

**CARLETON UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY**

**ETHNOGRAPHY OF GENDER ANTH 4109/5109
FALL TERM 2023**

Instructor: Verónica Vicencio Diaz

Office Hours: Online Tuesdays 11:00-12:00pm (or by appointment)

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Method of Delivery: In-person

Class Time: Mondays 11:35-14:25

In this course, you are expected to learn from your texts, your teacher and from one another. This requires striving towards understanding each other but it does not imply striving towards finding agreement. Our class will be racially, religiously, politically, culturally, generationally, and economically diverse. We will be of different gender identifications and sexual orientations and our lived experiences and reactions to the course material will reflect this diversity. Sharing our perspectives and interpretations on the course material will enhance everyone's learning experience and you are encouraged to openly express any disagreements with the authors you will read, with your fellow classmates, or with the professor in the different participation fora that are available for this course. However, you are expected to conduct yourself in such a way that shows the utmost respect to others who may – or may not – share your views. Derogatory comments and hateful behavior towards others (and their views) will not be tolerated.

Carleton University acknowledges the location of its campus on the traditional, unceded territories of the Algonquin nation. In doing so, Carleton acknowledges it has a responsibility to the Algonquin people and a responsibility to adhere to Algonquin cultural protocols.

Course Description:

Welcome! In this course, students will examine issues, debates, and perspectives important to gender from an ethnographic perspective. Students will learn how to critically consider gender through the lens of ethnographic works by focusing primarily on the ways in which anthropologists have perceived, represented, and immersed themselves in specific contexts. Students will explore relationships among gender, sex, and sexuality and the ways in which these relationships articulate with other forms of difference such as race, ethnicity, class, and nation; gendered perspectives on power; the interaction of agency and structure in the production of

genders; issues of cultural representation and expression; gender and body politics; feminist positionalities, methods, and ethics as well as transgender theory and globalization. By engaging in feminist anthropological approaches related to gender and sex, students, for example, will be able to observe how categories and hierarchies of gender and sex are constructed in and through cultural norms of race, ethnicity, class, sexuality, age, ability, indigeneity, nationality, and globalization, among others. Students will have the opportunity to explore ethnographies from different places and times and in turn, be able to analyze gender as a social construct phenomenon. Overall, ethnographic works on gender will allow students to engage with the principles of fieldwork to think critically about the ways in which gender practices are transmitted, reproduced, and contested in today's world.

Course Objectives:

- To examine the value of 'gender' and 'ethnography' as analytical lenses.
- To be introduced to gender, and people's lived experiences, through ethnographic works.
- Learn about gender and its relation to cultural diversity.
- Explore significant concepts, debates, and contributions of feminist anthropology.
- Analyze ethnographic methods for data collection with special emphasis on fieldwork, participant observation, and field techniques.
- Understand how ethnographers engage with gender while considering the ethics and politics of fieldwork and writing.
- Improve students' analytical research, as well as reading, discussion, writing and presentation skills.

Reading (s)/Textbook (s):

All materials will be freely available on Brightspace.

Course Schedule:

Week 1

September 11 — Welcome to the course
Fieldwork, ethnography, and gender

Cerwonka, A. (2007). Nervous conditions: The stakes in interdisciplinary research. In Allaine Cerwonka, and Liisa H. Malkki, *Improvising Theory: Process and Temporality in Ethnographic Fieldwork*. Chicago/London, IL/UK: The University of Chicago Press.

Mohanty, Ch. (1991). Cartographies of struggle: Third world women and the politics of feminism, p. 1-50. In Chandra Talpade Mohanty, Ann Russo and Lourdes Torres, *Third World Women and the politics of feminism*. Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press.

Week 2

September 18 — On doing gender

Butler, J. (1988). Performative acts and gender constitution: An essay in phenomenology and feminist theory. *Theatre Journal*, 40(4), p. 519-531.

Butler, J. (1999). *Gender trouble: Feminism and the subversion of identity*. Chapter 1: Subjects of sex, gender/desire, p. 1-46. New York, NY: Routledge.

Video: Judith Butler.

Week 3

September 25 — Gendered dichotomies and ethnographic responsibility

Ortner, Sherry. 1974. Is Female to Male as Nature is to Culture? *Feminist Studies*, Autumn, 1(2), pp 5-31.

Abu-Lughod, L. (2013). *Do Muslim women need saving?* Cambridge & London, MA/UK: Harvard University Press.

Week 4

October 2 — Masculinities

Cornwall, A., and Lindisfarne, N. (1994). Dislocating Masculinity: Gender, Power, and Anthropology. In Andrea Cornwall and Nancy Lindisfarne, (Eds.), *Dislocating Masculinity*, pp. 11-47. New York, NY: Routledge.

Gutmann, M. (2006). *The Meanings of Macho: Being a man in Mexico city*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

October 9 — Thanksgiving

Week 5

October 16 — Gender and Ethnicity

Abu-Lughod, L. (1990). Can there be a feminist ethnography? Women and Performance. *A Journal of Feminist Theory* 5(1), 7-27.

Wynne, M. (2001). *Our women are free: Gender and ethnicity in the Hindukush*. Ann Arbor, MI: University of Michigan.

October 23 — Reading week

Week 6

October 30 — Intersections: Gender, race, class, sex, and sexuality

Lancaster, R. (1994). *Life is hard: Machismo, danger, and the intimacy of power in Nicaragua*. Berkely and Los Angeles, CA: University of California Press.

Goldstein, D. (2003). Laughter Out of Place. Chapter 1. In Donna Goldstein, *Laughter Out of Place: Race, Class, Violence, and Sexuality in a Rio Shantytown*. California, CA: University of California Press.

Film: Marije Meerman. (2002). Chain of Love. New York, NY: Icarus Films (51 minutes).

Proposal for book review due date

Week 7

November 6 — Gender, Sex & Sexuality in a globalized world

Freeman, C. (2001). Is local: Global as feminine: Masculine? Rethinking the gender of globalization. *Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society* 26(4), 1008-37.

Kwon, J. H. (2015). The Work of Waiting: Love and Money in Korean Chinese Transnational Migration. *Cultural Anthropology*. Vol 30(3), 477-500.

Manalansan, M. (2003). *Global Divas: Filipino Gay Men in the Diaspora*. Durham: Duke University Press.

Week 8

November 13 — Sex/Gender Beyond the Binary

Reddy, G. (2006). *With Respect to Sex: Negotiating Hijra identity in South India*. Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press.

Robinson, M. (2020). Two Spirit Identity in a time of Gender Fluidity. *Journal of Homosexuality* 67(12), 1675–1690.

Film Viewing: The Seatbelt Crew (3 minutes)

Week 9

November 20 — Gendered agency

Elyachar, J. (2010). Phatic labor, infrastructure, and the question of empowerment in Cairo. *American Ethnologist*, 37(3), 452-464.

Mahmood, S. (2005). *Politics of piety: The Islamic revival and the feminist subject*. New Jersey, NJ: Princeton University Press.

Film: Cisquella, G. (2018). *Hotel Explotación: Las Kelly's*. (55 minutes, with English subtitled).

Week 10

November 27 — Decolonizing Gender/Sex

Tengan, T. P. K. & Makani Markham, J. (2009). Performing Polynesian Masculinities in American Football: From 'Rainbows to Warriors? *The International Journal of the History of Sport*, 26(16), 2412-2431.

Valentine, D. (2007). *Imagining Transgender: An Ethnography of a Category*. Durham, NC: Duke University Press.

Week 11

December 4 — Book review presentations

Week 12

December 8 — Due date for book review final project

Course Requirements & Methods of evaluation:

Reading Responses	— 30%	(For 4109 – best 3/4 and for 5109 – best 6/7)
Class Participation	— 10%	
Class Presentations and discussions	— 20%	
Final Project	— 40%	
Proposal for book review	— 5%	(October 30)
Book review presentation	— 10%	(December 4)
Book review final project	— 25%	(December 8)

Penalty for late submission of the Proposal for final project is one grade point (for example, from A to A-) per day and no extensions on the Book review final project are given for any reason.

Reading Responses — 30%

Undergraduate students will submit up to four reading responses, and only the best three will count for the final mark. Graduate students will submit up to seven reading responses, and only the best six will count for the final mark. Students will have the option to select the weeks in which they would like to submit their reading responses. On Friday nights (that means, by the end of the day), you will submit 400 to 600 word-long reflections based on the weekly readings. Weekly responses posted past this deadline will not count towards your grade for this assignment. The kinds of questions you can answer in your responses could be, what did you learn about the week's topic from these materials? What did you think about the perspectives offered by the author(s)? What ideas spoke to you the most? Why? Did you have a favourite text? Why? By contrast, is there an idea proposed by an author that you are critical of, how so? Be sure to draw on specific examples and specific ideas from the readings.

Class Participation — 10%

students are encouraged to attend every class and participate regularly. The class format relies on students taking an active role in learning and sharing knowledge. Attendance will be taken for every class, and your participation, including the quality of your contributions to the discussion, will be evaluated. Participation means coming to class prepared, contributing regularly to the discussion, actively listening, and engaging thoughtfully with others' views related to the weekly topics. As an advanced seminar course, it is essential that you arrive to our class on Mondays having completed the readings assigned for each week. While some grades are awarded for regular attendance, most of your participation grade is derived from your relevant and regular input during class participation. As well, while considering unexpected life events, you can be absent up to two weeks without any repercussions to this portion of your participation marks.

Class presentation and discussion — 20%

Students will organize in groups and will be assigned a week where they will lead the class discussion for 40-50 minutes. This will include an analysis of the class readings along with discussion activities. You should work together to present the week's topic, develop a short presentation along with leading a brief discussion. Presentations will be approximately 15-20 minutes, followed by 25-30 minutes of class discussion. See academic rubric for grading details and students will be graded as groups. Moreover, groups will require to submit a brief summary of their presentation and discussion questions to the instructor at the time of their presentation. Students will be able to choose the date of their class presentation in the first day of class.

Proposal for book review — 5% (October 30)

A proposal is a general description of what your final paper/project will address. It should identify the main points you expect to explore and how such points will be addressed. Thus, for the proposal stage, undergrad students will submit a paper 2-3 pages long (grad students 3-4 pages long) based on the ethnographic work chosen for your final project. It must include a description of the ethnography chosen, a brief outline of what you will discuss in the final paper and how the ethnography relates to themes from the course. The proposal, for example, will address anthropological accounts on gender through representations, research, production of knowledge, ethics, writing style, as well as people's practices, experiences, descriptions, interpretations, etcetera. The proposal must be written in full sentences, double-spaced, and 12 font word format. Further guidelines will be provided the first day of class.

Book review presentation — 10% (December 4)

Students will have the opportunity to share the ethnography of choice. During this class, students will deliver a brief presentation which should not be more than five minutes long. In their presentations, students should persuade the audience on the relevance of the ethnography of choice. Students who have selected the same ethnography as their peers will be able to work collectively to provide arguments as to why their ethnography should be chosen as the class favourite and will receive a collective grade. For the class presentation, students are allowed to use visuals. Further guidelines and the grading criteria will be provided in class. Students will be able to choose the time of their class presentation in the first day of class.

Book review final project — 25% (December 8)

Students will be required to select an ethnographic work and prepare an individual book review due in the last day of class (December 8, 2023). The aim of the book review (8-10 pages double-spaced, 12 pt. font, 1 inch margins for 4109 students, and 12-14 pages for 5109 students) is for students to develop their own critical analysis, critical thinking and the writing skills learned in class. At the same time, in this book review, students will be able to apply their newly-gained knowledge about ethnography and the ethics related to it. Further guidelines will be provided the first day of class.

In accordance with the Carleton University Undergraduate Calendar Regulations, the letter grades assigned in this course will have the following percentage equivalents:

A+ = 90-100	B+ = 77-79	C+ = 67-69	D+ = 57-59
A = 85-89	B = 73-76	C = 63-66	D = 53-56
A - = 80-84	B - = 70-72	C - = 60-62	D - = 50-52
F = Below 50	WDN = Withdrawn from the course	DEF = Deferred	

Academic Regulations, Accommodations, Plagiarism, Etc.

University rules regarding registration, withdrawal, appealing marks, and most anything else you might need to know can be found on the university's website, here:

<https://calendar.carleton.ca/undergrad/regulations/academicregulationsoftheuniversity/>

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

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at **613-520-6608** or **pmc@carleton.ca** for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send your **Letter of Accommodation** at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (*if applicable*).

*The deadline for contacting the Paul Menton Centre regarding accommodation for December full fall and late fall examinations and fall/winter midterm examinations is November 15, 2023.

For Religious Obligations

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. For more details, visit the Equity Services website: www.carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf

For Pregnancy

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. For more details, visit the Equity Services website: www.carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf

For 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 where 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: www.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>

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is the passing off of someone else's work as your own and is a serious academic offence. For the details of what constitutes plagiarism, the potential penalties and the procedures refer to the section on Instructional Offences in the Undergraduate Calendar. Students are expected to familiarize themselves with and follow the Carleton University Student Academic Integrity Policy (See <https://carleton.ca/registrar/academic-integrity/>). The Policy is strictly enforced and is binding on all students. Academic dishonesty in any form will not be tolerated. Students who infringe the Policy may be subject to one of several penalties.

What are the Penalties for Plagiarism?

A student found to have plagiarized an assignment may be subject to one of several penalties including but not limited to: a grade of zero, a failure or a reduced grade for the piece of academic work; reduction of final grade in the course; completion of a remediation process; resubmission of academic work; withdrawal from course(s); suspension from a program of study; a letter of reprimand.

What are the Procedures?

All allegations of plagiarism are reported to the faculty of Dean of FASS and Management. Documentation is prepared by instructors and departmental chairs. The Dean writes to the student and the University Ombudsperson about the alleged plagiarism. The Dean reviews the allegation. If it is not resolved at this level then it is referred to a tribunal appointed by the Senate.

Assistance for Students:

Academic and Career Development Services: <https://carleton.ca/career/>

Writing Services: <http://www.carleton.ca/csas/writing-services/>

Peer Assisted Study Sessions (PASS): <https://carleton.ca/csas/group-support/pass/>

Important Information:

- Student or professor materials created for this course (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the author(s). They are intended for personal use and may not be reproduced or redistributed without prior written consent of the author(s).
 - Students must always retain a hard copy of all work that is submitted.
 - 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.
 - Carleton University is committed to protecting the privacy of those who study or work here (currently and formerly). To that end, Carleton's Privacy Office seeks to encourage the implementation of the privacy provisions of Ontario's *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FIPPA) within the university.
 - In accordance with FIPPA, please ensure all communication with staff/faculty is via your Carleton email account. To get your Carleton Email you will need to activate your [MyCarletonOne account](#) through Carleton Central. Once you have activated your MyCarletonOne account, log into the [MyCarleton Portal](#).
 - Please note that you will be able to link your MyCarletonOne account to other non-MyCarletonOne accounts and receive emails from us. However, for us to respond to your emails, we need to see your full name, CU ID, and the email must be written from your valid MyCarletonOne address. Therefore, it would be easier to respond to your inquiries if you would send all email from your connect account. If you do not have or have yet to activate this account, you may wish to do so by visiting <https://students.carleton.ca/>
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Important Dates and Deadlines: Fall 2023

August 29, 2023: Deadline for course outlines to be made available to students registered in full fall, early fall, and fall/winter courses.

- September 1, 2023: Last day for receipt of applications from potential fall (November) graduates.
- September 4, 2023: Statutory holiday. University closed.
- September 5, 2023: Academic orientation (undergraduate and graduate students).
Orientation for new Teaching Assistants.

All new students are expected to be on campus. Class and laboratory preparations, departmental introductions for students, and other academic preparation activities will be held.
- September 6, 2023: Fall term begins. Full fall, early fall, and fall/winter classes begin.
- September 12, 2023: Last day for registration and course changes (including auditing) in early fall courses.
- September 19, 2023: Last day for registration and course changes (including auditing) in full fall, late fall, and fall/winter courses.

Last day to withdraw from early fall courses with a full fee adjustment.

Graduate students who have not electronically submitted their final thesis copy to the Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Affairs will not be eligible to graduate in fall 2023 and must register for the fall 2023 term.
- September 22-24, 2023: Full summer and late summer term deferred final examinations will be held.
- September 30, 2023: Last day to withdraw from full fall and fall/winter courses with a full fee adjustment.
- October 1, 2023: Last day for academic withdrawal from early fall courses.

Last day to request Formal Examination Accommodations for Oct/Nov final examinations from the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities. Note that it may not be possible to fulfil accommodation requests received after the specified deadlines.
- October 6, 2023: December examination schedule (fall term final and fall/winter mid-terms) available online.
- October 9, 2023: Statutory holiday. University closed.
- October 13, 2023: Last day for summative tests or examinations, or formative tests or examinations totaling more than 15% of the final grade, in early fall term undergraduate courses, before the official Oct/Nov final examination period (see examination regulations in the Academic Regulations of the University section of the Undergraduate Calendar/General Regulations of the Graduate Calendar).

- October 15, 2023: Last day for receipt of applications for admission to an undergraduate degree program for the winter term from applicants whose documents originate from outside Canada or the United States.
- October 20, 2023: Last day of early fall classes.
- Last day for final take-home examinations to be assigned in early fall courses, with the exception of those conforming to the examination regulations in the Academic regulations of the University section of the Undergraduate Calendar/General Regulations of the Graduate Calendar.
- Last day that can be specified by a course instructor as a due date for term work for early fall courses.
- October 23, 2023: Deadline for course outlines to be made available to students registered in late fall courses.
- October 23-27, 2023: Fall break, no classes.
- October 28-29,
November 4-5, 2023: Final examinations in early fall undergraduate courses will be held.
- October 30, 2023: Late fall classes begin.
- November 10, 2023: Last day to withdraw from late fall term courses with a full fee adjustment.
- November 15, 2023: Last day for academic withdrawal from full fall and late fall courses.
- Last day to request Formal Examination Accommodations for December full fall and late fall examinations and fall/winter midterm examinations from the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities. Note that it may not be possible to fulfil accommodation requests received after the specified deadlines.
- Last day for receipt of applications for admission to an undergraduate degree program for the winter term.
- November 17-19, 2023: Early fall undergraduate deferred final examinations will be held.
- November 24, 2023: Last day for summative tests or examinations, or formative tests or examinations totaling more than 15% of the final grade, in full fall term or fall/winter undergraduate courses, before the official December final examination period (see examination regulations in the Academic Regulations of the University section of the Undergraduate Calendar/General Regulations of the Graduate Calendar).
- December 1, 2023: Last day for receipt of applications from potential winter (February) graduates.
- Last day for graduate students to submit their supervisor-approved thesis, in examinable form to the department.

Last day for summative tests or examinations, or formative tests or examinations totaling more than 15% of the final grade, in late fall term undergraduate courses, before the official final examination period (see examination regulations in the Academic Regulations of the University section of the Undergraduate Calendar/General Regulations of the Graduate Calendar).

December 8, 2023:

Fall term ends.

Last day of full fall and late fall classes.

Classes follow a Monday schedule.

Last day for final take-home examinations to be assigned, with the exception of those conforming to the examination regulations in the Academic Regulations of the University section of the Undergraduate Calendar/General Regulations of the Graduate Calendar.

Last day that can be specified by an instructor as a due date for term work for full and late fall courses.

Last day for receipt of applications for undergraduate degree program transfers for winter term.

December 9, 2023:

No classes or examinations take place.

December 10-22, 2023: Final examinations in full fall and late fall courses and mid-term examinations in fall/winter courses will be held. Examinations are normally held all seven days of the week.

December 22, 2023:

All final take-home examinations are due on this day, with the exception of those conforming to the examination regulations in the Academic Regulations of the University section of the Undergraduate Calendar/General Regulations of the Graduate Calendar.

December 25,
2023 through
January 3, 2024
inclusive:

University closed.