

Co-Teaching Problems in the Study of Gender, Winter and Spring 2015

Deadline: Monday, April 28

Email materials to stuohey@uchicago.edu

We are seeking co-teachers for two “Problems in the Study of Gender” courses, to be offered Winter 2015 and Spring 2015. The courses are subtitled “Gender and Transfeminism” (winter) and “Gender, Citizenship, and Violence” (spring). Please see descriptions below.

Applicants may be from any University of Chicago doctoral program and should have strong backgrounds in gender studies. They must have passed their preliminary exams (or the equivalent) by October 1, 2014. Candidates on the short list will be interviewed by Gender and Sexuality Studies faculty after applications are submitted. Interviews will focus on the teaching statement. Interviews are obligatory; if you will be out of town we can arrange for a phone or Skype interview.

Application materials should be emailed as a single PDF to stuohey@uchicago.edu:

- Cover letter (addressing qualification to teach the course)
- Application form (this sheet)
- Curriculum vitae
- Teaching statement

and

- One letter of recommendation from a faculty member should be emailed to stuohey@uchicago.edu

GNSE 10100. Problems in the Study of Gender: Gender and Transfeminism 100 Units.

How does transgender change feminism? This course will serve as an introduction to the study of gender, transgender, and trans*feminism, a branch of feminism that forefronts the significance of transgender and gender non-conforming phenomena to feminist projects and ideas and vice versa. Relations between transgender and gender non-conforming individuals and U.S. feminisms have not been easy. This course will begin by exploring some of those contentious encounters in order to address the differing interpretations of gender and social justice at work in each. We will then fan out both backwards and forward in time. We will look at histories of gender non-conforming phenomena in the U.S. that pre-date the coinage of the word transgender, such as those found in George Chauncey’s *Gay New York: Gender, Urban Culture, and the Making of the Gay Male World 1890-1940*, Esther Newton’s *Mother Camp: Female Impersonators in America*, and various documentations of both the Stonewall riots and the riot at Compton Cafeteria—histories that bring transgender phenomena in (anachronistic) contact with the many sexual histories of the U.S. We will consider as well key texts in feminist theory worrying the relation between gender and sexuality by such authors as Judith Butler, Audre Lorde, and Monique Wittig. Finally, we will turn to essays, novels, manifestoes, films, and

documentaries from the 1990s onwards—by such author-activists as Sharon Bridgforth, Eli Clare, Leslie Feinberg, Vic Muñoz, Vivian Namaste, Sylvia Rivera, Dean Spade, Susan Stryker, and Riki Wilchins—in order to explore how transgender and feminism transform each other.

Instructor: Shanna Carlson

Term Offered: Winter 2015

GNSE 10100. Problems in the Study of Gender: Gender, Citizenship, and Violence.

The notion of differential citizenship is a topic that exercises scholars the world over. In particular, those interested in issues of feminism and ethnicity have studied why women (and then some women more than others) or particular social groups experience disenfranchisement more than their counterparts. This is so even when officially many cultures grant them formal equality before the law.

This course explores issues of disenfranchisement, inequality, and violence through a focus on South Asia. We will begin with a set of theoretical readings mainly John Locke and John Stuart Mill whose works demonstrate some early strands of thinking about the political and cultural role (or the lack thereof) of women within the (fraternal) social contract. We will then move to contemporary works such as Joan Scott's *Only Paradoxes to Offer* (selections), Parite: *Sexual Equality and the Crisis of French Universalism* (selections), Leila Ahmed's *A Quiet Revolution* (selections), Amy Dru Stanley's *From Bondage to Contract* (selections) to frame the issue of differential citizenship and inequality in a historical and global context.

Following this we turn to South Asia with a particular focus on gender and caste inequality and the violence unleashed by majoritarian politics (both overt and covert). Over the course of the quarter we will discuss the debates, both historical and contemporary, over article 377 that criminalizes homosexuality and is still upheld by the highest law court in India; laws pertaining to marriage and property rights in Hindu and Muslim communities; the legal history of mixed raced marriage, class, and adoption in the context of the British empire, the changing nature and discourse on rape from the period of partition (1947) to the present and other related issues. We will end with the thorny and unfortunate divisions that trouble Indian feminism today since the feminist movement has cleaved on questions of caste and religion. In so doing we will have read some autobiographies that demonstrate the struggle over self-identification: Am I a feminist? Am I a Dalit (ex-untouchable) feminist? Am I a Buddhist, Dalit, feminist? If yes, then in what order?

Readings include a variety of texts from the disciplines of history, anthropology, political theory, and literary studies. We will also have 2-3 film screenings. Satyajit Ray: *Sadgati* (The Deliverance, 1981), Aparna Sen: *36 Chowringhee Lane*, 1981, Deepa Mehta: *Fire* OR Onir: *My Brother Nikhil*, 2005.

Instructor: Rochona Majumdar

Term Offered: Spring 2015

Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality
GNSE 10100 – Problems in the Study of Gender Co-Teaching Application, 2014-15

Application Deadline: Monday, April 28, 2014, 5:00 pm

Please email to: Sarah Tuohey
stuohey@uchicago.edu
773-702-2365

Course(s) applied for:

- ☐ Winter Quarter Problems in the Study of Gender: Gender and Transfeminism
☐ Spring Quarter Problems in the Study of Sexuality: Gender, Citizenship, and Violence
☐ Both/Either (successful applicants will be offered only one course)

Name: _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____

Phone: _____ **UCID:** _____

Academic Information

Department: _____

Dissertation Committee: _____

Application Checklist:

- Please email the following to Sarah Tuohey at stuohey@uchicago.edu
- Application form (this sheet)
- Curriculum vitae
- Teaching statement

- One letter of recommendation from a faculty member should be emailed to stuohey@uchicago.edu

Name of recommender _____