

***INTRODUCTION TO GENDER HISTORY***  
**Fudan University, Shanghai**

**Monday/Wednesday/Thursday, June 2007**  
**Saturday, June 16, 2007**

**Professors:**

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***COURSE DESCRIPTION:***

The study of body, gender, and sexuality has profoundly transformed the historiographical landscape in recent decades. It has become one of the key sites for an ongoing debate on the construction of historical narratives and the materiality of experience, questions of social agency and explorations of discourse. In a series of readings and discussions, we will introduce students to key concepts and debates, both in the past and in the present. By crossing the usual boundaries of national history, we will open a space for discussing a wide range of theoretical, methodological, and historical issues surrounding the concepts of body, gender and sexuality in history, while also making salient the politics of location in the production of historical knowledge.

***TENTATIVE COURSE REQUIREMENTS:***

- (1) Regular attendance at, and participation in, seminar sessions. Active class participation, along with an oral presentation, explained below, will count for one-third of one's grade.
- (2) We ask each student to find one or two study partners, who will serve as regular conversation partners throughout the course. We will explain this process (and its purpose) in class.
- (3) Three 3-4 page essays, to be submitted roughly at the end of each week. The essays should be analytic in nature, reflecting on some aspect of the weekly theme sessions. It should consciously employ at least one of the methodological approaches explored. These essays will also be exchanged with one's "study partners." (The essays will collectively count for one-third of one's grade.)
- (4) One oral presentation in class, to be chosen in consultation with the instructors. Presenters will be invited to post materials in advance on the C-Tools Website.
- (5) As a final assignment, we ask students to submit a review of an English-language article or book of their choice on gender history (approximately 5 pages). Students are asked to consult with their instructors on this assignment.

***COURSE READINGS:*** Available on C-Tools, University of Michigan  
(<https://ctools.umich.edu/portal>)

## ***COURSE SCHEDULE***

### ***Introductions***

#### **Monday, June 4th**

- Design
- Approach to History
- Objectives & Assignments

### ***Women's History***

#### **Wednesday, June 6th**

##### **Required Reading**

Carroll Smith-Rosenberg, "Female World of Love and Ritual," in *Disorderly Conduct: Visions of Gender in Victorian America*, 53-76.

#### **Thursday, June 7th**

##### **Required Reading**

Gayle Rubin, "Traffic in Women: Notes on the Political Economy of Sex," in *Feminist Anthropology: A Reader* ed. Ellen Lewin, 87-100.

### ***From Women's to Gender History***

#### **Monday, June 11th**

##### **Required Reading**

Joan Scott, "Gender: A Useful Category of Analysis of Historical Analysis," in *American Historical Review*, 91/5 (1986), 1053-1075.

#### **Wednesday, June 13th**

##### **Required Reading**

Lyndal Roper, "Discipline and Respectability: Prostitution and the Reformation in Augsburg," in *Feminism and History*, 333-365.

### ***The Gender of History***

#### **Thursday, June 14th**

##### **Required Reading**

Bonnie Smith, *The Gender of History: Men, Women, and Historical Practice* (Cambridge, MA, 1998), 70-129, 260-76.

### ***Historiography***

#### **Saturday, June 16th**

**Feature Film:** The Return of Martin Guerre

##### **Required Reading**

Joan Kelly, "Did Women Have a Renaissance?" in *Women, History and Theory: The Essays of Joan Kelly*, 19-50.

### *Poststructuralism*

**Monday, June 18th**

**Required Reading**

Joan Scott, "Experience," in *Feminists Theorize the Political* ed. Judith Butler and Joan Scott, 22-40.

Kathleen Canning, "Feminist History after the Linguistic Turn: Historicizing Discourse and Experience," in *Gender History in Practice: Historical Perspectives on Body, Class and Citizenship*, 63-100.

### *History of Masculinities*

**Wednesday, June 20<sup>th</sup>**

**Required Reading**

R. W. Connell, *Masculinities* (Berkeley, 1995), 185-199.

### *Culture/Gender*

**Thursday, June 21<sup>st</sup>**

**Required Reading**

Judith Walkowitz, *City of Dreadful Delight* (waiting for ebook permission from University of Chicago Press).

### *The Gender of Modernity*

**Monday, June 25<sup>th</sup>: Chinese Modernity**

**Required Reading**

Gail Hershatter, *Dangerous Pleasures* (available in Chinese)

**Wednesday, June 27<sup>th</sup>: Iranian Modernity**

**Required Reading**

Afsaneh Najmabadi, *Women with Mustaches and Men without Beards*, "Beauty, Love, And Sexuality" & "The Eclipse of the (Fe)Male Sun," 11-96.

**Thursday, June 28<sup>th</sup>: Chinese Modernity & the Writing of Gender History**

**Required Reading**

Special Issue of *Gender & History* 18:3 (2007)

Lynn Hunt, "The Challenge of Gender: Deconstruction of Categories and Reconstruction of Narratives in Gender History," in *Geschlechtergeschichte und Allgemeine Geschichte*, ed. Hans Medick, Anne-Charlott Trepp (Göttingen, 1998), 57-97.