

CMAT 304: Communication, Gender and Culture
Fall 2007

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CMAT 490-001 Free Speech & Censorship	MWF 9-9:50	FH 136
CMAT 490-002 Free Speech & Censorship	MWF 10-10:50	FH 136
CMAT 304-001 Gender & Culture	TR 11:00-12:15	FH 134
CMAT 304-002 Gender & Culture	TR 2:00-3:15	FH 134
SU Yoga	M 12:00-1:00	GUC 206
Office Hours: M 11:00-11:45; WF 11:00-1:00; TR 9:00-11:00; or by appointment		

Textbooks:

1. Gendered Lives: Communication, Gender, and Culture 5th Ed. by Julia Wood (abbreviated on syllabus as GL)
2. Our Boys Speak by John Nikkah (abbreviated on syllabus as B)
3. Ophelia Speaks by Sara Shandler (abbreviated on syllabus as O)

Course Description: This course addresses the relationships between communication, gender and culture, including discussion of diverse classes, ethnicities, races, and sexual orientations, based on historic and contemporary research. We will explore what gender similarities and differences exist, plus how and when these differences and similarities matter. Learning about the relationships among communication, gender, and culture serves two important goals: (1) It will enhance your understanding and appreciation of the complex ways in which communication, gender, and culture interact, and (2) It may expand your options and enhance your effectiveness as a communicator. This class supports Writing Across the Curriculum. Prerequisite CMAT 200 and 205.

Expectations: As a student, you are required to actively participate and complete all work as specified. As your instructor: I will lecture, lead class discussions, consult with you, and evaluate your work.

Honor Code: You are expected to abide by the SU Honor Code. All work bearing your name implies that you have neither given nor received unauthorized assistance. I take the Honor Code very seriously. You will receive an F for the exam if you cheat: NO course notes, book, study guides, other people, etc. You will receive an F for the assignment if you plagiarize by taking multiple statements from a source without proper attribution. For more information about plagiarism go to <http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets/plagiarism.shtml#original>. All academic dishonesty will be reported to Student Affairs. If you have any questions about these expectations, consult the SU handbook on Academic Integrity on pages 51-53 at: www.salisbury.edu/Students/handbook/welcome.html.

Late Policy: All work must be turned in on the scheduled day at the start of class. No late work will be accepted, unless you provide documentation of an emergency.

Attendance Policy: You need to be both active and interactive in this class. If you do not attend class, are not prepared, or do not fully participate, you will not be given credit for the class meeting. After two absences, your grade drops 1 point per absence.

Students with Disabilities: Any student needing accommodation must provide me with documentation and discuss modifications needed.

Note: Please carefully consider whether you can make the time commitment required to pass this class. Also understand that it is difficult to make an "A" since you must demonstrate mastery of the entire subject area.

Grading

Class Participation = 20 Points: Participation makes the difference between a great class and a feeble one. A "Communication" course requires just that: a good deal of communication with other people in the classroom. You will engage in a number of activities, exercises, and in-class work designed to put the theory and concepts into practice. You must attend class and participate to earn these points.

Leading Class = 15 Points: Everyone will sign-up for a day (typically Thursdays) to help lead the class discussion on Ophelia Speaks, Our Boys Speak, or video (see "Leader" column on the schedule below). Presentations and discussions will typically last about 30-40 minutes per topic. You must be highly prepared, organized, and engaging. On your assigned day, you need:

- (1) Introduction of about 1 minute explaining the overall theme of the O or B readings.
- (2) Presentation of 15-20 minutes where you discuss each piece in the assigned O or B reader. You choose whether to cover the pieces in the same order as the book, or in order from your most favorite to least favorite. Be sure to clearly emphasize all relevant connections between the reader and the GL textbook topic from that week, using key terms. You may include related personal or media examples.
- (3) Discussion of 15-20 minutes where you prepare at least 5 useful discussion questions for the class to answer on your topic. Be sure to include elements of most of your assigned readings. You choose whether to do the 15-20 minute presentation followed by the 15-20 minute discussion, or to combine them into one 30-40 minute presentation/discussion where you present one piece and ask a discussion question, followed by another piece and discussion, etc.
- (4) Graded paper, which is your guide to a well-prepared presentation. It is typed, about 2-4 pages, and includes introduction, reading presentation, discussion questions, and bibliography (if using additional sources). See WebCT for sample papers.

Coursepack = 15 Points: You are required to complete your coursepack, which consists of three parts: GL homework, GL notes, plus O and B personal response journals. Bring your coursepack to class everyday. Before we cover a GL chapter in class (typically Tuesdays), you must read the chapter and complete your assigned GL homework by writing between a paragraph to a page; in class, we'll complete the GL notes. Before we discuss the O and B readings (typically Thursdays), write about a paragraph to a page response on your personal experience or thoughts on that subject. These activities will help you apply the course concepts to your own life.

Exams = 50 Points: There are 3 multiple choice exams (not cumulative) with 25 questions worth one point each. Your scores will be averaged and multiplied by two. If you need to miss an exam, you must arrange with me to take the exam early; late exams drop one letter grade per missed day.

Extra Credit: You can earn 1 extra credit point for bringing additional examples or other opportunities as they arise.

Grading Scale: A=100-90 B=89-80 C=79-70 D=69-60 F=59-below

Schedule

Unit 1: Influences on Gender

Week 1

T 8-27 Syllabus & GL, O & B Intro, "Raising Cain" Video
R 8-29 "Raising Cain" & Discussion

Leader

Chrys Egan

Week 2

T 9-4 GL Ch 1 "Study of Com, Gender & Culture"
R 9-6 O Ch 5e "Feminist" & B Ch 1 "In You We Trust" _____ & _____

Week 3

T 9-11 GL Ch 2 "Theory"
R 9-13 O Ch 5c "Race," 4c "Diverse Sexualities" & _____ & _____
 B Ch 9 "Outside," Ch 13 "Between Worlds"

Week 4

T 9-18 GL Ch 3 "Women's Movements" & Ch 4 "Men's Movements"
R 9-20 O Ch 4d "Manipulated," 4e "Broken-Hearted" & _____ & _____
 B Ch 7 "Free to Be"

Week 5

T 9-25 GL Ch 11 "Media"
R 9-27 PCAS Conference
 "Sex & the City" Video & Discussion (Bring Exam Review Sheet)

Week 6

T 10-2 O Ch 1a "Media," 1b "Eating Disorders," _____ & _____
 5 b "Depression" & B Ch 12 "Song of Sorrow"; (Bring Exam Review Sheet)
R 10-4 Video Discussion & Exam 1 (Covers video & all readings in Unit 1) _____
 Coursepack Due

Unit 2: Gendered Communication & Relationships

Week 7

T 10-9 GL Ch 5 "Verbal"
R 10-11 O Ch 3 a,b,c "Friends" & B Ch 3 "Friendship" _____ & _____

Week 8

T 10-16 GL Ch 6 "Nonverbal"
R 10-18 O Ch 1c "Self-inflicted," 1d "Intoxication" & _____ & _____
 B Ch 8 "Oblivion"

Week 9

T 10-23 GL Ch 7 "Family" & "Moms Rising" Video

R 10-25 Q Ch 2 a-d, g "Family" & B Ch 2 "Sharing a Room" _____ & _____

Week 10

T 10-30 GL Ch 8 "Close Relationships"
R 11-1 Q Ch 2 f "Pregnancy," 4 a "Attraction," 4b "Sex" & _____ & _____
B Ch 4 "First Love"

Unit 3: Gendered Institutions & Dangers

Week 11

T 11-6 GL Ch 9 "Education" & GL Ch 10 "Organizational Com"
R 11-8 Q Ch 5a "Academic" & B Ch 5 "School" _____ & _____

Week 12

T 11-13 "Will & Grace" Video & Discussion (Bring Exam Review Sheet) _____
Coursepack Due
R 11-15 NCA Conference
Exam 2 (Covers video & all readings in Unit 2)

Week 13

T 11-20 Q Ch 5d "Faith" & B Ch 10 "Play to Win" _____ & _____
R 11-22 Thanksgiving Break-No class

Week 14

T 11-27 GL Ch 12 "Power & Violence"
R 11-29 Q Ch 1e "Rape," 2e "No Safe Place" & _____ & _____
B Ch 6 "Toy Soldiers"; Coursepack Due

Week 15

T 12-4 "Sopranos" Video & Discussion (Bring Exam Review Sheet)
R 12-6 Video Discussion, GL "Epilogue," Q "Final Words," & B "Epilogue" _____

Final Exam

Exam 3 (Covers video & all readings in Unit 3)
11:00 section: Monday, December 10, 10:45am to 1:15pm
2:00 section: Monday, December 10, 1:30pm to 4:00pm