

# Minnesota State University Moorhead

## WS 100: Women Today: Contemporary Women's Issues

### A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours/Week: 3

Lab Hours/Week: 0

OJT Hours/Week: \*.\*

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: Goal 07 - Human Diversity, Goal 06 - Humanities/Fine Arts

This course will examine current issues affecting women in American Society. It also addresses pertinent topics related to gender, diversity and systems of inequality. Topics include women and work, family, law and social policy, gender and mass media, violence against women, sexuality and the body, and women's health. Core class for Women's Studies Minor program. MnTC Goal 6 and 7.

**B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES:** 03/07/2006 - Present

### C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. What is Women's Studies?
2. Becoming a Woman in Our Society
3. Gender and Women's Bodies
4. Institutions That Shape Women's Lives
5. Health and Reproductive Justice
6. The Difference Among Us
7. Violence Against Women

### D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. Demonstrate an understanding of current issues affecting American women.
2. Understand systems of privilege and inequality in American society and their impact on women's lives.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of gender constructions and issues of diversity.
4. Recognize the importance of cultural and historical contexts for understanding gender.
5. Identify the sociocultural assumptions inherent in gender constructions and roles.
6. Recognize the intersections of gender, race, class and other categories of difference.

## **E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies**

### Goal 07 - Human Diversity

1. Understand the development of and the changing meanings of group identities in the United States' history and culture.
2. Demonstrate an awareness of the individual and institutional dynamics of unequal power relations between groups in contemporary society.
3. Analyze their own attitudes, behaviors, concepts and beliefs regarding diversity, racism, and bigotry.
4. Describe and discuss the experience and contributions (political, social, economic, etc.) of the many groups that shape American society and culture, in particular those groups that have suffered discrimination and exclusion.

### Goal 06 - Humanities/Fine Arts

1. Demonstrate awareness of the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities.
2. Understand those works as expressions of individual and human values within an historical and social context.
3. Respond critically to works in the arts and humanities.
4. Engage in the creative process or interpretive performance.
5. Articulate an informed personal reaction to works in the arts and humanities.

## **F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT**

As noted on course syllabus

## **G. SPECIAL INFORMATION**

None noted