Carleton University
Department of Sociology and Anthropology
SOCI 2810B [0.5 credit] Special Topics 2810: STEM and Gender

Fall 2018

Instructor: Prof. Amina Mire

Friday 11:35 AM – 2:25 P.M. in 303 Southam

Office Location: A704 Loeb Building
Office hours. Mondays: 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm

E-Mail: amina.mire@carleton.ca
Phone: 613-520-2600 ext. 4476

Course Objectives

* Sociological/feminist approach to theories on sex, gender, masculinity, femininity, knowledge and learning pertaining to the areas of Science, Technology and related fields (STEM).
* Scientific concepts and theories used in the course will be explained in accessible sociological language.
* It critically interrogates how ideologies of biological determinism and scientific masculinist discourses shaped hierarchical learning outcomes and how these dominant imperatives militate against girls and women in the STEM fields.
* It seeks to explore ways to reverse chronic underrepresentation of women in science, technology, math, engineering and related stem fields in Canada and in the globally general.
* STEM fields here include women in the military, law enforcement, firefighters, the RCMP and related domains previously dominated by men.

Prerequisite(s):
SOCI 1001 and SOCI 1002, or SOCI 1003 [1.0], or ANTH 1001, or ANTH 1002.

***Please note: this is a course in sociology and that students are not expected to be necessarily familiar with the scientific literature in the STEM fields.

*Required Readings*

*All the assigned readings will be reserved through the Carleton University Library reserve system and can be accessed electronically through Ares/CuLearn homepage of this course.
Evaluation:

**A take home exam.** Distributed on October 12, due on October 19. 20% of the final grade.
Format of the take home exam: a short essay (500-700 words) 10%.
Short questions: Five in total each question and answer type is 100 words maximum.
Each short question is worth 2% and five such short questions are worth 10%. Take home exam will cover assigned work between September 14 and October 5.

**Proposals for the final research essay 10% of the final grade.**
The proposal for the final essay must include working title, a research question, specific concepts pertinent to STEM and Gender and to the specific research question. Maximum one to one and half pages due on November 2.

**Final research Essay. 45% of the final grade.**
This essay must use one or more of the theories that were in the course. Students are required to show relevance of the topic and its implications for studies, research and practice in the STEM field and on gender. The aim of the research paper is to critically demonstrate relationship between theories and practices as they pertain to sociological analysis of gender and the STEM fields.

Format of the research essay: 12-15 pages (double spaced, 12 font, Word format only) plus references and footnotes. Students are expected to use theories developed in the course and show additional research. Due date for the final research essay is on 7th December 2018.

**Class attendance and tutorial discussion 25%**. Students are expected to attend the lectures and active engage in the discussions.
**Note:** there is no final exam for this course.

*Criteria for Grading Assignments*
*Clarity, grammar, spelling, formatting, referencing style (APA, MLA and Chicago are all acceptable)*
*Strength and credibility of supporting evidence (scholarly sources)*
*Consistency in analysis and coherent narrative structure (avoid contradictory claims)*
*Use of appropriate analytic concepts, ideas and paradigms*

Course Requirements & Methods of Evaluation:

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
- **A** = 85-89
- **A -** = 80-84
- **B+** = 77-79
- **B** = 73-76
- **B -** = 70-72
- **C+** = 67-69
- **C** = 63-66
- **C -** = 60-62
- **D+** = 57-59
- **D** = 53-56
- **D -** = 50-52
F = Below 50  WDN = Withdrawn from the course
DEF = Deferred (See above)
Please note: final grades are subject to the Dean’s approval.

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:
http://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 final exams for the Fall 2018 (December) exam period is November 9, 2018. The deadline for contacting the Paul Menton Centre regarding accommodation for final exams for the Winter 2019 (April) exam period is March 15, 2019.

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:

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:

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 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: 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. Plagiarism and cheating at the graduate level are viewed as being particularly serious and the sanctions imposed are accordingly severe.

Assistance for Students:
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/

Important Dates

Fall 2018

August 29 All Fall term syllabi must be posted
September 3 Labour Day – University Closed.
September 5 Classes start.
September 14-16 Summer term deferred examinations will be written.
September 19 Last day for registration and course changes in Fall and Fall/Winter courses.
September 30 Last day to withdraw from fall term and fall/winter courses with a full fee adjustment. Withdrawals after this date will result in a permanent notation of WDN to appear on the official transcript.
October 5 December exam schedule available online.
October 8 Thanksgiving Day – University closed.
October 22-26 Fall break, no classes.
November 23 Last day for summative tests or final examinations, or formative tests or examinations totaling more than 15% of the final grade in Fall term courses before the official examination period.
December 7  Classes follow a Monday schedule. Fall term ends. Last day of classes. Last day for academic withdrawal from Fall term courses. Last day for take-home examinations to be assigned (except those that conform to the Academic Regulations of the University in the Undergraduate Calendar/General Regulations of the Graduate Calendar). Last day for handing in term work and the last day that can be specified by a course instructor as a due date for Fall term courses.

December 9-21  December exams: Final examinations for Fall courses, mid-terms for Fall/Winter courses. Exams are normally held all seven days of the week.

December 21  All take-home exams are due except those that conform to the Academic Regulations of the University in the Undergraduate Calendar/General Regulations of the Graduate Calendar.

December 24  All Winter term syllabi must be posted

December 25 - January 1  University closed

September 7: Introduction

No readings are required.

September 14: STEM and Gender: biological determinism and its fallacies.

Required readings:


September 21: Masculinity and dominant epistemology-I.


September 28: Masculinity and dominant epistemology-II.


October 5: “Leaky” Bodies and “Hard" Bodies: Gendering Technology in Age of Modernity


October 12: From “Leaky Bodies” to the Leaky Pipeline: Gender and STEM Fields in the Post-Modern Neo-liberal Age

Required readings:

Thon, Jonathan (2012). The good, the bad and the ugly of gender bias in academic science. UA/AU (University Affairs).


URL: http://www.nytimes.com/2013/10/06/magazine/why-are-there-still-so-few-women-in-science.html?_r=1&


October 19: Leaky Pipeline, Gender and STEM: Global Perspective: (Women, Socialism and technology).

Readings:


DOI: 10.1 17711 075547005278610

October 26: Fall Break. No classes

November 2: the Leaky Pipeline, Gender and STEM: Global Perspective (Global North and women in the STEM fields).
*Proposals for the research essay* are due.


DOI: 10.1002/tea.20241


URL: http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/14926156.2012.649054

November 9: Gendered and Armoured bodies: Women in the Military: Scholarly and Media Representations.

Readings:


Director: Ridley Scott

November 16: The “Few Good Women Fallacy”: Femininity analysis of women in the military


AFP News Agency (2009). Guns and cookery: The Russian military school for girls
URL: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U4ziX-9FjTg

**November 23: A Cases study of female paratroopers.**

Film: RT Documentary: The Female Battalion (Episode 1, a short clip will be showed and discussed)
URL: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ucqgTWig9DI

**November 30: discussion on tutorial workshop concerning with the female research essays ( Final class).**

**December 7: due date for the final research paper.** Please place in the Sociology and Anthropology drop box at Loeb B750. Please keep hard copies of all the work you submit for grading.