

Exploring Feminism Through Multimedia

Course: ENGL 4399

Instructor: Dr. June Oh

Student: Emily Wear

Class Meeting: Online

Course Description:

This independent study course serves to be an in depth and personal exploration of the ideals of feminism through various forms of media. By using multimedia such as academic texts, literature, film, and digital media to explore feminism, the student will be able to harness a more critically diverse palate for learning, as well as analyze and engage with complex feminist discourse. During this course, the student will also be able to gain a more nuanced understanding of how feminism unfolds through these various mediums, while also gaining historical understanding of the feminist movement through different periods of time. The student will then use their knowledge of feminism through multimedia to provide detailed reflections based on their scheduled “readings” and produce knowledgeable academic research and writings. Finally, the student will produce a more creative work that reflects their cumulative knowledge and interaction with feminism through multimedia.

Learning Outcomes and Objectives:

By the end of the semester, the student will be able to:

- Demonstrate critical thinking in writing when it comes to feminist media.
- Engage with multiple forms of media and articulate the experience.
- Deepen personal understanding of feminist theories.

Scheduled Texts:

Week 1-2 (What is feminism?) - Week 1: Pre-Reflection

- *Defining Feminism: A Comparative Historical Approach* By Karen Offen (Academic Journal Article)
- *A Vindication of the Rights of Women* By Mary Wollstonecraft (Philosophical Text)

Week 3-4 (Feminism through the novel)

- *Nightwood* By Djuna Barnes

Week 5-6 (Feminism through the novel cont.) - Week 5: Reflection 2

- *Emma* By Jane Austen

Week 7-8 (Feminism through film)

- *Little Women* (2019)
- *Hidden Figures* (2016)

Week 9 (Spring Break)

Week 10-11 (Feminism through video game) - Week 10: Reflection 3

- *Child of Light* By Ubisoft

Week 12-13 (Feminism through social media)

- *Feminism and the Social Media Sphere* By Mehreen Kasana (Academic Journal Article)
- *Online Misogyny: A Challenge for Digital Feminism?* By Kim Barker and Olga Jurasz (Academic Journal Article)

Week 14-15 (Work on final project) - Week 15: Final Reflection

Assignments:

- **Reflections:** Throughout the semester, the student will produce four short reflections (500 words) on the themes witnessed through the selected media. This is meant to demonstrate the students engagement with the readings and develop new ideas that will help them with the final project.
- **Final Creative Project:** At the end of the course, the student will produce a final creative project that will include a research essay (1200 words) and a creative variation that correlates with the research. The student can use any of the texts as well as their reflections for resources and inspiration.