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OER Annotated Bibliography and Reflection

GNDR 1061: Introduction to Gender Studies

4 December 2021

Online Textbook

Kang, Miliann et al. *Introduction to Women, Gender, Sexuality Studies*. University of Massachusetts Amherst Libraries. <http://openbooks.library.umass.edu/introwgss/>

This textbook is going to be a great foundation for key terminology, history, and concepts for the class. This textbook is organized into five sections: “An Introduction to Women, Gender, Sexuality Studies: Grounding Theoretical Frameworks and Concepts;” “Challenging Binary Systems and Constructions of Difference;” “Institutions, Culture, and Structures;” “Gender and Work in the Global Economy;” “Historical and Contemporary Feminism Social Movements.” Miliann Kang, Donovan Lessard, Laura Heston, and Sonny Nordmarken have together developed an interdisciplinary textbook that “unpacks the social construction of knowledge and categories of difference, processes and structures of power and inequality, with a focus on gendered labor in the global economy, and the historical development of feminist social movements.” While I intend to build upon readings, videos, and talks from multiple sources and plan to highlight and work with the chapters that best speak to course objectives, I love having a primary text for the class, that it in conversation with current events and theory, and that it is free.

Library Resources – Free Access Available Through Library Licensing

Barker, Meg-John. *Gender: A Graphic Guide*. Icon Books, 2019.

This graphic guide introduces readers to the history and theory around gender. “In this unique illustrated guide, Meg-John Barker and Jules Scheele travel through our shifting

understandings of gender across time and space – from ideas about masculinity and femininity, to non-binary and trans genders, to intersecting experiences of gender, race, sexuality, class, disability and more.” Gender is a central and nuanced focus in this class, and I’m sure that this text’s access, multimodal presentation, and depth/breadth of discussion is going to greatly support our learning.

Taylor, Keeanga-Yamahtta, ed. *How We Get Free: Black Feminism and the Combahee River Collective*. Haymarket Books, 2017.

“The Combahee River Collective, a trailblazing group of radical Black feminists, was one of the most important organizations to develop out of the antiracist and women’s liberation movements of the 1960s and ‘70s. In this collection of interviews edited by activist-scholar Keeanga-Yamahtta Taylor, founding members of the organization and contemporary activists reflect on the legacy of its contributions to Black feminism and its impact on today’s struggles.” The Combahee River Collective’s framework of analysis shines a light towards what feminism can be and offers a model of intersectional evaluation that will significantly support our work in the class.

Streaming Resources

I intend to use the following resources to support our readings and discussions around suffrage, gendered representation in the media, sexual violence, and reproductive justice.

“Abortion: Stories Women Tell,” Dir. Tracy Droz Tragos. *HBO Documentary Films*®, 2017.

Kanopy. <https://century.kanopy.com/video/abortion-stories-women-tell>

“The Codes of Gender.” Dir. Aaron Vega, Andrew Killooy, Jeremy Earp, Sut Jhally. *Media*

Education Foundation, 2009. *Kanopy*. <https://century.kanopy.com/video/codes-gender>

"Dr. Colleen Shogan Discusses the Women’s Suffrage Movement and the 19th Amendment."

Encyclopedia Britannica, 2020. *Alexander Street*,

https://login.cenproxy.mnpals.net/login?url=https://video.alexanderstreet.com/watch/kiki?account_id=40786&usage_group_id=57254.

“It Was Rape.” Dir. Jennifer Baumgardner. *Women Make Movies*, 2013. *Kanopy*.

<https://century.kanopy.com/video/it-was-rape-0>

“Listen To Carrie Chapman Catt Speaking About the Long Struggle for Women's Suffrage.”

Anonymous Encyclopedia Britannica, 2020.

https://mnpalscen.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01MNPALS_CEN/1skm1m4/alma9989939187104273

“The Mask You Live In,” Dir. Jennifer Siebel Newsom. *The Representation Project*, 2015.

Kanopy. <https://century.kanopy.com/video/mask-you-live>

“Miss Representation,” Dir. Jennifer Siebel Newsom. *The Representation Project*, 2011.

Kanopy. <https://century.kanopy.com/video/miss-representation-0>

“100 Years of Women’s Voting Rights.” *Citizen*, 2020. *TPT: Twin Cities Public Television*.

<https://www.tpt.org/citizen/>

“One Woman, One Vote,” directed by Ruth Pollak, produced by Bonnie Nelson Schwartz, and

Felicia Widmann. *Public Broadcasting Service*, 2020. *Alexander Street*,

<https://video.alexanderstreet.com/watch/one-woman-one-vote-2>

“Slaying the Dragon.” Dir. Deborah Gee. *Women Make Movies*, 2011. *Kanopy*.

<https://century.kanopy.com/video/slaying-dragonslaying-dragon-reloaded>

“Souls of Black Girls,” Dir. Daphne Valerius. *Media Education Foundation*, 2008. *Kanopy*.

<https://century.kanopy.com/video/souls-black-girls>

Reflection

Due to the rhythm of our teaching rotation in Gender Studies, it's been several years since I taught this class, and I knew that I wanted to completely change its structure and use of resources. I am extremely grateful for the opportunity to connect with OER in this way, especially alongside my Quality Matters class; these harmonizing experiences have supported me in centering resources / course materials in a very intentional and resourced manner.

The field of Gender Studies is a transforming one. Terminology, theory, and research is constantly emerging, and the field is in intentional relationship with the current political and cultural moment. Because of this, I've struggled to find a textbook that satisfies my desires for a solid foundation of history and theory, current discussions happening within Gender Studies, and affordability. Finding an interdisciplinary OER Gender Studies textbook has freed me up from feeling overly deferential towards the structure and perspective of a single textbook - due to the significant cost typically associated with it.

Through this sense of choice, I am incorporating a wider array of documentaries and streaming resources, and these are in tight and clear relationships with course objectives. Through my work with our library, I'm also using two books that students will have the option to access free online through licensing agreements or to purchase through our bookstore. This supportive and clarifying process has greatly improved my class, and I'm excited to share this support and access with our students.