

# Minnesota State University Moorhead

## WS 407: Inclusive Science: Women, Gender and Science

### A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours/Week: 3

Lab Hours/Week: 0

OJT Hours/Week: \*.\*

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: Goal 09 - Ethical/Civic Resp, Goal 06 - Humanities/Fine Arts

This course will compare and contrast traditional views and feminist critiques of science, define gendered science and examine the potential for restructuring science. Students will practice the critical review of scientific readings and analyze and reflect upon the ethical dimensions of scientific issues related to gender. The course investigates collaboration between Women's Studies scholars and scientists, and culminates with field observations and the critique of science in the academy and the private sector. MnTC Goal 6 and 9.

**B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES:** 01/11/2010 - Present

### C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Where are We Now? Women in Science
2. Science Values and Ethics
3. History and Philosophy of Science
4. Defining Sex and Gender, Biology of Sex
5. Women in Science; Stories
6. Androcentric Science
7. Science Education
8. Standpoint Epistemology
9. Multiculturalism in Science
10. Restructuring Science

#### **D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)**

1. Describe basic philosophical underpinnings of science, the history of science and the limitations of science.
2. Distinguish science from other disciplines and describe ethical issues, and gender issues specific to science.
3. Recognize personal influence and responsibility, as both national and global citizens, in decision-making about the applications of and guidelines regarding scientific outcomes
4. Understand how the knowledge of human biology, sex and gender differences, culture and ethics can be used in the marketplace to change the culture of science.
5. Compare and contrast feminist critiques of science with traditional views of science and the culture of science.
6. Explain the current conditions of the "chilly" gender climate in science disciplines
7. Compare and contrast traditional and feminist views of science and assess their importance to the conditions women face in science today
8. Use their observational and analytical skills to formulate conclusions about how scientists interact and how this relates to the theoretical constructs discussed in class regarding science and gender.
9. Express their opinions and make evidence-based arguments in writing and orally on topics related to gender and science.
10. Define science and its limitations; define gender and critique writings and actions in science through a feminist lens

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

##### Goal 09 - Ethical/Civic Resp

1. Examine, articulate, and apply their own ethical views.
2. Understand and apply core concepts (e.g. politics, rights and obligations, justice, liberty) to specific issues.
3. Analyze and reflect on the ethical dimensions of legal, social, and scientific issues.
4. Recognize the diversity of political motivations and interests of others.

##### 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. 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