

Rutgers University
Wednesdays 12:35-3:35 PM
Eagleton Drawing Room
Office hours: Wednesdays 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

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Women and American Politics
Political Science 335/Women's and Gender Studies 336
Spring 2018

We will analyze the participation of women in American political life; examine women's public roles and the effects of feminism in altering women's public roles in both historical and contemporary contexts; delve into women's participation in electoral politics; study women's behavior and influence as public officials; and analyze the intersection of gender with other categories such as race/ethnicity and political party. We will study the historic 2016 presidential election, the gender gap, and consider the role that gender is playing in the 2018 election cycle. We will also analyze the relationship between gender and policymaking.

This course is designed to introduce students to the study of gender and U.S. politics including the central questions, concepts, and debates in the field. Students will develop a theoretical framework and analytic tools for studying gender and politics. The course is also intended to teach students about the research process and to strengthen students' analytic, critical thinking, written, and oral communication skills.

This class is offered in conjunction with the Douglass Residential College PLEN (Public Leadership Education Network) Forum. The PLEN Forum provides students with a unique opportunity to hear and learn first-hand from political women about their experiences and paths to politics. A portion of about seven class sessions over the course of the semester will be devoted to PLEN Forum discussions with political women. These sessions are informal, and PLEN speakers expect students to ask lots of questions and engage them in discussion. Students should take notes during PLEN sessions and draw upon the PLEN sessions just as they would draw upon class readings and lectures in completing their written assignments for class. The dates for PLEN sessions are: January 31; February 7; February 21; March 7; March 28; April 11; and April 25. These dates are subject to change.

Course requirements

- 25% Class participation
- 20% Essay #1
- 25% Essay #2
- 30% Take-home final exam

The format for our class will be a combination of lecture, discussion, and small group work. Students should come to class prepared to discuss the assigned readings. Class participation grades will be based on students' oral participation in class and participation in small group work and discussions during class. Essays are due at the start of class February 28 and April 11. The essay assignments will be handed out in class and posted on Sakai. Students will submit hard copies of the essay in class and upload a copy of the essay to Sakai. Late research papers will be

penalized 1/3 of a letter grade each day that it is late. Essays should be 4-5 pages in length in addition to a cover page.

The take-home final exam will be due on Tuesday May 8 at noon. It is cumulative and will cover readings, discussions, and PLEN speakers. The take-home final exam policy will be handed out in class; the exam will be made available on Sakai. In the unlikely event of a medical emergency during finals week, students should be prepared to provide a dean with documentation.

University policies regarding final exam conflicts are available here:

<http://sasundergrad.rutgers.edu/forms/final-exam-conflict>

Course policies

Note that the readings listed on the syllabus are required. I will provide discussion questions each week for the following week's readings; these questions should guide students' reading. Oral participation in class and in small group discussions will be graded for students' comprehension of the readings.

The use of cell phones and smart phones is disruptive and is therefore prohibited during class. Except in emergencies, those using such devices must leave the classroom for the remainder of the class period. Students are permitted to use laptop computers and tablets during approved periods of class for note-taking and other class-related work only. Those using laptops or tablets for purposes unrelated to our class must leave the classroom for the remainder of that class period. Paper and pencil notetaking is welcome and always permitted.

All assignments for this class will be run through Turnitin.com to check for plagiarism. Note that assignments will be kept by Turnitin and will be used to check submissions by others; this will be done independent of any copyright claims by the author of the document.

*** Please take a moment to familiarize yourself with the university's academic integrity policy: <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-policy/>

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations must follow the procedures outlined at <https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/registration-form>

University policy: Absences

Students are expected to attend *all* classes. If you expect to miss a class, please use the university's reporting website and explain the date and reason for the absence:

<https://sims.rutgers.edu/ssra/>

Students who are expected to miss more than one class should see a dean of students for assistance to help verify these circumstances.

My contact information

The best way to reach me is by email (sanbon@rutgers.edu). If you wish to meet with me but cannot attend my office hours, please email me to schedule an appointment.

Required Books

These three required books are available at Barnes and Noble. The book by Susan Ware is available electronically through the Rutgers Library. The other books are available on reserve at the Douglass Library.

* Ware, Susan. 2015. *American Women's History: A Very Short Introduction*. New York: Oxford University Press.

<https://catalog-libraries-rutgers-edu.proxy.libraries.rutgers.edu/vufind/Record/5516579>

* Brown, Nadia E., and Sarah Allen Gershon, Eds. 2016. *Distinct Identities: Minority Women in U.S. Politics*. New York: Routledge. (this book appears on the syllabus as *Distinct Identities*) ISBN: 978-1-138-95884-5

* Dittmar, Kelly. 2015. *Navigating Gendered Terrain: Stereotypes and Strategy in Political Campaigns*. Philadelphia: Temple University Press. ISBN: 9781439911495

Recommended book (not required)

* Susan J. Carroll and Richard Fox, editors, *Gender and Elections: Shaping the Future of American Politics*. New York: Cambridge University Press. New, fourth edition forthcoming 2018.

Required Sakai Readings

All other readings listed on this syllabus are required and are available on the Sakai system: sakai.rutgers.edu

Please contact me or the Sakai help desk for assistance accessing the readings.

Week 1 January 17 Introduction

1. Center for American Women and Politics (CAWP) website: <http://cawp.rutgers.edu/facts>

Week 2 January 24 Women, Gender, and the United States

1. Ware, Susan. 2015. *American Women's History: A Very Short Introduction*. New York: Oxford University Press. Introduction and Chapters 1 and 2.

2. *Distinct Identities*, Chapter 1 (by Brown and Gershon).

3. Glick, Peter, and Susan T. Fiske. 2000. "Gender, Power Dynamics, and Social Interaction." In *Revisioning Gender*, Ed. Myra Marx Ferree, Judith Lorber, and Beth B. Hess. Walnut Creek, CA: Altamira Press. 265-398.

Week 3 January 31 Women's Movements

1. Ware, Susan. 2015. *American Women's History: A Very Short Introduction*. New York: Oxford University Press. Chapter 4.
2. Evans, Sara M. 2003. *Tidal Wave: How Women Changed America at Century's End*. New York: Free Press. Chapter 2, "Personal Politics", pp. 18-60.
3. Deckman, Melissa. 2016. *Tea Party Women: Mama Grizzlies, Grassroots Leaders, and the Changing Face of the American Right*. New York: NYU Press. Chapter 3. "A New Civic Motherhood? The Evolution of Conservative Women's Political Rhetoric."

Week 4 February 7 Women's Representation and Election to Office

1. Sanbonmatsu, Kira, Susan J. Carroll, and Debbie Walsh. 2009. *Poised to Run: Women's Pathways to the State Legislatures*. Center for American Women and Politics, Eagleton Institute of Politics, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey.
<http://www.cawp.rutgers.edu/research/reports/PoisedtoRun.pdf>
2. *Distinct Identities*, Chapters 12, 13, 14 (by Bejarano, Ramírez and Burlingame, and Filler and Lien).

Recommended reading: K.R. Humes, N.A. Jones, and R.R. Ramirez. 2011. "Overview of Race and Hispanic Origin: 2010." U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau.

Week 5 February 14 Grassroots Politics and Local Politics

1. Spelman, Elizabeth V. 1988. *Inessential Woman: Problems of Exclusion in Feminist Thought*. Boston, MA: Beacon Press. Chapter 6. pp. 133-159.
2. Krauss, Celene. 1998. "Challenging Power: Toxic Waste Protests and the Politicization of White, Working-Class Women." In *Community Activism and Feminist Politics: Organizing Across Race, Class, and Gender*, Ed. Nancy A. Naples. New York: Routledge.
3. Hardy-Fanta, Carol, Pei-te Lien, Dianne Pinderhughes, Christine Marie Sierra. 2016. *Contested Transformation: Race, Gender and Political Leadership in 21st Century America*. New York: Cambridge University Press. "Who Governs at the Local Level?"

Week 6 February 21 Women and Congress

1. Dittmar, Kelly, Kira Sanbonmatsu, Susan J. Carroll, Debbie Walsh, and Catherine Wineinger. 2017. *Representation Matters: Women in the U.S. Congress*. Center for American Women and Politics, Eagleton Institute of Politics, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey.
<http://www.cawp.rutgers.edu/sites/default/files/resources/representationmatters.pdf>
2. Fox, Richard. 2014. "Congressional Elections: Women's Candidacies and the Road to Gender Parity." In *Gender and Elections: Shaping the Future of American Politics*, Eds. Susan J. Carroll and Richard L. Fox. Third edition. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Week 7 February 28 Women Suffrage

FIRST ESSAY DUE (please bring a hard copy and also upload to Sakai)

1. Ware, Susan. 2015. *American Women's History: A Very Short Introduction*. New York: Oxford University Press. Chapter 3.
2. Terborg-Penn, Rosalyn. 1995. "African American Women and the Woman Suffrage Movement." In *One Woman One Vote: Rediscovering the Woman Suffrage Movement*, ed. Margaret Spruill Wheeler. Troutdale, OR: New Sage Press.
3. Wheeler, Margaret Spruill. 1995. "A Short History of the Woman Suffrage Movement in America." In *One Woman One Vote: Rediscovering the Woman Suffrage Movement*, ed. Margaret Spruill Wheeler. Troutdale, OR: New Sage Press.

Week 8 March 7 Gender and Electoral Behavior

1. *Distinct Identities*, Chapters 2, 3, 4, 5 (by Holman, Capers and Smith, Dowe, and Harvie)

Week 9 March 14 * SPRING BREAK *

Week 10 March 21 Gender and Campaigns Part I

1. Dittmar, Kelly. 2015. *Navigating Gendered Terrain: Stereotypes and Strategy in Political Campaigns*. Philadelphia: Temple University Press. Chapters 1 to 3

Week 11 March 28 Gender and Campaigns Part II

1. Dittmar, Kelly. 2015. *Navigating Gendered Terrain: Stereotypes and Strategy in Political Campaigns*. Philadelphia: Temple University Press. Chapters 4 to 7.

Week 12 April 4 Stereotypes and Media Coverage

1. *Distinct Identities*, Chapters 7, 9, 10 (by Carew, Cargile, and Ward).

Week 13 April 11 A Woman President?

SECOND ESSAY DUE (please bring a hard copy and also upload to Sakai)

1. Dittmar, Kelly. 2017. *Finding Gender in Election 2016: Lessons from Presidential Gender Watch*. Barbara Lee Family Foundation and Center for American Women and Politics.
http://cawp.rutgers.edu/sites/default/files/resources/presidential-gender-gap_report_final.pdf
2. *Distinct Identities*, Chapter 16 (by Greer)

Week 14 April 18 Gender and Public Policy

1. Smooth, Wendy. 2008. "Gender, Race, and the Exercise of Power and Influence." In *Legislative Women: Getting Elected, Getting Ahead*. Beth Reingold, Ed. Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner. 175-196.
2. McBride, Dorothy E., and Janine A. Parry. 2011. *Women's Rights in the USA: Policy Debates and Gender Roles*, 4th edition. New York: Routledge. Chapter 8, "Work and Family."
3. Romero, Mary. 2018. *Introducing Intersectionality*. Medford, MA: Polity. Chapter 1, "Identifying Intersectionality."

Week 15 April 25 The 2016 and 2018 Elections

*** PLEN Spring Forum; Reception to Follow ***

1. Filipovic, Jill. 2016. "The Men Feminists Left Behind." *New York Times* 5 November. Opinion-editorial.
2. Johnson, Jenna and Karen Tumulty. 2016. "Republican Women Increasingly Fear Party is Alienating Female Voters." *Washington Post* 26 October.
3. Stein, Perry, and Sandhya Somashekhar. 2017. "It Started with a Retiree. Now the Women's March Could be the Biggest Inauguration Demonstration." *Washington Post* 3 January.
4. Tackett, Michael. 2017. "Women Line Up to Run for Office, Harnessing Their Outrage at Trump." *New York Times* 5 December, A10.
5. O'Malley, Sharon. 2017. "Workplace Sexual Harassment: Will the Latest Charges Lead to a Shift in Corporate Culture?" *CQ Researcher*. 27 (38).
6. CAWP Election Watch 2018 website. Visit:
http://cawp.rutgers.edu/facts/elections/election_watch

*** TAKE-HOME FINAL EXAM – Due Tuesday May 8 at noon ***

Student-Wellness Services at RUTGERS

Just In Case Web App

<http://codu.co/cee05e>

Access helpful mental health information and resources for yourself or a friend in a mental health crisis on your smartphone or tablet and easily contact CAPS or RUPD.

Counseling, ADAP & Psychiatric Services (CAPS)

(848) 932-7884 / 17 Senior Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901/

www.rhscaps.rutgers.edu/

CAPS is a University mental health support service that includes counseling, alcohol and other drug assistance, and psychiatric services staffed by a team of professional within Rutgers Health services to support students' efforts to succeed at Rutgers University. CAPS offers a variety of services that include: individual therapy, group therapy and workshops, crisis intervention, referral to specialists in the community and consultation and collaboration with campus partners.

Violence Prevention & Victim Assistance (VPVA)

(848) 932-1181 / 3 Bartlett Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901 /

www.vpva.rutgers.edu/

The Office for Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance provides confidential crisis intervention, counseling and advocacy for victims of sexual and relationship violence and stalking to students, staff and faculty. To reach staff during office hours when the university is open or to reach an advocate after hours, call 848-932-1181.

Disability Services

(848) 445-6800 / Lucy Stone Hall, Suite A145, Livingston Campus, 54 Joyce Kilmer Avenue, Piscataway, NJ 08854 / <https://ods.rutgers.edu/>

Rutgers University welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University's educational programs. In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, a student with a disability must contact the appropriate disability services office at the campus where you are officially enrolled, participate in an intake interview, and provide documentation: <https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/documentation-guidelines>. If the documentation supports your request for reasonable accommodations, your campus's disability services office will provide you with a Letter of Accommodations. Please share this letter with your instructors and discuss the accommodations with them as early in your courses as possible. To begin this process, please complete the Registration form on the ODS web site at: <https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/registration-form>.