

# THE WOMEN'S, GENDER, AND SEXUALITY STUDIES PROGRAM'S FALL 2022 NEWSLETTER

## A Message from the Program Director

A warm welcome back to you all – I hope everyone had a wonderful summer, even amidst the heartbreak of the Dobbs decision and further attacks on reproductive rights, queer and trans rights, voting rights....and, sigh, democracy itself.



I'd like to give a special welcome to the newest members of Team Feminism. You can meet new WGSS faculty, **Natalie Shibley** (Visiting Assistant Professor, WGSS) and **AK Wright** (Postdoctoral Fellow in Black Feminist Studies) on pages 2-3 and Visiting Scholars **Danielle Drees** and **Marcela Filizola** on page 2. We also welcome new executive committee members **Meredith Clark** (Journalism & Communications Studies), **Randall Hughes** (Marine & Environmental Sciences), **Moiria Weigel** (Communications Studies), and **Pat Williams** (Philosophy & Religion and Law). This semester, *Signs* and the WGSS program will be supported by the excellent work of co-op student Grace O'Mara (page 3) and returning graduate assistants Kyle Wholey and Galen Bunting. A new graduate assistant, Rhiannon Callahan (page 3) also joins the *Signs* staff. Team Feminism is all the stronger for these new colleagues.

As usual, WGSS has a full roster of activities and courses for this Fall, including a memorial event honoring the late feminist/queer activist **Urvashi Vaid**, a talk on reproductive rights co-sponsored with the IHESJR, and of course our visiting scholar talks – they're always fascinating events and a good way to connect with feminist scholars from around the Boston area. For event details, check out pages 8-9.

Spring will also bring a number of exciting activities including our "marquee" event: the Women's History Month symposium, held this year on **March 23-24th**. This year's topic is "**Feminists on the Politics of Crisis**" (see page 7) where we will do our usual deep dive into the contemporary zeitgeist, always asking how we can work to make our moment more feminist and more equitable. Stay tuned for more details and make sure to put March 23-24th on your calendar!

And plan ahead by taking a look at our Spring course offerings (pages 12-13), including my graduate/advanced undergraduate course on **Feminist Resistance** and courses taught by our new faculty members! In addition, we have numerous cross-listed courses and, for our grad students, great offerings here on campus and at the **Graduate Consortium** over at MIT.

As always, make sure you check out the *Signs* website <http://signsjournal.org/> to see what's happening over there – we've got lots of open access materials (including a special section on abortion rights and reproductive justice) and information on feminist scholarship around the world. Don't forget to land on our **Feminist Public Intellectuals Project** to listen to interviews with feminist luminaries and short takes on books that occupy the feminist imagination (<http://signsjournal.org/feminist-public-intellectuals-project/>). If you're a grad student interested in working with *Signs*, please get in touch! We'll be hiring for next year soon...

As if you needed reminding: this is an election year. It's hard to imagine a more consequential midterm so please – get involved. Make calls, text texts, knock on doors, help register voters, join volunteer events...just don't sit on the sidelines. Because the patriarchy isn't going to smash itself.

As always, in sisterhood and solidarity –  
**Prof. Suzanna Walters**

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# NEW FACES TO THE WGSS COMMUNITY



**Marcela Filizola** (she/her) is an incoming visiting scholar from Brazil. She is thrilled to be joining the WGSS community at Northeastern and is specifically eager to be surrounded by a diverse community of high-level scholars and students with whom she can engage. Marcela is currently researching some of Virginia Woolf's novels and essays as well as exploring Francesca Woodman's photography. She is especially interested in considering their works through a gendered perspective in order to question a dominant epistemological view. She has previously published essays on feminist and queer literary and cultural movements in Latin America and is currently excited about incorporating postcolonial and decolonial critiques into her readings of Woolf and Woodman. Marcela has recently been inspired by the theory and praxis of feminist movements in Brazil in face of the sexist, racist, and LGBTQI+phobic government, specifically noting their resistance and fighting spirit. She highly recommends Bernardine Evaristo's novel *Girl, Woman, Other* for those looking for stimulating intersectional reading.



**Danielle Drees** (she/her) is an incoming visiting scholar from Boston University's Kilachand Honors College whose primary research focus is gender and labor in 20th- and 21st-century theater and performance art. She is currently working on a book titled: *Change the World Overnight: Sleep as Feminist Performance and Protest* which spotlights sleep performance, specifically how theater makers from the 1970s to today use sleep to investigate foundational feminist questions such as how do we care for ourselves and care for one another? and how do we work for political change without burning out? Danielle notes that feminist activism, scholarship, and art have made monumental contributions to our understanding of why rest and leisure time—time spent not working—are essential pieces of our work toward justice and liberation. When asked what inspires her, she cited the recent energy of the labor movement spreading throughout the United States. Danielle is excited to join the Northeastern WGSS community and scout out local coffee shops and used bookstores.



**Natalie Shibley** (she/her) is a visiting assistant professor who has earned a PhD in Africana Studies and History followed by doing a Postdoctoral Fellowship in the University of Pennsylvania's Program on Race, Science, and Society. Natalie is currently working on a book on the history of homosexuality investigations in the U.S. military in the mid-to-late twentieth century. Her research explains how ideas about and policing of homosexuality in the military shifted from World War II to the early 1990s and she explores the inconsistent ways that race functioned in military police investigations and legal cases related to accusations of homosexuality. While looking through military police records from the 1950s, she once found original charts from polygraph tests conducted on suspects in a variety of criminal investigations. Natalie recommends *Gay New York* by George Chauncey and is looking forward to exploring the Boston Public Library while in the city.





**Dr. AK Wright**(they/them) is a Jamaican first-generation healer-scholar. Their book project, *Embodied Abolition: Healing Justice, Black Feminism and Ending Carcerality* investigates how Black individuals communally and intimately live, resist, and care amid carceral forces. Situated in Black feminist thought, queer and trans studies, and carceral studies, their research explores communal healing justice approaches to carceral abolition. Dr. Wright is a postdoctoral fellow in Africana Studies and WGSS.

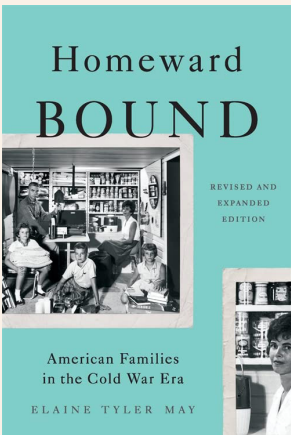
**Rhiannon Callahan** (she/her) is a graduate student currently researching U.S. legal history in the twentieth century as it pertains to gender, specifically the attempt to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment. When asked about something surprising she has come across in her work, Rhiannon noted a time at the Digital Transgender Archive (DTA) when she found an article about Georgia Black, an African-American woman who was outed as trans by her doctor on her deathbed in 1950s Florida. She explained that while papers tried to make the discovery of her “true sex” a scandal—and admittedly did—her funeral was attended by black and white people from her community who only had words of praise regarding Georgia Black. She sees this story as a small ray of hope in research that can often be dark. Rhiannon was born in Coral Springs, FL so enjoys being outside in the cool Boston air. She loves to read and highly recommends Elaine Tyler May’s *Homeward Bound: American Families in the Cold War Era*. Rhiannon has recently moved and spends most of her free time working on her new place with her partner.



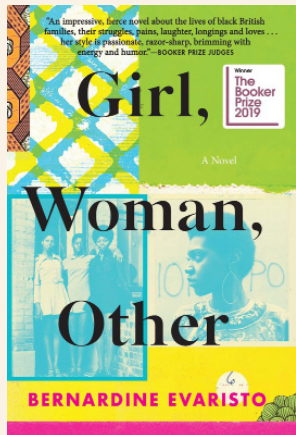
**Grace O'Mara** (she/her) is this year’s Summer 2/Fall co-op, working for the WGSS program and *Signs* Journal. She is a fourth-year student studying English, Writing, and Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. Grace also works with the Women’s Writers Project and Digital Transgender Archive here at Northeastern. She loves to read, listen to music, and force her roommates to rewatch her favorite movies, which include *Jennifer’s Body*, *But I’m a Cheerleader*, and *Everything Everywhere All at Once*. She is currently researching retellings and their feminist potential using the myth of Persephone as a case study.

A warm welcome back to our returning *Signs* Graduate Assisants Kyle Wholey and Galen Bunting! We appreciate your continued support and help!

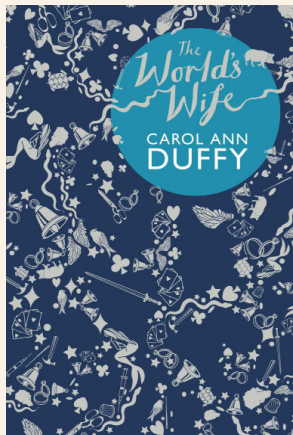
## WGSS BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS



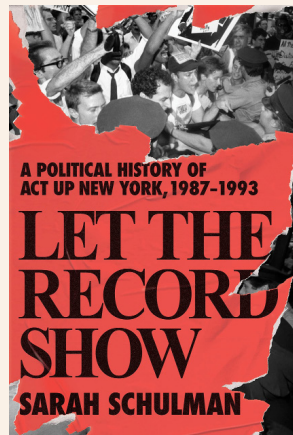
Rhiannon’s Rec



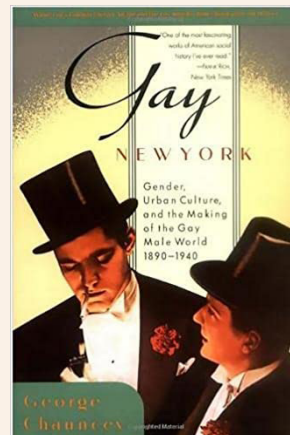
Marcela’s Rec



Grace’s Rec



Danielle’s Rec



Natalie’s Rec


# TIP OF THE FEMINIST CAP

In this section of our newsletter, we offer a virtual “tip of the feminist cap” to celebrate our WGSS colleagues for their achievements over the past year! We celebrate all of our faculty for their teaching, research, citizenship, and activism, and are particularly thrilled to highlight these accomplishments as we head into a new semester.

**Régine Jean-Charles** (Dean’s Professor, Culture and Social Justice; Director and Professor, Africana Studies; Professor, WGSS) has a book coming out in October with UVA Press: *Looking for Other Worlds: Black Feminism and Haitian Fiction*. She is also co-authoring a book under contract with Columbia University Press entitled *The Rape Culture Syllabus*.

**K.J. Rawson** (Associate Professor, English and WGSS; Co-Director, NULab for Texts, Maps, and Networks; Founder & Director, Digital Transgender Archive) was honored by The History Project with the 2022 Lavender Rhino Award. This award recognizes his tireless efforts to share transgender history and collections through the Digital Transgender Archive (DTA). Speaking of the DTA, Rawson also won a major grant from the Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR) through the Digitizing Hidden Collections: Amplifying Unheard Voices program to support the work of the program on a project titled “**Y’all Better Quiet Down?: Trans BIPOC Digitization Initiative**”. The grant aims to digitize more than 20,000 pages of archival materials documenting transgender, gender non-conforming, and gender-expansive BIPOC and will use these materials to develop a podcast, video series, and lesson plans.

**Libby Adler** (Professor, Law and WGSS) has written a publication, “**From Contamination to Congratulation: The Discursive and Legal Careers of the Homosexual in the U.S. and Cuba**”, forthcoming this year in the book *Enticements: Queer Legal Studies* (NYU Press).



New faculty member **Natalie Shibley** (Visiting Assistant Professor, WGSS) received a grant from the Schlesinger Library at Harvard University. She is also under contract with Columbia University Press to publish a co-edited collection titled *Ordering the Human: Global Science and Racial Reason* along with co-editors Dorothy Roberts and Eram Alam. Natalie also became an editor at the online publication Nursing Clio, an open-access peer-reviewed blog project and change that presents historical scholarship connected to contemporary issues in gender and medicine.

**Alicia Modestino** (Associate Professor, Public Policy & Urban Affairs and Economics) won the university's Excellence in Research and Creative Activity Awards and received funding from the Provost for her Impact Engine "City to City: Finding Equitable Solutions to Local Policy Problems". She has brought in two new grants titled: "The Long-Term Impacts of Summer Youth Employment Programs on Outcomes" and "BioConnects New England." Additionally, she was featured in articles by *The New York Times*, *Boston Globe*, *NPR*, and *Wall Street Journal* as well as publishing several peer-reviewed articles, policy reports, and papers.

**Hillary Chute** (Distinguished Professor, English and Art+Design) published several essays in the *New York Times* Book Review in her role as columnist for the column "Graphic Content." She was also featured on several podcasts, including "How Do You Like It So Far and Strip Search," and several articles across various media on the ban of the book *Maus* by Art Spiegelman. Her own book, *Maus Now*, will be coming out in November and she will be presenting on it at the Boston Book Festival in October. It was named a Most Anticipated Book of 2022 by Vulture and was featured in the Kirkus Review.

**Margot Abels** (Assistant Teaching Professor, WGSS and Human Services), together with undergraduate students from the group NUSHARE, co-founded a multi-generational coalition of students, staff, and faculty at Northeastern in the wake of overturning *Roe v. Wade*. The **NU Roe Response Coalition** is a branch of NUSHARE where faculty, staff, students, and other community members can connect around organizing and activating for reproductive justice in a post-Roe America. If you are interested in joining the Roe Response Coalition Slack Channel to learn more about getting involved in organizing and learning about events and actions, please contact Margot and **Kiki Samko**, WGSS program coordinator.



# REFLECTIONS OF 2022 SYMPOSIUM

## Feminism for the Future: Constructive Conversations on Lesbian & Trans Identities & Politics



2020's virtual Symposium was a seamless success, but it was wonderful to return to our in-person format for our Spring 2022 Symposium, "Feminism for the Future: Constructive Conversations on Lesbian & Trans Identities & Politics". Our Symposium is a highly curated, invitation-only event where we encourage an expressive, engaged style of presentation. In other words: no reading of papers! We typically invite a mix of scholars, activists, and journalists/pundits, but for this topic, members of the planning committee made a strong argument to invite only scholars. We departed from tradition in large part because it was our belief that part of the problem with the current discussion of the relationship between trans and lesbian identities and politics was that it was carried out too much on Twitter and other fast food social media sites. In other words, we needed to bring our scholarly depth, historical reflection, and analytic rigor to bear on a topic that was too often discussed in tirades and name-calling jeremiads.

We made the right call. In fact, many felt that this was our most interesting and enlightening symposium yet. Comments like "I really learned something" and "I never thought of it that way" were commonplace even amongst those of us whose stock in trade is feminist and queer praxis. We had a robust, nuanced conversation that took for granted the shared fate of lesbian and trans activism and then proceeded to delve into connections, disconnections, histories, fears, fantasies in order to imagine a more productive engagement in these discussions of identity and politics.

The sold-out symposium brought in over 120 people over the course of the day, including Northeastern faculty, staff, and both graduate and undergraduate students. Speakers included preeminent trans historian **Susan Stryker**, Canadian legal theorist **Brenda Cossman**, sociologist **Tey Meadow**, and radical feminist activist and scholar **Finn Mackay** from the UK. Always cognizant of *Signs*/WGSS synergies, this year's symposium also featured a number of *Signs* authors, including **Emily Owens**, **Mairead**

**Sullivan, V. Varun Chaudhry**, and Stimpson prize winner **Cameron Awkward-Rich**. To a one, the speakers were engaging and thoughtful, pushing the audience to think deeply about belonging, about the relationship of feelings to identity, about lesbian and trans fears of erasure in a world in which both identities are often marginalized even within progressive queer communities. The speakers and moderators (**Libby Adler**, **K.J. Rawson**, and **Suzanna Walters**) also modeled a kind of generosity of spirit that provided a welcome antidote to the often-acrimonious ways in which these communities have interacted. In true WGSS fashion, the conversation was thoughtful, vibrant, interdisciplinary, multigenerational, and multicultural: all the hallmarks of our own faculty and curriculum. A truly inspiring event made even more meaningful in the context of the ongoing attacks against women, trans folk, and the queer community.

We are looking forward to this year's Symposium, "Feminists on the Politics of Crisis," to be held on March 23 and 24th, again in the Cabral Center. More details are below—but be sure to save the date and join us this March!

# SPRING 2023 SYMPOSIUM

## Feminists on the Politics of Crisis: The Annual WGSS Women's History Month Symposium

March 23, 4:00-5:30 pm and March 24, 9:00 am – 3:30 pm  
Cabral Center, John D. O'Bryant African American Institute

The annual WGSS Symposium at Northeastern University brings together feminist thought leaders—scholars, journalists, activists, and public intellectuals—to address an urgent concern of the moment from varieties of feminist perspectives. This year's symposium, "Feminists on the Politics of Crisis," recognizes a confluence of life-threatening emergencies, including accelerated environmental degradation, with disproportionate impact on women and the poor, the persecution and policing of women who exercise autonomy over their own bodies, and heightened censorship, the banning of books in America's schools, books that, for example, teach children about the history of race in America and acknowledge gay and trans identities. Details about speakers and timing of panels will be forthcoming; check our website and social media for details as the date approaches.



Photo by: [Ted Eytan](#)



Photo by: [Institute for Social Ecology](#)



Photo by: [Vox](#)



# UPCOMING WGSS EVENTS

## WELCOME

### Feminist Faculty Welcome

September 21, 5:00 – 7:00 pm

A reception to welcome feminist faculty (back) to campus. Please contact **Kiki Samko** for details ([k.samko@northeastern.edu](mailto:k.samko@northeastern.edu)).



Photo by: [Matching Food & Wind](#)



### Urvashi Vaid Memorial Gathering

September 28, 7:30 pm

Raytheon Amphitheatre, Egan Hall

A gathering to celebrate the life of queer rights pioneer (and NUSL alumna) **Urvashi Vaid**. Open to the public. There will be remembrances from friends and colleagues and time for guests to share their own memories of Urvashi. Please register here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/urvashi-void-memorial-gathering-tickets-404837378497>

### FREDA Film Screening & Director Talkback

September 28, 6:00-9:30 pm

Blackman Auditorium, Ell Hall

Presented by the Africana Studies Program

Co-sponsored by WGSS, JDOAAI, CAMD, MIT's Women & Gender Studies, Boston University, and Suffolk University

Please join us for a screening of a Haitian film that follows the life of a young woman challenged with the difficult choice to either leave her home or seek change within it. Afterwards, we will be in conversation with director **Gessica Généus**. Register for the event at [bit.ly/37anMWE](https://bit.ly/37anMWE).



**FREDA**

SEPT 28, 2022 | 6:00PM - 9:30PM BLACKMAN AUDITORIUM  
Ell Hall, 342 Huntington Ave, Boston, MA 02115

Please join us for a screening of a Haitian film that follows the life of a young woman challenged with the difficult choice to either leave her home or seek change within it. Afterwards, we will be in conversation with director Gessica Généus.

Presented by Northeastern University's Africana Studies Program  
Co-sponsored by JDOAAI, WGSS, CAMD, MIT's Women's & Gender Studies, Boston University, and Suffolk University.

[bit.ly/37anMWE](https://bit.ly/37anMWE)

### Feminist Reading Group: Collaborative Research Cluster

September 19, 3:30-5:00 pm; dates in October, November, and December TBD  
270 Holmes Hall

Please contact **Suzanna Walters** and **Kiki Samko** ([s.walters@northeastern.edu](mailto:s.walters@northeastern.edu), [k.samko@northeastern.edu](mailto:k.samko@northeastern.edu)) if you are interested in joining this monthly reading group where we discuss both popular and academic contemporary feminist texts.



# MORE EVENTS!

## Institute for Health Equity and Social Justice Research and WGSS Works-in-Progress: Dr. Elizabeth Janiak

October 20, 1:00 – 2:00 pm

310 Renaissance Park

The IHESJR and WGSS will co-sponsor a talk by **Dr. Elizabeth Janiak** on her research regarding abortion access and covid-19 and travel to access abortion in post-Roe America.

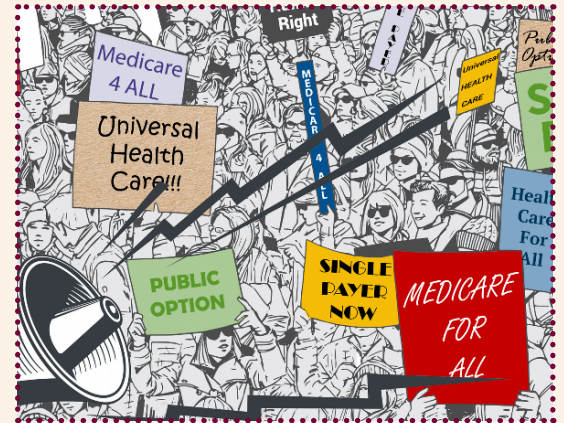


Photo by: [California Healthline](#)

## EVENTS WITH DATES TO BE DETERMINED

### NU Roe Response Coalition Teach In

Date/Time TBD

The Northeastern Roe Response Coalition will host a teach in on reproductive justice and activism in a post-Roe America.

### WGSS Visiting Scholar Talk/Workshop

Date/Time TBD

WGSS visiting scholar **Danielle Drees** will present her current work in progress. Please stay tuned for more details on date, time, format, and topic.



Photo by: [Ted Eytan](#)



Photo by: [Victoria Pickering](#)



Photo by: [Miki Jourdan](#)

# S I G N S

J o u r n a l o f W o m e n i n  
C u l t u r e a n d S o c i e t y

## CALL FOR PAPERS: *BIG FEMINISM*

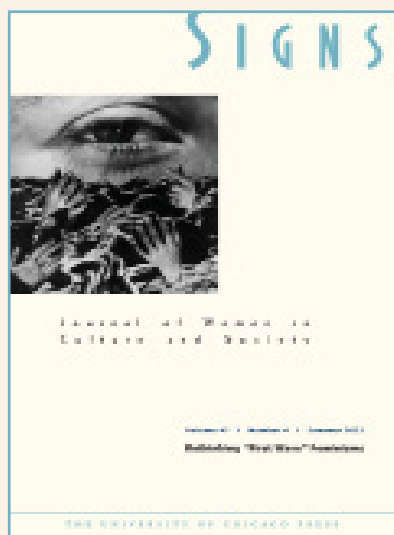
*Signs* was founded in 1975 as part of an emergent tradition of feminist scholarship and has been publishing continuously ever since, establishing itself as a preeminent journal in women's, gender, and sexuality studies. At the time of the journal's conception, *Signs's* founding editorial staff sought not only to raise consciousness and develop theories of women's oppression but also to challenge the taken-for-granted and to strive for theoretical nuance and interdisciplinarity. To honor half a century of publication, our fiftieth anniversary issue aims to generate new questions and critical discussion about "*Big Feminism*" – about the role and power of feminist theory – today and into the future.

Read the full Call for Papers at: <http://signsjournal.org/for-authors/calls-for-papers/>.

The deadline for submissions is **December 15, 2022**.

## ANNOUNCING FREE RESOURCES ON ABORTION AND REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE

The devastating Supreme Court decision to overturn *Roe v. Wade* is an urgent reminder of the importance of the ongoing work of feminist scholars and activists in the fight for equal rights, bodily autonomy, and full citizenship. Today that importance cannot be overstated. In these deeply alarming times, we feel it is critical to offer signposts toward a way forward. We are therefore offering free online access to over 40 *Signs* articles, essays, and multimedia materials on reproductive justice and abortion rights. Resources include past *Signs* articles as well as the Feminist Public Intellectuals Project: Short Takes, Ask a Feminist, and Feminist Frictions. We urge you to take a look as articles will remain free until November 2022. View them here: <http://signsjournal.org/abortion-resources/>.



The Summer 2022 issue of *Signs* is a special issue focused on Rethinking “First Wave” Feminisms. This issue seeks to rethink “first wave” feminisms in a heterogeneous and expansive way—by pushing geographic, chronological, and ideological boundaries and by broadening the definition of whom we usually think of as early feminists. Far more than the right to vote, early feminism included anticolonialism and demands for national sovereignty, racial justice, labor rights, peace, immigrants’ rights, attention to and remuneration for reproductive labor and domestic work, and sexual sovereignty. The traditional wave model, while difficult to dislodge, offers an incomplete and distorted view of feminist history. This issue invites readers to look beyond the waves and consider this complex, multifaceted, and and profoundly important period in global feminist history.



# S I G N S

J o u r n a l o f W o m e n i n  
C u l t u r e a n d S o c i e t y

## New Feminist Public Intellectuals Project

The Feminist Public Intellectuals Project seeks to engage feminist theorizing with pressing political and social issues via open-access, online-first initiatives. Check out our new content below!

**Short Takes: Hugh Ryan's The Women's House of Detention** with commentaries from **Gabrielle Bruney, Stephen Dillon, Aviva Stahl, Jess Whatcott, and Hugh Ryan**

**Feminist Frictions: The Field of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies** featuring an essay by **Sally Kitch**

**Ask a Feminist: Reproduction in the Age of Epigenetics, a Conversation with Rene Almeling, Sarah Richardson, and Natali Valdez**



**Feminist Frictions:  
Women's,  
Gender, &  
Sexuality Studies**  
featuring an essay by  
**Sally Kitch**



# SPRING 2023 COURSES



Photo by: [Vox](#)

## WMNS 1103: Intro to WGSS ~ Professor Natalie Shibley

Sequence 3, MWR 10:30-11:35 am

*\*This course is required for the WGSS minor.*

An interdisciplinary course introducing key themes in gender and sexuality studies. Offers students an opportunity to learn core concepts that inform our understanding of how gender and sexuality are socially constructed and are experienced in everyday life. Drawing on women's studies, queer studies, masculinity studies, and allied areas, the course analyzes gender, sexuality, and other dimensions of identity; explores critical issues of gender, sex, and power; and studies gendered/sexed identities in both national and transnational contexts. Topics include the gendered conceptions of love, sexuality, and violence; biological arguments about gender and sexuality; the social construction of sexuality and gender; intersections of gender, race, class, and sexuality; masculinities and femininities; theories of sexual difference; gender and the state; and gender and popular culture.

NU Path: Difference/Diversity, Societies/Institutions

## WMNS/HIST/SOCL 5240: Feminist Resistance ~

Professor Suzanna Walters

W 3:30-6:50 pm

*\*This is a graduate/undergraduate course.*

Engages students in the study of a variety of forms of feminist resistance in recent history, emphasizing the United States in the context of cross-cultural examples. Examines key feminist texts and manifestos and studies feminist activism in coalition with other social movements. Students identify and analyze unique features of gender-based activism in itself and in its intersections with other social movements, including movements and activism focused on race, class, sexuality, and physical ability.

NU Path: Societies/Institutions



Photo by: [Molly Adams](#)

## WMNS/AFAM/HIST 1225: Gender, Race, and Medicine ~

Professor Natalie Shibley

Sequence A, MR 11:45-1:25

Examines the basic tenets of "scientific objectivity" and foundational scientific ideas about race, sex, and gender and what these have meant for marginalized groups in society, particularly when they seek medical care. Introduces feminist science theories ranging from linguistic metaphors of the immune system, to the medicalization of race, to critiques of the sexual binary. Emphasizes contemporary as well as historical moments to trace the evolution of "scientific truth" and its impact on the U.S. cultural landscape. Offers students an opportunity to develop the skills to critically question what they "know" about science and the scientific process and revisit their disciplinary training as a site for critical analysis.

NU Path: Difference/Diversity

## WMNS/HIST 1105: Intro to Trans Studies ~ Professor K.J. Rawson

Sequence 4, MWR 1:35-2:40 pm

Introduces students to the interdisciplinary field of transgender studies by focusing on the emergence of the field, key concepts, and pivotal debates.

NU Path: Difference/Diversity, Societies/Institutions



Photo by: [DTA](#)





Photo by: [BBC](#)

### WMNS/MSCR 2505: Digital Feminisms ~ Professor Gloria Sutton

Sequence E, WF 11:45-1:25

Explores the unique ways that feminist activism and theory are impacted by the increasing digital nature of our world. From hashtags to Tumblr, feminists are using digital tools and platforms to aid in the pursuit of social justice. Offers students an opportunity to develop a timeline that traces feminists' engagement with the Internet, new media, and technological innovations from the late seventies to the present. Examines the strengths and challenges that the digital world creates for feminist engagement. NU Path: Creative Express/Innov, Interpreting Culture, Writing Intensive

### WMNS/AFRS 2325: Black Feminist Studies ~ Professor AK Wright

Sequence B, MW 2:50-4:30 pm

Invites students to study the history and contemporary landscape of Black feminist scholarship. Covers a range of disciplines and historical periods to introduce students to important texts and theoretical developments in this vast and interdisciplinary field. NU Path: Difference/Diversity, Societies/Institutions

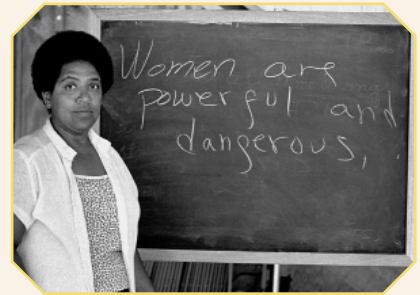


Photo by: [The Smithsonian](#)



Photo by: [Victoria Pickering](#)

### WMNS/HIST/SOCL 2303: Gender & Reproductive Justice ~

#### Professor Margot Abels

Sequence D, TF 9:50-11:30 am

Introduces the social, legal, and economic barriers to accessing reproductive healthcare domestically and internationally. Draws on various theoretical and analytic tools including critical race theory, critical legal theory, sociology of science, human rights, feminist theory, and a range of public health methods. Access to reproductive health services, including abortion, is one of the most contested political, social, cultural, and religious issues today. Covers domestic, regional, and international legal and regulatory frameworks on sexual reproductive health. NU Path: Difference/Diversity, Societies/Institutions

### WMNS/PHIL/POLS 3500: Gender, Sexuality, and the Law ~

#### Professor Libby Adler

Sequence B, MW 2:50-4:30 pm

Examines the legal regulation of gender and sexuality. Investigates concrete legal cases to study the history of constitutional interpretation and the current status of rights for women and sexual minorities. Focuses on important theoretical issues emerging in the writings of diverse feminist and queer legal scholars. Addresses debates over the value of conventional equality approaches in legal doctrine; equality vs. difference perspectives; ways in which legal language constructs gender and sexuality; the incorporation of sexuality and gender in ideologies of law; and the intersections of gender, sexuality, and race in legal doctrine and legal theory.

NU Path: Ethical Reasoning, Societies/Institutions



Photo by: [Victoria Pickering](#)

## CROSSLISTED ELECTIVES

HUSV/WMNS 2800: Sexual Orientation and Gender Expression ~ Professor Margot Abels

MSCR/WMNS 3392: Gender and Film ~ Professor Laurel Ahnert

JWSS/WMNS 2259: Sex, Gender, and Judaism ~ Professor Lori Lefkowitz

COMM/WMNS 2304: Communication and Gender ~ Various Instructors





The Consortium for Graduate Studies in Gender, Culture, Women, and Sexuality (GCWS) is located at MIT and brings together students and teachers from nine different schools in the Boston area. The goal of the Consortium is to come together under a similar devotion to interdisciplinary graduate teaching, research, and scholarship in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies.

## GCWS Spring 2023 Course Offerings

*Students interested in taking courses at the GCWS must apply for admission before enrolling.*

### **WMNS 7900 01: Special Topics in WGSS: Gender and Sexuality in Asian/American Culture**

Professors **Rani Neutill** (Tufts University) and **Yuri Doolan** (Brandeis)

Mondays 4:00-7:00 pm

*Meets at Tufts*

### **WMNS 7900 02: Special Topics in WGSS: Memory, Identity, and Nation:**

**Perspectives from South Asia the United States**

Professors **Elora Chowdhury** (UMass Boston) and **Patricia Davis** (Northeastern University)

Tuesdays, 4:00-7:00 pm

*Meets at MIT*

### **WMNS 7900 03: Special Topics in WGSS: Gender and Sport in Trans/National Context**

Professors **Kyoung-yim Kim** (Boston College) and **Anne Blaschke** (UMass Boston)

Thursdays, 1:00 – 4:00 pm

*Meets at MIT*

