Education and the Status of Women: Comparative Perspective
Education 197
Fall Quarter 2006-07

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Course Time: Mondays, 2:15-5:05PM in 200-217

Course Objectives
This course is designed with the following objectives in mind:
• To introduce students to theories and perspectives from the social sciences relevant to an understanding of the role of education in relation to structures of gender differentiation and hierarchy.
• To familiarize students with cross-national research in the status of women including women’s participation patterns in mass and elite education.
• To enable students to critically evaluate cross-national research on education and the status of women.

Course Format and Evaluation Procedures
This course combines lectures, large and small group discussions, and large and small group activities. All course assignments are described in the syllabus.

Course evaluation will be based on the following criteria:
Class participation 20%
Annotated bibliography 10% Due 10/30
Reflection papers 20% (10% each) Due 10/16 & 11/6
Final paper 50% Due per final exam schedule (including Outline and Presentation)

Course Materials
Course readings are available on the course web site on Blackboard (bb.stanford.edu). The following book is required reading for the course and may be purchased from on-line sources. It is also on reserve in Cubberley Library for four hour loan:

COURSE READINGS

Below are required and recommended readings for the course. You may find it helpful to seek out the recommended readings for additional perspectives on the topics covered.

I. Introduction: September 25

II. Overview of Feminist Theories: October 2


Recommended:

III. Comparative Views: October 9


Recommended:

IV. Policy & Reform: National Efforts: October 16 ** First Reflection Paper due **


**Recommended:**


**V. Non-Governmental and International Organizations, and Development: October 23**


**Recommended:**


**VI. Education as Empowerment: October 30** **Annotated Bibliographies due**


VII. Higher Education: November 6  ** Second Reflection Paper due **


Recommended:


VIII. Women’s Studies: November 13  ** Paper outlines due **


Recommended:


IX. Science Education: November 27


Recommended:


http://gstgateway.wigsat.org/

X. Paper presentations: December 4

Students will make short PowerPoint presentations of their final papers. Course evaluations will also be handed out.
COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

Class Participation (20% of course grade)
1. **Critical reading of course materials**: Students are expected to come to class having critically read each of the assigned readings and are expected to raise questions, challenge the findings and opinions raised in the readings, and otherwise be outspoken about the course materials. Our hope is that we will work together to create an atmosphere that is safe and open to a range of ideas, perspectives, and opinions.

2. **Discussion questions**: All students will be required to turn in two weekly discussion questions regarding topics and issues raised in the readings. Questions must be posted to Blackboard by **10PM on the Sunday before each class meeting**. Students will be evaluated based on the quality and thoughtfulness of their questions.

3. **Leading discussion**: Students will work in small teams to lead part of the discussion section at least once during the quarter. Discussions may revolve around questions developed by the teams and/or by those questions raised by students in their weekly discussion questions.

4. **Attendance**: Students are required to attend class, arrive on time, and stay for the duration of each class meeting. The instructor must be notified of absences ahead of time.

Annotated Bibliographies (10% of course grade)
In order to develop research skills in the field of international comparative education and women’s education, students will be required to provide an annotated bibliography of 5-7 sources (e.g. journal articles) on the topic one is considering for his/her final paper. More detailed instructions will be provided in class.
**Due date: October 30**

Reflection Papers (30% of course grade)
The reflection papers should focus on the materials from the readings and/or discussions. The first requirement is that you make clear that you have read the papers and attended class. Beyond this requirement the paper may raise questions, connect material from different sources, and use personal experiences that illustrate or run contrary to readings and lecture materials. Two reflection papers are required. Each paper must be four double-spaced typewritten pages in length.
**Due dates: October 16 & November 6**

Final Paper (including Outline and Presentation) (50% of course grade)
Although the topic for the paper is of the student’s choosing, it must reflect course content and demonstrate an understanding of key concepts and the main issues addressed in the course, especially education. Paper outlines are required and consist of a 1-2 page outline of the proposed research paper. The research paper must consist of 20 double-spaced typewritten pages. Part of one’s final paper grade will entail a 10-minute presentation of the final paper.
**Due date for paper outline: November 13**
**Due date for final paper: Per final exam schedule**