Philosophy 2306
Philosophy and Feminism
Professor Christine Koggel

Fall 2019: Mondays and Wednesdays: 1:05-2:25
Office Hours: Wednesday 2:30-4:30 or by appointment
Room 3A46 Paterson Hall, ext. 3239
email: christine.koggel@carleton.ca

Classroom Policy: NO iPhones or any other mobile devices. NO Laptops – unless by permission. AN EXCEPTION TO THE NO LAPTOP POLICY WILL BE THAT YOU CAN CHOOSE TO USE YOUR LAPTOP TO WRITE THE IN-CLASS MID-TERM EXAM (DIRECTIONS WILL BE SPECIFIED ON THE MID-TERM EXAM REVIEW QUESTIONS).

TEXTBOOKS: WE WILL BE READING MOST OF THE TWO TEXTS LISTED BELOW. THEY CAN BE PURCHASED AT HAVEN BOOKSTORE AT 43 SENECA STREET – CORNER OF SUNNYSIDE AND SENECA.
The Gender Knot: Unraveling our Patriarchal Legacy. **Third Edition**. Allan G. Johnson. Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 2014.
Living a Feminist Life. Sarah Ahmed. Duke University Press, 2017.

All other readings (as noted on the "Class by Class Reading List" are **posted on cuLearn (under ARES)**. Please note that material may be changed or added. You will be given advance warning if this happens.

Course Descriptions

1) **From the Calendar: PHIL 2306 [0.5 credit]: Philosophy and Feminism**
   A study of philosophical issues arising from feminism. The course includes discussions of the relations between feminism, reason and ideological commitment, as well as critical evaluation of contemporary views on selected topics (e.g. abortion, pornography and censorship, affirmative action, and beauty).
   Prerequisite(s): 0.5 credit in philosophy or second-year standing.
   Lectures three hours a week.
2) **Proposed list of topics for this year's 2306**
   Philosophy has played a key role in the emergence of feminism at the same time as the discipline has been largely male-dominated and prone to propounding and disseminating discriminatory beliefs about women. Feminist theory has, therefore, come to play a crucial role in uncovering biases and in its critical analysis of theories of all kinds in the history of Philosophy. In this course, we review some of the key concepts used by feminist philosophers and explore some of the history of the emergence and development of feminism. From here, we can begin to grasp that feminism has itself become a rich, varied,

and broad area of philosophical inquiry and that there are many kinds of feminisms and feminists.

In recent times, we often encounter beliefs that discrimination on the basis of gender has been eliminated and that women have achieved equality. We challenge these assumptions and beliefs through an examination of the key concepts of patriarchy, sexism, oppression, equality and sex/gender. In the process of exploring these concepts central to feminist theory, we pay attention to the history of feminism as well as to contemporary accounts of women's varied experiences and what this means for feminist theory, feminism, and various topics. This examination then forms the base from which we explore the relevance of gender to moral and political issues related to issues of identity, difference, knowledge, intersectionality, law and policy, moral decision-making, and responsibility.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1) **Assignment 1** due at the end of the **Key Concepts** component (worth 10% of the final grade). You will hand in this assignment (no more than 3 double-spaced pages and no less than 2 double-spaced pages) no later than at the beginning of the Monday class on **September 23rd**. It will cover the material from the four classes on September 9, 11, 16, and 18. Details on the assignment itself are on the "Class by Class Reading List" below under September 18th.
   NOTE: A key component of this assignment is to have you summarize the positions accurately – and before you launch into your discussion and analysis. I don't want gut reactions and off-the-cuff opinions. I do want a real engagement with the ideas, concept, issues, and arguments in the course readings that you select to examine.

2) **Mid-term exam** (1.5 hours) worth 25% of the final grade. The exam will be on the readings on material covered in Weeks 1-6 and on the class lectures and discussion of this material. It will be an in-class exam held on **October 9.**

3) **Assignment 2** due at the beginning of class on **November 6th** (assignment topic under November 4th). The assignment should be no more than 4 double-spaced pages and no less than 3 double-spaced pages (worth 20% of the final grade). NOTE: The purpose of this assignment is to make you aware of and have you discuss and analyze contemporary feminist discussions of the relevance of difference(s) to theory and to practice. Part of the task of this assignment is to have you summarize the positions accurately – and before you launch into your analysis. Again, I don't want gut reactions and off-the-cuff opinions. I do want a real engagement with the ideas, arguments, and issues in the course readings you select to examine.

4) Class attendance and participation is mandatory (worth 15% of the final grade). This component of the grade can be satisfied by doing at least three of the following multiple times throughout the course. Grade will be determined on the basis of you having done the readings, asking questions or making contributions connected with the readings and class discussions, and doing these things at various points throughout the semester:

a) Ask a question or contribute to class discussion. Follow this up with an email reporting what your in-class question or contribution was. (I get to review the question and/or contribution so that I get to know you, your understanding of the readings, and whether I missed something in my response in class.)
b) Ask a question or make a comment on cuLearn discussion group forum OR respond (respectfully) to a question or comment made by a classmate on cuLearn. (I get to review the question and/or discussion so that I can assess whether the material/ideas/concepts/arguments are being grasped and understood well.)
c) Come to office hours prepared to talk through an interesting or puzzling reading or an issue or argument discussed in class. You must have attended the class in which the reading was discussed and you must come with questions and/or comments on the reading(s). (These are not opportunities to have me redo lectures for missed classes.)
d) Being in class to sign class attendance sheets that I will be distributing at the beginning of a class from time to time throughout the course.

5) **Final term paper** worth 30% of the final grade (about 8-9 double-spaced pages). The term paper covers the material covered in Weeks 7-13 (material after the Mid-term Exam). Topics will be handed out in advance. The due date is no later than **December 6th** as noted on the "Class by Class Reading List" below.

CLASS BY CLASS READING LIST

Week 1 - Feminism and Philosophy
September 4 - Introduction to the course.

Week 2 – Key Concepts
September 9 - Readings from Allan Johnson's *The Gender Knot:* Chapter 1 (3-25) and from Marilyn Frye's *The Politics of Reality*, Chapter on Oppression (**on cuLearn**).

September 11 - Readings from Johnson's *The Gender Knot*: Chapter 2 (26-47) and from Frye's *The Politics of Reality*, Chapter on Sexism (**on cuLearn**).

Week 3 – Key Concepts
September 16 - Readings from Johnson's *The Gender Knot*: Chapter 3 (48-72) and from Anne Fausto-Sterling's *Sexing the Body*, Chapter 1, "Dueling Dualisms" (1-29) (**on cuLearn**).

September 18 – Readings from Anne Fausto-Sterling's *Sexing the Body*, Chapter 4, "Should there be Only Two Sexes?" (78-114) (**on cuLearn**).
Assignment 1: Carefully read and review the readings from Johnson's (2014) *The Gender Knot* (Chapters 1-3) as well as the readings from Frye's *The Politics of Reality* (Chapters on Oppression and on Sexism) and from Fausto-Sterling's *Sexing the Body* (Chapters 1 and 4 on dualisms and sex and gender). Pick two of the chapters/readings, preferably one of the chapters from Johnson's *The Gender Knot* and one of the Chapters from Frye's *The Politics of Reality* or

from Fausto-Sterling's *Sexing the Body*. Compare and contrast what each of the authors has to say about a particular key concept: defining oppression, patriarchy, or sexism, or delineating sex and gender. Make use of at least ONE example that each author uses to do your analysis of each. You should also review instructions (NOTE) on Assignment 1 as provided in the Course Requirements above. This first assignment is due no later than at the beginning of class on Monday, September 23rd. Keep in mind that I expect you to come to class having done the readings for the class on September 23rd.

Week 4 – Historical Roots of Feminism

September 23 - Readings from Mary Wollstonecraft's *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman*, Chapter IX *"*Of the Pernicious Effects which Arise from the Unnatural Distinctions Established in Society" (**on cuLearn**).

Assignment 1 on the readings from the first four classes due no later than the beginning of this class (no exceptions).

September 25 - Readings from John Stuart Mill's *The Subjection of Woman*, Chapter 1 (**on cuLearn)** and from Simone de Beauvoir's *The Second Sex*, Introduction (**on cuLearn**).

Week 5 – Kinds of Feminism

September 30 – Readings from *The Gender Knot*: Chapter 5 (92-121) and from Rosemary Tong's *Feminist Thought: A More Comprehensive Introduction*, "Introduction: The Diversity of Feminist Thinking" (1-9) **(on cuLearn)**.

October 2 – Readings from Catherine MacKinnon's *Feminism Unmodified*, Chapter 2, "Difference and Dominance: On Sex Discrimination" (32-45) (**on cuLearn)**.

Week 6 – Kinds of Feminism

October 7 – Readings from Iris Marion Young's *Justice and the Politics of Difference,* Chapter 2: "Five Faces of Oppression" **(on cuLearn)** and from bell hooks' *Feminist Theory: From Margin to Center*, Chapter 2: "Feminism: A Movement to End Sexist Oppression" **(on cuLearn)**

October 9 - **Midterm exam on readings from Weeks 1-6.**

Week 7 – Responsibility, Change, and Difference

October 14 – Thanksgiving Holiday. This missed class means we have a class on December 6th.

October 16 – Readings from Frye's *The Politics of Reality* "The Arrogant Eye, The Loving Eye, The Beloved" final 3 sections of Chapter called "In and Out of Harm's Way" (p. 66-83) (**on cuLearn)** and from Maria Lugones "Playfulness, 'World'-Travelling, and Loving Perception" *Hypatia*, v. 2, no. 2, 1987: 3-19 (**on cuLearn)**

FALL BREAK

Week 8 – Responsibility, Change, and Difference

October 28 – Readings from Marilyn Frye's *Willful Virgin: Essays in Feminism* (The Crossing Press 1992) Chapter "White Woman Feminist" (147-169) (**on cuLearn)** and from Mariana Ortega "Being Lovingly, Knowingly Ignorant: White Feminism and Women of Color," *Hypatia*, v. 21, no. 3, 2006: 56-74 (**on cuLearn)**

October 30 – Readings from Uma Narayan "Working Together across Difference", *Hypatia,* v. 3, no. 2, 1988: 31-47. (**on cuLearn)**

Week 9 – Responsibility, Change, and Difference

November 4 - Readings from Laurence Thomas "Moral Deference" from *Theorizing Multiculturalism*. (p. 359-381) **(on cuLearn)**

--Differences and Being Feminist

November 6 - Readings from Sara Ahmed's *Living a Feminist Life*, Chapters 7 and 8.

Assignment 2: Use insights from Chapters 7, 8, and 9 of Ahmed's book about what it is to live a feminist life to evaluate/comment on/review at least one (and no more than two) of the readings we covered in the classes from October 16 to November 4. You should also review instructions (NOTE) on Assignment 2 as provided in the Course Requirements above. This second assignment is due no later than at the beginning of class on Monday, November 11th. Keep in mind that you will need to do the readings for November 11th ahead of time for this assignment.

Week 10 –Differences and Being Feminist

November 11 – Readings from Sara Ahmed's *Living a Feminist Life*, Chapter 9

Assignment 2 (above) due at beginning of class.

- **Differences Revisited**

November 13 - Readings from Susan Wendell "Toward a Feminist Theory of Disability," *Hypatia*, v. 4, no. 2, 1989: 104-124. (**on cuLearn)** and "The Fix: One Peel Nursing Home took a Gamble on Fun, Life, and Love" (**on cuLearn)**

Week 11 – Differences Revisited

November 18 – Readings from Dean Spade "Mutilating Gender" Spring 2000 (**on cuLearn)**

- **Is Ethics Gendered?**

November 20 - Readings from Carol Gilligan's *In a Different Voice*: Letter to Readers (ix-xxvii), Introduction (1-4) and Chapter 1 (15-23) (**on cuLearn**).

Week 12 – Is Ethics Gendered?

November 25 – Readings from Annette Baier's *Moral Prejudices: Essays on Ethics,* Chapter 2: The Need for More than Justice (**on cuLearn)** and from Joan Tronto "Creating Caring Institutions" from *Ethics and Social Welfare* Special Issue *Care Ethics* (**on cuLearn)**.

– Challenging Norms

November 27 - Readings from Sue Campbell "Being Dismissed: The Politics of Emotional Expression" *Hypatia*, v. 9, no. 3, 1994: 46-65 (**on cuLearn).**

Week 13 – Feminism and Activism Revisited

December 2 – Readings from bell hooks' *Feminist Theory: From Margin to Center,* Chapter 4: Sisterhood: Political Solidarity Amongst Women (**on cuLearn**) and from Patricia Hill Collins' *Black Feminist Thought*, Chapter 10, "U.S. Black Feminism in Transnational Context" (245-268) (**on cuLearn).**

December 4 – Readings from Serene Khader's *Decolonizing Universalism: A Transnational Feminist Ethic*, Chapter 1 "Toward a Decolonial Feminist Universalism" (24-49) (**on cuLearn).**

December 6 - Readings from Sara Ahmed's *Living a Feminist Life*, Conclusion 2: A Killjoy Manifesto.

FINAL TERM PAPER DUE IN CLASS OR NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 6TH BY 4:15 P.M. (FLOOR 3A AS PER INSTRUCTIONS UNDER DEPARTMENT POLICIES BELOW). DEADLINE IS SPECIFIED IN THE ACADEMIC CALENDAR AS "LAST DAY FOR HANDING IN TERM WORK AND THE LAST DAY THAT CAN BE SPECIFIED BY A COURSE INSTRUCTOR AS A DUE DATE FOR TERM WORK FOR FALL TERM COURSES."

Department of Philosophy and Carleton University Policies (Fall/Winter 2019-20)

Assignments:

Unless specifically told otherwise by their instructors, students:

- Must not use a plastic or cardboard cover or paper clips.
- Must staple the paper (there is a stapler on the essay box).
- Must include the following on the first page: student name and number; course name and number; instructor's name.
- No assignments will be accepted after the last day for handing in term work – see dates below.
- Assignments handed in through the essay box (just inside the glass doors, Paterson Hall, Floor 3A) must be dropped into the box by **4:15** on a regular business day in order to be date-stamped with that day's date. Assignments handed in after 4:15 or on a non-business day will be stamped as having been handed in on the next business day.
- Students are required to keep copies of their assignments. If your paper is lost at any point, you will be considered not to have submitted it if you cannot produce a copy immediately on request.

Evaluation:

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

Deferrals for Final Exams:

If you miss a final examination (formally scheduled or take-home) because of circumstances beyond your control, you may apply for a deferral. You must apply within 3 working days after the scheduled date of your formally scheduled exam or within 3 working days after the due date of a take-home exam. Visit the Registrar's Office for more information: http://calendar.carleton.ca/undergrad/regulations/academicregulationsoftheuniversity/acadregsuniv2/#2.5

Plagiarism:

It is the responsibility of each student to understand the meaning of 'plagiarism' as defined in the Undergraduate or Graduate Calendars, and to avoid both committing plagiarism and aiding or abetting plagiarism by other students. https://carleton.ca/registrar/academic-integrity/

Academic Accommodation:

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows:

If you have a documented disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation or contact your PMC coordinator to send your instructor your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term. You must also contact the PMC no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with your instructor as soon as possible to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. carleton.ca/pmc

Pregnancy obligation: write to your professor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details visit the Equity Services website: http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/

Religious obligation: write to your professor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details visit the Equity Services website: http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/

Survivors of Sexual Violence: as a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and is survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit: carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support

Accommodation for Student Activities: Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation must be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf

For more information on academic accommodation, please contact the departmental administrator or visit: students.carleton.ca/course-outline

Important Dates:

Sept. 4	Classes start.
Sept. 17	Last day for registration and course changes for fall term and fall/winter (two-term) courses.
Sept. 30	Last day for entire fee adjustment when withdrawing from fall term or two-term courses. Withdrawals after this date will result in a permanent notation of WDN on the official transcript.
Oct. 14	Statutory holiday. University closed.
Oct. 21-25	Fall Break – no classes.
Nov. 22	Last day for summative tests or examinations, or formative tests or examinations totaling more than 15% of the final grade, before the official examination period.
Dec. 6	Last day of fall term classes. **Classes follow a Monday schedule**. Last day for academic withdrawal from fall term courses. Last day for handing in term work and the last day that can be specified by a course instructor as a due date for term work for a fall term course.
Dec. 9-21	Final examinations for fall term courses and mid-term examinations in two-term courses. Examinations are normally held all seven days of the week.
Dec. 21	All take-home examinations are due.
Jan. 6	Classes begin.
Jan. 17	Last day for registration and course changes in the winter term.
Jan. 31	Last day for a full fee adjustment when withdrawing from winter term courses or from the winter portion of two-term courses. Withdrawals after this date will result in a permanent notation of WDN on the official transcript.
Feb. 17	Statutory holiday. University closed.
Feb. 17-21	Winter Break – no classes.
Mar. 24	Last day for summative tests or examinations, or formative tests or examinations totaling more than 15% of the final grade, in winter term or fall/winter courses before the official examination period.
Apr. 7	Last day of two-term and winter term classes. Last day for academic withdrawal from fall/winter and winter courses. Last day for handing in term work and the last day that can be specified by a course instructor as a due date for two-term and for winter term courses.
Apr. 10	Statutory holiday. University closed.
Apr. 13-25	Final examinations for winter term and two-term courses. Examinations are normally held all seven days of the week.
Apr. 25	All take-home examinations are due on this day.

Addresses:

Department of Philosophy:	3A35 Paterson Hall www.carleton.ca/philosophy 520-2110
Registrar's Office:	300 Tory www.carleton.ca/registrar 520-3500
Academic Advising Centre:	302 Tory www.carleton.ca/academicadvising 520-7850
Writing Services:	4th Floor, Library http://www.carleton.ca/csas/writing-services/ 520-3822
MacOdrum Library	http://www.library.carleton.ca/ 520-2735