a result of international feminist dialogue and conflict over the category 'women'. We look both at the practical achievements of the UN Decade, and the lessons learned about 'the politics of difference' and what has later come to be known as 'intersectionality'. We also consider how the sexual division of labor intersects with the international division of labour, and how these structural changes led to what became known as the 'new world order'.

Core Reading

- Mair, Lucille 1984 *International Women's Decade: a Balance Sheet*. New Delhi: Centre for Women and Development
- Zinsser, Judith P. 2002 'From Mexico to Copenhagen to Nairobi: The United Nations Decade for Women, 1975-1985' *Journal of World History* 13:1:139-168

Background Reading

- Bhavnani, Kum-Kum and Foran, John 2007 'Feminist Futures: from dystopia to eutopia?' *Futures* 40:4:319-328
- Boserup, Esther 1970 *Woman's Role in Economic Development* Routledge
- DeKoven, Marianne, ed. 2001 *Feminist Locations: global and local, theory and practice*, New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press.
- Tinker, Irene and Jaquette, Jane 1987 '[UN Decade for Women: it's impact and legacy](#)' *World Development* 15:3:419-427
- Pietila, H, Vickers, J. 1996 *Making Women Matter: the role of the UN*, London: Zed Press

Supervision Essay Questions

- In what ways can Lucille Mair's account of the UN Decade for Women be described as 'intersectional'?
- How are the sexual division of labour and the international division of labour linked in the context of globalization?

Lecture 3. Black Feminism

Professor Sara Ahmed

In 1989 Kimberlé Crenshaw published an article in which she coined the term 'intersectionality' to describe the complex and messy ways that the categories of race and gender work together. However the Black feminist enactment of a politics of intersectionality preceded the use of the term. In this lecture we will take as a starting point Sojourner Truth's famous speech, 'Ain't I a Woman,' delivered in 1851 at the Women's Convention in Okran, Ohio. This lecture will explore how Truth's speech enacted a politics of intersectionality; how Truth challenged the use of woman as a unitary category; showed the gendered nature of slavery, and made explicit how bodies are differently shaped by labour and exploitation. We will consider how the question of 'who speaks?' remains an important question for feminist activists today and reflect on the significance of how a concept such as intersectionality came out of a struggle for justice. The lecture will also attend to the emergence of Black British feminism. (Sojourner Truth's speech is available online [here](#). You can hear Alice Walker reading the speech [here](#).)

Core Reading

- Collins, Patricia Hills (1998). 'Searching for Sojourner Truth: Towards a History of Empowerment,' in *Fighting Words: Black Women and the Search for Justice*. University of Minnesota Press.
- Avtar Brah and Ann Phoenix (2004). 'Ain't I a Woman? Revisiting Intersectionality,' *Journal of International Women's Studies*, 5, 3.

Background Reading

- Ahmed, Sara (2017). 'Willfulness and Feminist Subjectivity' in *Living a Feminist Life*. Duke University Press.
- Amos, Valerie, Gail Lewis, Amina Mama and Pratibha Parmar (eds) (1984). 'Many Voices, One Chant: Black Feminist Perspectives,' *Feminist Review*, 17, 1-2.
- Bilge, Sirma (2013). 'Intersectionality Undone: Saving Intersectionality from Feminist Intersectionality Studies,' *Du Bois Review: Social Science Research on Race*, 10(2): 405-424.
- Brewer, Rose M. (1993). 'Theorizing Race, Class and Gender: The New Scholarship of Black Feminist Intellectuals and Black Female Labor' in Stanlie Myrise James and Abena P. A. Busia (eds), *Theorizing Black Feminisms: The Visionary Pragmatism of Black Women*. London: Routledge. pp.13-30.
- Bryan, Beverley et al (1985). *Heart of the Race: Black Women's Lives in Britain*. Virago Paperback edition.
- Collins, Patricia Hill (2000). *Black Feminist Thought: Knowledge, Consciousness and the Politics of Empowerment*, 2nd edition. New York: Routledge.
- Collins, Patricia Hill and Sirma Bilge (2016). *Intersectionality*. Wiley.
- Crenshaw, Kimberlé W. (1989). 'Demarginalizing the Intersection of Race and Sex: A Black Feminist Politics of Antidiscrimination Doctrine, Feminist Theory and AntiRacist Politics,' *University of Chicago Legal Forum*. pp. 139-167.
- Davis, Angela [1989] (1998). *Blues Legacies and Black Feminism: Gertrude 'Ma' Rainey, Bessie Smith and Billie Holiday*. New York: Vintage Books Edition.
- [1981] (1983). *Women, Race and Class*. New York: Vintage Books Edition.
- Gunaratnam, Yasmin (ed) (2016). 'Black British Feminism,' *Feminist Review*, 108(1).
- hooks, bell (1988). *Talking Back: Thinking Feminism, Thinking Black*. Boston: South End Press.
- (1987). *Ain't I a Woman: Black Women and Feminism*. Pluto Press.
- Orde, Audre (1984). *Sister Outsider: Essays and Speeches*, Trumansburg: The Crossing Press.
- Mirza, Heidi (1997) (ed). *Black British Feminism*. London: Routledge.

Supervision Essay Questions

- How have black feminists challenged the unitary nature of the category of 'woman'?
- Why is it significant that a concept such as 'intersectionality' came out of a political struggle for emancipation?

Lecture 4. Intersectionality and Feminist Research

Professor Sara Ahmed

In this session we begin with postcolonial feminist critiques of western feminism as a way of considering the implications of intersectionality for doing feminist research. We start with Chandra Talpade Mohanty's powerful investigation of how feminist scholarship created a homogenous view of the third world woman as an oppressed other. We explore how postcolonial feminists have tried to generate knowledge differently by attending to the politics of location; by writing about othering as a social process (including writing from the point of

view of those who have been made other) and by showing how knowledge is shaped by relations of power and privilege. We will also reflect on how postcolonial feminist critiques can be mobilised in the project of 'decolonizing the university.'

Core Reading

- Mohanty, Chandra (1984). 'Under Western Eyes: Feminist Scholarship and Colonial Discourse,' *boundary 2*. Volume 12, 3.
- Frankenberg, Ruth and Lata Mani (1993). 'Crosscurrents, Crosstalk: Race, 'Post-Coloniality' and the Politics of Location,' *Cultural Studies*, 7(2): 292-310.

Background Reading

- Ahmed, Sara (2000). 'Knowing Strangers' in *Strange Encounters: Embodied Others in* Routledge, London.
- Alexander, Jacqui M. (2005). *Pedagogies of Crossing: Meditations on Feminism, Sexual Politics, Memory and the Sacred*. Duke University Press.
- Amos, Valerie and Pratibha Parmar (1984). 'Challenging Imperial Feminism,' *Feminist Review*, p. 3-19.
- Gunaratnam, Yasmin (2003). *Researching Race and Ethnicity: Methods, Knowledge, Power*. Sage.
- McClaren, Margaret M. (2017). *Decolonizing Feminism: Transnational Feminism and Globalization*. Rowman and Littlefield International.
- Mohanty, Chandra Talpade (2003). *Feminism Without Borders: Decolonizing Theory, Practicing Solidarity*. Durham: Duke University Press.
- Mohanty, Chandra Talpade, Ann Russo, Lourdes Torres (ed). (1991). *Third World Women and the Politics of Feminism*. Indiana University Press.
- Moreton-Robinson, Aileen (2000). *Talkin up to the White Woman: Aboriginal Women and Feminism*. University of Queensland Press.
- Sandoval, Chela (2000). *Methodology of the Oppressed*. University of Minnesota Press.
- Smith Linda Tuhiwai (2012). *Decolonizing Methodologies: Research and Indigenous Peoples*. Zed Books.
- Spivak, Gayatri Chakravorty (1988). 'Can the Subaltern Speak?' in *Marxism and the Interpretation of Culture*. New York: Routledge.
- Visweswaran, Kamala (1994). *Fictions of Feminist Ethnography*. University of Minnesota Press.

Supervision Essay Questions

- How has feminist scholarship been implicated in colonial discourse?
How would you decolonize feminism?

Lecture 5. Intersectionality and Lived Experience

Professor Sara Ahmed

In this session we explore how intersectionality can provide a lens with which to capture the messiness of lived experience. We consider how black feminist and feminist of colour scholarship draws on personal testimony to complicate the stability of identity. We reflect on

questions of political consciousness and how feminist knowledge can allow us to revisit past experiences and give problems their names. We also consider how social structures can shape individual experiences in mediated and affective ways.

Core Reading

Lorde, Audre (1984). 'Eye to Eye: Black Women, Hatred and Anger', *Sister Outsider*. New York: Crossing Press.

Ahmed, Sara (2017). 'Feminism is Sensational' in *Living a Feminist Life*. Duke University Press.

Background Reading

Ang, Ien (2001). *On Not Speaking Chinese: Living Between Asia and the West*.

Ahmed, Sara (2006). 'The Orient and Other Others', *Queer Phenomenology*. Duke University Press.

Anzaldúa, Gloria (1999) [1987]. *Borderlands, La Frontera: The New Mestiza*. San Francisco: Aunt Lute Books.

Bhattacharyya, Gargi (1998). *Tales of Dark Skinned Women: Race, Gender and Global Culture*. UCL Press.

Brah, Avtar (1996). *Cartographies of Diaspora: Contesting Identities*. London: Routledge.
----- (1999). 'Scent of Memory,' *Feminist Review*, 61: 4-26.

Gumbs, Alexis Pauline (2016). *Spill: Scenes of Black Feminist Fugivity*. Duke University Press.

Ifegwunigwe, Jayne O (1999). *Scattered belongings: cultural paradoxes of 'race', nation and gender*. London: Routledge.

Lewis, Gail (2009). 'Birthing Racial Difference: Conversations with my Mother and Others,' *Studies in the Maternal*, 1,1: 1-21.

Morago, Cherrie and Gloria Anzaldúa (eds). (1981). *A Bridge Called by Back: Writings by Radical Women of Colour*. Watertown: Persephone Press.

Moreno Figueroa, MG (2013) 'Don't you see' in Casanova, Eryn & Jafar, Ashfan (eds.), *Bodies without Borders: Migrating Discourses of Embodiment*, New York: Palgrave Macmillan, pp. 45-49.

Sharpe, Christina (2016). *In the Wake: On Blackness and Being*. Duke University Press.

Walker, Alice (2005). *In Search of Our Mothers Gardens*. Phoenix, New Edition.

Supervision Essay Questions

How and why have black feminists and feminists of colour drawn on personal experience to generate knowledge?

What are some of the challenges in acquiring a feminist consciousness of sexism and racism?

Lecture 6. Gender, Migration and Global Care Chains

Dr Marcin Smietana

In this lecture we discuss the gendered character of contemporary global flows of labour. We take the examples of stratified reproduction (Colen 1995) and global care chains (Ehrenreich

& Hochschild 2003), within which 'some categories of people are empowered to nurture and reproduce, while others are disempowered'. We also look at contemporary data on gender and migrant labour in the UK. In the second part of the lecture, we discuss transnational surrogacy as a specific case of stratified reproduction. In doing this we take the perspective of the sociology of labour and gift/commodity exchange (Rudrappa 2015). We ask how the interests of the vulnerable could be protected, and how a socially equitable division of labour could be possible.

Core Reading

- Colen, Shellee. 1995. 'Stratified reproduction and West Indian childcare workers and employers in New York'. In: Ginsburg, Faye & Rapp, Rayna (eds.) *Conceiving the New World Order: The Global Politics of Reproduction*, Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press, pp. 78-102.
- McDowell, Linda, Batnitzky, Adina & Dyear, Sarah. 2012. 'Global flows and local labour markets: Precarious employment and migrant workers in the UK'. In: Scott, Jacquie, Dex, Shirley & Plagnol, Anke. (eds.) *Gendered Lives: Changing Gender Inequalities in Production and Reproduction*. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar.
- Rudrappa, Sharmila. 2015. *Discounted Life: The Price of Global Surrogacy in India*. New York and London: New York University Press. (in particular Chapter 3 'The many meanings of surrogacy,' pp. 66-80, and Chapter 7 'Surrogacy as a gift,' pp. 143-160)

Background Reading

- Boris, Eileen & Parreñas, Rhacel. 2010. *Intimate Labors: Cultures, Technologies, and the Politics of Care*. Stanford: Stanford University Press.
- Ehrenreich, Barbara & Hochschild, Arlie. (eds.) 2003. *Global Women: Nannies, Maids and Sex Workers in the New Economy*. London: Granta Books.
- Folbre, Nancy. 2009. 'Reforming Care'. In: Gornick, Janet & Meyers, Marcia (eds.) *The Real Utopias Project: Gender Equality, Transforming Family Division of Labour*. London: Verso.
- Horse, Kirsty. 2015. [Surrogacy in the UK: Myth Busting and Reform: Report of the Surrogacy UK Working Group on Surrogacy Law Reform](#). Surrogacy UK.
- Jacobson, Heather. 2016. *Labor of Love: Gestational Surrogacy and the Work of Making Babies*. New Brunswick, New Jersey and London: Rutgers University Press.
- Smietana, Marcin (2017). Affective de-commodifying, economic de-kinning: Surrogates' and gay fathers' narratives in U.S. surrogacy. *Sociological Research Online* 22(2): 2.

Supervision Essay Questions

- Is care under-valued?
Is 'ethical surrogacy' possible?

Lecture 7. Gender, Nature and the Environment

Dr Katie Dow

As previous lectures have shown, differences between women and men are often conceptualised in terms of an assumed binary difference between nature and culture.

Historically, women, along with other marginalised members of societies, have often been thought of as more subject to animalistic or 'natural' urges – both popularly and in academic research. In this lecture we will take this idea and extend it in relation to current concerns about humans' relationships to the natural world and particularly concerns about human effects on the environment. In this lecture, we will consider what humans' relationships with the natural world can tell us about our own ideas of gender, as well as looking critically at how gender informs environmentalist campaigning.

Core Reading

Sturgeon, Noël. 2010. Penguin Family Values: The Nature of Planetary Environmental Reproductive Justice. In *Queer Ecologies: Sex, Nature, Politics, Desire*, Catriona Mortimer-Sandilands and Bruce Erickson, eds. Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press [PDF will be provided]

Background Reading

- di Chiro, Giovanna. 2010. "Polluted Politics? Confronting Toxic Discourse, Sex Panic and Eco-Normativity," In *Queer Ecologies: Sex, Nature, Politics, Desire*, Catriona Mortimer-Sandilands and Bruce Erickson, eds. Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press
- Dow, Katharine. 2016. 'What Gets Left Behind for Future Generations? Reproduction and the Environment in Spey Bay, Scotland', *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute* 22(3): 653-669.
- Friese, Carrie 2013. *Cloning Wild Life: Zoos, Captivity, and the Future of Endangered Animals*. NYU Press
- Haraway, Donna. 1991. *Simians, Cyborgs, and Women: The Reinvention of Nature*. London: Free Association Books.
- Ortner, Sherry B. 1974. 'Is Female to Male as Nature is to Culture?', *Feminist Studies* 1(2): pp. 5-31
- Roberts, Celia. 2003. 'Drowning in a Sea of Estrogens: Sex Hormones, Sexual Reproduction and Sex'. *Sexualities* 2(6): 195-213.
- Seager, Joni. 2003. 'Rachel Carson Died of Breast Cancer: The Coming of Age of Feminist Environmentalism'. *Signs* 28(3): pp. 945-972
- Strathern, Marilyn, 'No Nature, No Culture: The Hagen Case', ch. 8 in MacCormack, Carol and Marilyn Strathern, eds., (1981) *Nature, Culture and Gender*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press
- Taylor, Dorceta. 2011. 'The Evolution of Environmental Justice Activism, Research, and Scholarship'. *Environmental Practice* 13(4), pp. 280-301

Supervision Essay Questions

(How) does the concept of a binary opposition between nature and culture help us to understand the relationship between gender and the environment?

Do you agree with Noël Sturgeon that we must strive for environmental reproductive justice in order to tackle future challenges such as climate change?

Lecture 8. Cyborg Feminism

Dr Noémie Merleau-Ponty

This lecture examines the arguments about gender, science and biology offered by Donna Haraway in a series of publications from the mid-1970s onward, in which the relationship of nature to technology figures centrally. Our specific focus will be on Haraway's signature 1985 publication 'A Manifesto for Cyborgs', and we will examine in detail her claim that she 'would rather be a cyborg than a goddess'.

Core Reading

Haraway, Donna 1991 'A Cyborg Manifesto: science, technology and socialist feminism in the late twentieth century' in *Simians, Cyborgs and Women: the reinvention of nature*, London: Routledge, pp. 149-182.

Background Reading

- Haraway, Donna 1989 *Primate Visions: gender, race and nature in the world of modern science*, New York: Routledge
- Haraway, Donna. 1991. *Simians, Cyborgs, and Women: The Reinvention of Nature*. London: Free Association Books
- Haraway, Donna 1997 *Modest Witness @ Second Millennium: FemaleMan meets OncoMouse*, New York: Routledge
- Haraway, Donna 2004 *The Haraway Reader*, New York: Routledge
- Haraway, Donna 2008 *When Species Meet*, Minneapolis, MN:University of Minnesota Press
- Schneider, Joseph 2005 *Donna Haraway: live theory*, New York: Continuum
- Goodeve, Thyrsa Nichols 2005 *How Like a Leaf: an interview with Donna Haraway*, New York: Routledge
- Franklin, Sarah, Lury, Celia and Stacey, Jackie 2000 *Global Nature, Global Culture*, London: Sage

Supervision Essay Questions

- Why would Haraway 'rather be a cyborg than a Goddess' and to whom is this comment addressed?
- How does Haraway envision the relationship between nature and technology in 'A Cyborg Manifesto'?

Lent Term 2018

Lecture 9. Medicine, Science and the Gendered Body

Dr Noémie Merleau-Ponty

This lecture examines how biology and medicine are knowledge making practices of sex and gender. We will explore how biomedical approaches shape understandings and interventions on bodies and their reproductive organs and the extent of which this is rooted in the idea that science deals with facts. We will also explore the intertwining of these approaches with gendered stereotypes of male and female roles in society. An underlying logic of 'nature and culture' will be delineated at this occasion, as well as its intersections

with the notion of 'race'. Finally, the lecture will ask what an understanding of biology as technology do to sex and gender norms.

Core Reading

- Fausto-Sterling, Anne. 2000. *Sexing the Body: Gender Politics and the Construction of Sexuality*. New York: Basic Books. (especially chapter 1: Dueling Dualisms)
- Jordan-Young, Rebecca M. 2010. *Brain Storm: The Flaws in the Science of Sex Differences*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press. (especially chapter 10: Trading Essence for Potential)
- Martin, Emily. 1987. *The Woman in the Body: A cultural analysis of reproduction*. Boston: Beacon Press. (especially chapter 3: Medical Metaphors of Women's Bodies: Menstruation and Menopause and chapter 6: Menstruation, Work and Class)

Background Reading

- Fausto-Sterling, Anne. 1995. 'Gender, Race, and Nation: The Comparative Anatomy of "Hottentot" Women in Europe, 1815-1817' in Jennifer Terry and Jacqueline Urla, eds., *Deviant Bodies*. Bloomington and Indianapolis: Indiana University Press, 19-48.
- de Beauvoir, Simone. 1997 [1949]. 'Biological Data', ch.1 In *The Second Sex*. London: Vintage.
- Haraway, Donna. 1991. 'Situated Knowledges', ch. 9 in *Simians, Cyborgs, and Women: The Reinvention of Nature*. London: Free Association Books (pp. 183-209).
- Keller, Evelyn Fox. 1987. 'The gender/science system: or is sex to gender as nature is to science?' *Hypatia* 2(3): pp 37-49.
- Keller, Evelyn Fox., *A feeling for the organism: the life and work of Barbara McClintock*. San Francisco: W.H. Freeman, c1983
- Laqueur, Thomas. 1990 *Making Sex: Body and Gender from the Greeks to Freud*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1990.
- Löwy Ilana, Sex on a Slide: Antoine Lacassagne and the Search for a Microscopic Definition of Masculinity and Femininity, *History and Philosophy of the Life Sciences*, Vol. 35, No. 3, Microscope Slides
- Martin, Emily.1991. 'The Egg and the Sperm: How Science has Constructed a Romance Based on Stereotypical Male-Female Roles' *Signs* 16(3): pp 485-501.
- Stepan, Nancy Leys. 1986. Race and Gender: The Role of Analogy in Science. *Isis*, Vol. 77, No. 2 (Jun.), pp. 261-277
- Thompson, Charis, 2001, « Strategic Naturalizing: Kinship in an Infertility Clinic » dans Franklin S. et McKinnon S., *Relative values. Reconfiguring Kinship Studies*, p. 175-202.

Supervision Essay Questions

- How is the male/female binary reproduced through scientific research and/or medical treatment?
- What possibilities does science open or foreclose for bodies/identities that do not fit the male-female binary?
- What can a feminist approach to science do?

Lecture 10. Gender and Reproductive Technologies

Dr Marcin Smietana

This lecture explores how intersectional gender hierarchies are reproduced and challenged through new reproductive technologies, e.g. IVF, gamete donation, surrogacy. We discuss the 'ontological choreography' (Thompson 2005) through which different aspects of reproduction are orchestrated so as to create babies and parents considered normal and natural. In this process, we ask if the old milestones of reproduction, such as biology, continue to be relevant at all and how. Through the cases of egg agencies and sperm banks (Almeling 2007), we also observe the gendered expectations of altruism in reproductive labour. We contrast these cultural narratives with insights in the subjective experience of 'living IVF' (Franklin 1997) and living reproduction, in an exploration of multiple and often gendered meanings it may imply for both intended parents and their 'reproductive collaborators'.

Core Reading

- Almeling, Rene. 2007. Selling genes, selling gender: Egg agencies, sperm banks, and the medical market in genetic material. *American Sociological Review* 72(3): 319-340.
- Franklin, Sarah. 1997. *Embodied Progress: A Cultural Account of Assisted Conception*. London & New York: Routledge. (in particular Chapter 4: 'It just takes over': IVF as a 'way of life,' pp. 131-167.)
- Thompson, Charis. 2005. *Making Parents: The Ontological Choreography of Reproductive Technologies*. Cambridge, MA; London: MIT Press. (in particular Chapter 5: 'Strategic Naturalizing: Kinship, Race and Ethnicity,' pp.145-178)

Background Reading

- Franklin, Sarah. 2013. *Biological Relatives: IVF, Stem Cells, and the Future of Kinship*. Durham and London: Duke University Press. (in particular Chapter 5: 'Living IVF,' pp. 185-220)
- Inhorn, Marcia. 2015. *Cosmopolitan Conceptions: IVF Sojourns in Global Dubai*. Durham: Duke University Press. (in particular Prologue and Introduction)
- Joffe, Carole & Reich, Jennifer. 2015. *Reproduction and Society: Interdisciplinary Readings*. New York and London: Routledge.
- Nahman, Michal. 2011. Reverse traffic: Intersecting inequalities in human egg donation. *Reproductive Biomedicine Online* 23, 626-634.
- Nordqvist, Petra. 2012. 'I don't want us to stand out more than we already do': Lesbian couples negotiating family connections in donor conception. *Sexualities* 15(5-6), 644-661.
- Roberts, Dorothy E. 2009. Race, Gender, and Genetic Technologies: A New Reproductive Dystopia? *Signs* 34(4): 783-804.
- Smietana, Marcin, Jennings, Sarah, Herbrand, Cathy & Golombok, Susan. 2014. Family relationships in gay father families. In: Freeman, Tabitha, Graham, Susanna, Ebtehaj, Fatemeh. & Richards, Martin. (eds.) *We Are Family? Perceptions of Relatedness in Assisted Conception Families*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp. 192-211.

Strathern, Marilyn. 1992. *Reproducing the Future: Anthropology, Kinship, and the New Reproductive Technologies*. Manchester: Manchester University Press.

Supervision Essay Questions

Do reproductive technologies reproduce or disrupt social hierarchies, e.g. ones of gender, race, class, sexuality...?

(How) does biology matter at all in the era of reproductive technologies?

Lecture 11. Masculinity

Dr Robert Pralat

This lecture will examine the development of masculinity studies and what this area of research has added to our understandings of gender. We will explore R. W. Connell's influential concept of 'hegemonic masculinity' and how it has been applied, critiqued and updated over the past thirty years. We will also discuss the relationships between men and feminism, and between masculinity and homophobia. By focusing on recent case studies, we will look at key empirical and theoretical questions that have concerned sociologists working in this field.

Core Reading

Connell, R. W. 1995/2005. *Masculinities*. Polity.

Kimmel, Michael S. 1994. Masculinity as homophobia: Fear, shame, and silence in the construction of gender identity. In H. Brod & M. Kaufman (eds), *Theorizing masculinities*. SAGE.

Background Reading

Barnes, Liberty W. 2014. *Conceiving masculinity: Male infertility, medicine, and identity*. Temple University Press.

Hearn, Jeff, and Connell, R. W., eds. 2005. *Handbook of studies on men and masculinities*. SAGE.

Edwards, Tim. 2006. *Cultures of masculinity*. Routledge.

Messner, Michael A., et al. 2015. *Some men: Feminist allies and the movement to end violence against women*. Oxford University Press.

Moore, Lisa J. 2007. *Sperm counts: Overcome by man's most precious fluid*. New York University Press.

Oudshoorn, Nelly. 2003. *The male pill: A biography of a technology in the making*. Duke University Press.

Pascoe, C. J. 2007. *Dude, you're a fag: Masculinity and sexuality in high school*. University of California Press.

Ruspini, Elisabetta, et al., eds. 2011. *Men and masculinities around the world: Transforming men's practices*. Palgrave Macmillan.

Segal, Lynne. 1990/2006. *Slow motion: Changing masculinities, changing men*. Rutgers University Press / Palgrave Macmillan.

Whitehead, Stephen M. 2002. *Men and masculinities: Key themes and new directions*. Polity.

Supervision Essay Questions

Is it useful to think of masculinity as 'hegemonic'?
How do masculinity scholars explain homophobia?

Lecture 12. Sexuality

Dr Robert Pralat

The focus of this lecture will be on the relationship between gender and sexuality. We will begin with the feminist debates of the 1980s and the ongoing tension between opposing violence and exploitation and defending pleasure and diversity. The lecture will then cover contributions to the sociological understanding of sexuality from lesbian and gay studies. We will ask how studying sexuality can contribute to gender equality and to social justice more broadly.

Core Reading

- Rich, Adrienne. 1980. Compulsory heterosexuality and lesbian existence. *Signs*, 5(4), 631-660.
- Rubin, Gayle. 1984. Thinking sex: Notes for a radical theory of the politics of sexuality. In C. Vance (ed.), *Pleasure and danger: Exploring female sexuality*. Routledge & Kegan Paul.

Background Reading

- Altman, Dennis. 2001. *Global sex*. University of Chicago Press.
- Fausto-Sterling, Anne. 2000. *Sexing the body: Gender politics and the construction of sexuality*. Basic Books.
- Ghaziani, Amin. 2017. *Sex cultures*. Polity.
- Moore, Mignon R. 2011. *Invisible families: Gay identities, relationships, and motherhood among Black women*. University of California Press.
- Plummer, Ken. 2015. *Cosmopolitan sexualities: Hope and the humanist imagination*. Polity.
- Rahman, Momin, and Jackson, Stevi. 2010. *Gender and sexuality: Sociological approaches*. Polity.
- Richardson, Diane. 2000. *Rethinking sexuality*. SAGE.
- Seidman, Steven, ed. 1996. *Queer theory/sociology*. Blackwell.
- Weeks, Jeffrey. 2016. *What is sexual history?* Polity.
- Williams, Christine L., and Stein, Arlene, eds. 2002. *Sexuality and gender*. Blackwell.

Supervisions Essay Questions

Is heterosexuality still 'compulsory' in the 21st century?
Is it possible to both facilitate sexual liberation and prevent sexual oppression?

Lecture 13. Queer and Trans

Dr Marcin Smietana

This lecture examines the rise of queer theory out of the work of Judith Butler and introduces the new concepts of gender, sex and sexuality arising in the context of queer and trans theory. We explore the idea of gender as both made and performative, and examine the recent contributions of trans theorists to feminist theory. In this lecture we also consider what is 'intersectional' about queer and trans identities and politics. We briefly introduce and map some of the key authors and issues in queer and trans theory today, and we discuss how that matters for feminist theory and politics as well as social analysis at large.

Core Reading

- Ahmed, Sara. 2016. Interview with Judith Butler. *Sexualities*, 19(4): 482-292.
- Stryker, Susan. 2007 'Transgender Feminism: queering the woman question' in Gillis, S., Howe, G. & Munford, R. (eds.) *Third Wave Feminism: a Critical Exploration*, London: Palgrave Macmillan, pp. 59-70.

Background Reading

- Ahmed, Sara. 2006. Orientations: Toward a queer phenomenology. *GLQ: A Journal of Lesbian and Gay Studies*, 12(4): 543-574.
- Ahmed, Sara. 2006. *Queer Phenomenology*, Durham, NC: Duke University Press.
- Butler, Judith. 1990. *Gender Trouble: Feminism and the Subversion of Identity*. New York, London: Routledge.
- De Lauretis, Teresa. 1991. *Queer Theory: Lesbian and Gay Sexualities*. Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press.
- Fuss, Diana (ed.) 1991. *Inside/Out. Lesbian Theories, Gay Theories*. New York: Routledge.
- Halperin, David. 2003. The Normalizing of Queer Theory. *Journal of Homosexuality* 45: 339-343.
- Muñoz, José Esteban. 1999. *Disidentifications: Queers of Color and the Performance of Politics*, Durham, NC: Duke University Press.
- Perreau, Bruno. 2016. *Queer Theory: the French Response*. Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press.
- Puar, Jasbir. 2007. *Terrorist Assemblages: Homonationalism in Queer Times*. Durham and London: Duke University Press.
- Rubin, Gayle. 2012. *Deviations: A Gayle Rubin Reader*. Durham, NC: Duke University Press.
- Sedgwick, Eve Kosofsky. 1990. *Epistemology of the Closet*, Durham: Duke University Press.
- Stryker, Susan & Whittle, Steven, eds. 2006. *The Transgender Studies Reader*. London: Taylor and Francis.
- Stacey, Judith. 2004. Marital suitors court social science spinsters: The unwittingly conservative effects of public sociology. *Social Problems*, 51(1): 131-45.
- Warner, Michael. 1993. *Fear of a Queer Planet: Queer Politics and Social Theory*, Minneapolis, MN: University of Minnesota Press.

Supervision Essay Questions

In what ways can Susan Stryker's transgender politics be understood as everyone's politics? How can queer critique of society matter in the age of gay marriage?

Lecture 14. Reproductive Politics

Professor Sarah Franklin

How do reproductive politics shape the outcomes of national elections? In what ways are reproductive politics driving geopolitical changes, such as the rise of alt-right populism, Brexit and the election of Donald Trump? Feminist sociologists have long considered these and related questions and this lecture examines in particular the role of abortion politics in the 1980s, which has many distinct parallels to today's debates about both migration in Europe and the new American isolationism. Helping us to connect these dots will be the extensive literature on the meanings of fetal personhood, fetal imagery and the strategic use of visual images of unborn life to simulate a sense of political endangerment and the need for militarised protection.

Core Reading

Petchesky, R. P. (1987) 'Foetal images: The power of visual culture in the politics of reproduction' in Michelle Stanworth (ed.) *Reproductive Technologies: gender, motherhood and medicine*, Cambridge: Polity, pp. 57-80.

Roberts, Dorothy 1993 'Racism and Patriarchy in the Meaning of Motherhood' *Journal of Gender and the Law* 1:1:1-38

Background Reading

Casper, Monica 1994 'At the margins of humanity: Fetal positions in science and medicine', *Science, Technology & Human Values* 19: 307-23

Franklin Sarah 2000 'Life Itself' in Sarah Franklin, Celia Lury and Jackie Stacey (eds) *Global Nature, Global Culture* London: Sage

Ginsburg, Faye 1998 *Contested Lives: The Abortion Debate in an American Community* Berkeley: University of California Press

Luker, Kristen (1984) *Abortion and the Politics of Motherhood* Berkeley: University of California Press

McBride Stetson, D. (ed) 2001 *Abortion Politics, Women's Movements and the Democratic State* Oxford: Oxford University Press

Mitchell, Lisa 2001 *Baby's First Picture: Ultrasound and the Politics of Fetal Subjects* Toronto: University of Toronto Press, esp. pp. 169 – 200. 'Reconnections: Women, Ultrasound and Reproductive Politics'

Petchesky, Rosalind 1985 *Abortion and Woman's Choice; The Sate, Sexuality, and Reproductive Freedom* Boston: Northeastern University Press.

Taylor, J.S. (2000) 'Of Sonograms and Baby Prams: Prenatal Diagnosis, Pregnancy and Consumption', *Feminist Studies* 26(2): pp. 391 - 418

Supervision Essay Question

How does Rosalind Petchesky argue that fetal imagery is connected to narratives of state power and military force?

Lecture 15. Fertility

Dr Lucy van de Wiel

What does it mean to be fertile? When and how do we stop being fertile? What kind of practices are required to ensure fertility or avoid its unintended outcomes? How are these practices gendered? These are questions that have engaged people throughout history, but are currently being reconsidered with the advent of a host of new reproductive technologies including IVF, egg freezing and gamete donation. In this lecture we will explore how assisted reproduction is both informed by and reconfigures conceptualisations and practices of fertility. More specifically, we will consider the changing relation between fertility and infertility in the context of technologies such as egg freezing, fertility testing and cycle tracking.

As part of our exploration of 21st-century models of fertility, it is important to recognise that the reproductive technologies we are concerned with are embedded in a growing, globalised fertility industry. Therefore this lecture will also address the political economy of reproduction and its significance within the broader privatisation of health care in the UK, the US and beyond. We will look into the fertility industry as a framing mechanism for the experience of assisted reproduction today. Through case studies of the debt financing of fertility treatment, platformisation of fertility and gamete donation, we will discuss the intersection of fertility with other industries.

Core Reading

- Ikemoto, Lisa C. 2009. "Eggs as Capital: Human Egg Procurement in the Fertility Industry and the Stem Cell Research Enterprise." *Signs* 34 (4): 763–81.
- Jackson, Emily. 2017. "The Ambiguities of 'Social' Egg Freezing and the Challenges of Informed Consent." *BioSocieties*, April, 1–20.

Background Reading

- Jacoby, Melissa B. 2009. "Credit for Motherhood." *North Carolina Law Review* 88: 1715–38.
- Hawkins, Jim. 2009. "Doctors as Bankers: Evidence from Fertility Markets." *Tulane Law Review* 84 (July): 841–98.
- Cooper, Melinda E. 2008. *Life As Surplus: Biotechnology and Capitalism in the Neoliberal Era*. Seattle: University of Washington Press.
- Cooper, Melinda, and Catherine Waldby. 2014. *Clinical Labor: Tissue Donors and Research Subjects in the Global Bioeconomy*. Durham: Duke University Press Books.
- Thompson, Charis. 2013. *Good Science: The Ethical Choreography of Stem Cell Research*. Cambridge, MA; London: MIT Press.
- Van de Wiel, Lucy. 2015. "Freezing in Anticipation: Eggs for Later." *Women's Studies International Forum*. 53 (November-December): 119-128.

Supervision Essay Questions

- How has the introduction of egg freezing changed what it means to be fertile?
- What ideas about fertility are reflected in controversies surrounding this reproductive technology?

Lecture 16. Gender, Emotions and Feminism

Dr Tiffany Page

This lecture looks at emotions in relation to gender and feminism. Social scientists have shown that emotions are not simple biophysical responses to certain phenomena, but social processes that vary across time and place. This is particularly important to bear in mind in relation to the sociology of gender when we consider the prominent place that emotions often have in descriptions of differences between women and men, but also in that gendered thinking about emotions often plays out in how we think about truth and knowledge. As well as looking at the social life of emotions, this lecture will focus on two specific emotions, happiness and anger, and how these are implicated in feminist scholarship and activism.

Core Reading

Ahmed, Sara. 2004. *The Cultural Politics of Emotion*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press (or 2nd ed., published 2012, Routledge)
Hochschild, Arlie R. 1983, 2nd ed. 2003. *The Managed Heart: Commercialisation of Human Feeling*. London: University of California Press.

Background Reading

Ahmed, Sara. 2010. 'Killing Joy: Feminism and the History of Happiness', *Signs* 35(3): pp.571-594.
Friedan, Betty. 1963. *The Feminine Mystique*, especially ch. 2 'The Happy Housewife Heroine', New York: W.W. Norton.
Gould, Deborah. 2002. 'Life During Wartime: Emotions and the Development of ACT UP', *Mobilization: An International Journal* 7(2): pp.177-200. See also: Interview: AIDS Activism and the Politics of Emotion, Upping the Anti No. 8, <http://uppingtheanti.org/journal/article/08-aids-activism-and-the-politics-of-emotion/>
Hercus, Cheryl. 1999. 'Identity, Emotion & Feminist Collective Action', *Gender and Society* 13(1), Special Issue: Gender and Social Movements: pp.34-55
Jasper, James M. 2011. 'Emotions and Social Movements: Twenty Years of Theory and Research', *Annual Review of Sociology* 37(14): pp.14.1-14.19.
hooks, bell. 2000. *Feminism is for Everybody: Passionate Politics*. Cambridge, MA: South End Press.
Lorde, Audre. 1981. '[The Uses of Anger: Women Responding to Racism](#)', printed in (2007) *Sister Outsider: Essays & Speeches*, Berkeley: Crossing Press.
Lutz, Catherine A. 2002. 'Emotions and Feminist Theories' *Querelles: Jahrbuch fur Frauenforschung*. Stuttgart: Verlag J.B. Metzler.
Reger, Jo. 2004. Organizational 'Emotion Work' through Consciousness-Raising: An Analysis of a Feminist Organization, *Qualitative Sociology* 27(2): pp. 205-222.
Srivastava, Sarita. 2005. "'You're Calling me a Racist?": The Moral and Emotional Regulation of Antiracism and Feminism', *Signs* 31(1): pp.29-62.
Thoits, Peggy. 1989. 'The Sociology of Emotions', *Annual Review of Sociology*, vol. 15 pp. 317-342.

Supervision Essay Questions

Why might feminists be angry?

What is the relationship between gender and happiness?