

Issues in Feminism  
**Radical Activism in the Sixties**  
WST 3311-001  
Spring 2009  
Tues/Thurs 12:30- 1:45  
CPR 115

Instructor: Cyrana Wyker  
Office: FAO 019d  
Office phone: 813-974-3496  
Office Hours: Mon. & Wed. 10-11am  
Tues. & Thur. 11-12 pm. or by appointment  
Email: [cwyker@mail.usf.edu](mailto:cwyker@mail.usf.edu)

**Required Texts:**

- Alexander Bloom & Wini Breines, *"Takin' it to the Streets": A Sixties Reader* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2003)
- Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz, *Outlaw Woman: A Memoir of the War Years, 1960-1975* (San Francisco: City Lights, 2001)
- Angela Davis, *Angela Davis: An Autobiography* (New York: Bantam Books, 1974)
- Sara Evans, *Personal Politics: The roots of women's liberation in the Civil Rights Movement and the New Left* (New York: Vintage Books, 1979)
- There will be assigned readings posted on Blackboard. They are denoted by "BB" on the course schedule.

**Course Objective and Goals:** This course will examine women's participation in radical activism of the sixties. We will explore the beginnings of women's liberation in civil rights and new left movements, women's participation in multiple and varying groups (violent and non-violent), the development of a "feminist consciousness", the sexual revolution, backlash conservatism, etc. We will also discuss issues of sex, race, class, and sexuality as they arise and shape women's political activities. The goal of this course is to broaden and complicate the notion that second-wave feminism was a unified movement. Activism in this era was extremely fluid. As groups arose and split over political alliances, priorities, theories, and practices each were influenced by each other and the larger "Movement". It is the goal of this course to expand understandings of women's activism during this time period.

**Classroom etiquette:** This is an interactive lecture course. You are expected to come to class on time and to turn off your cell phone, pager, iPod, etc. You are also expected to be respectful of fellow students and myself. I reserve the right to dismiss any student from the classroom who is behaving in a disrespectful manner.

**Absences:** I encourage each of you to be active participants in your education. Thus, I encourage all students to attend class. Test material will come from lectures, documentaries, and course material. However, I respect your decision should you chose not to attend. I do not require email notification of your absences.

**Special Considerations:** Any student with a disability is encouraged to meet with me immediately to discuss accommodations. Each student must bring a current Memorandum of Accommodations from the Office of Student Disability Services located at SVC1133 (974-4309) as a prerequisite for receiving accommodations.

**Religious Observances:** Students who anticipate the necessity of being absent due to a religious observance must provide the instructor with advance notice of their absence in writing. If a religious observance interferes with handing in an assignment or an exam, you must turn in your work before the due date. There will be no exceptions.

**Academic Honesty:** All students are expected to maintain high standards of academic honesty. There will be no tolerance for academic dishonesty (cheating, plagiarism, etc.) By engaging in academic dishonesty, you will receive a “0” for the assignment. However, further action may include a “FF” for the course.

**Blackboard:** It is your responsibility to become familiar with blackboard and to check it often. Information, assignments, grades, and course updates will be posted. In order to use Blackboard, you need a netID and password. You can log on to Blackboard and create a log-in by going to <https://my.usf.edu>.

Grading Matrix for WST 3311:

Individual/organization biography	25%
Midterm Exam (multiple choice)	25%
Final Exam (multiple choice)	25%
Group Project	25%

**Individual/organization biography 25%:**

You are required to research an individual or organization and write a biography. You will locate them in time and space (when and where), discuss their politics, theories, goals, etc., and discuss the significance of your individual or group. This assignment requires you to use outside research materials. I encourage you to utilize the library!! You are expected to include a bibliography/works cited. Your biography should be at least 5-7 pages, double-spaced, times new roman, 12 point font, and 1 inch margins. **Biographies are due on 3/24.** In order for your biography to be considered “on time” you are also required to submit to safe assignment BEFORE handing in your hardcopy in class. **I WILL NOT ACCEPT LATE PAPERS OR SUBMISSIONS VIA EMAIL.**

**Safe Assignment:** Safe Assignment is a program that checks your paper for plagiarism. Instructions on how to submit to safe assignment will be posted on Blackboard and will remain posted throughout the semester. You are responsible for familiarizing yourself with this process.

**Midterm Exam 25%:**

Your midterm will be an in-class multiple choice exam. Bring a number 2 pencil! The midterm is on 2/26. There are no make-up examinations. Emergency circumstances will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

**Final Exam 25%:**

Your midterm exam will be an in-class multiple choice exam. Bring a number 2 pencil! The midterm is scheduled in accordance with the final exam matrix provided by the university. There will be opportunities for make-up examinations. Emergency circumstances will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

**Group Project 25%:** Street theatre was a popular method of consciousness-raising in the sixties. Your group will recreate for the class a moment of historical significance. This may include reenacting a speech, poem, etc. The possibilities are endless! You will be assigned to a group that you will work with throughout the semester. I will give you time in-class to work on group projects. However, I encourage

you to work on your projects outside of class as well. Your grade for this project will be based on your group's performance (preparedness and creativity) and peer evaluations. More details will be discussed in class.

**Final Grades for WST 3311 will be determined as follows:**

<b>A</b>	<b>94-100%</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>74-76%</b>
<b>A-</b>	<b>90-93%</b>	<b>C-</b>	<b>70-73%</b>
<b>B+</b>	<b>87-89%</b>	<b>D+</b>	<b>67-69%</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>84-86%</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>64-66%</b>
<b>B-</b>	<b>80-83%</b>	<b>D-</b>	<b>60-63%</b>
<b>C+</b>	<b>77-79%</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>59% and below</b>

**Tentative Course Schedule**

I reserve the right to alter the course schedule throughout the duration of the course.

Date	Topic	Readings and Assignments
Tuesday Jan 6	Introduction to WST 3311	Syllabus Distributed and Discussed
Thursday Jan 8	Defining Terms: Gender, Race, Class, and Sexuality	No Readings
Tuesday Jan 13	The Cold War	<i>Streets:</i> Introduction : "Past as Prologue"  BB: George Kennan Telegraph
Thursday Jan 15	No Class	Celebrate your civil rights!!
Tuesday Jan 20	Civil Rights	<i>Streets:</i> "The Power of Nonviolence" "The Jackson Sit-in" SNCC: Founding Statement Freedom Rides Letters from Mississippi Testimony Before the DNC SNCC Position Paper: Women in the Mov. Sex and Caste: A kind of Memo (p 29-40; 13-26)

Thursday Jan 29	Civil Rights	<i>Personal Politics:</i> Chapters 1, 2, & 3
Tuesday Feb 3	The New Left	<i>Personal Politics:</i> Chapters 4, 5, & 6
Thursday Feb 5	The New Left	<i>Streets:</i> The Port Huron Statement Raising the Question of Who Decides How to Help the Ones at the Bottom (p 50-60; 66-73)  <i>Personal Politics:</i> Chapters 7, 8, & 9
Tuesday Feb 10	The New Left	<i>Streets:</i> The Politics of the “Movement” An End to History In White America: Radical Consciousness... Student Power: A Radical View (p 73-77; 89-92; 96-100)
Thursday Feb 12	New Left and Vietnam	<i>Streets:</i> Trapped in a System The Resistance: We refuse to Serve Vietnam and the Draft (p 178-183; 195; 196)
Tuesday Feb 17	Sexual Revolution	<i>Streets:</i> Unstructured Relations The Free-Sex Movement (p264-267)
Thursday Feb 19	New Conservatism	<i>Streets:</i> If Mob Rule Takes Hold in US Freedom vs. Anarchy on Campus Communist Infiltration Impudence in the Streets COINTELPRO and Homophobia COINTELPRO and violence Who were the Targets (p 294-299; 308-313; 317-324)
Tuesday Feb 24	Review	No readings.
Thursday Feb 26	Midterm Exam	STUDY!

Tuesday Mar 3	Black Nationalism	<i>Streets:</i> The Ballot or the Bullet The Basis of Black Power “What we want and what we believe” (p 105-108; 116-122; 125-128)  <i>Angela Davis:</i> Part 1 & 2 (p 1-113)
Thursday Mar 5	Black Nationalism	<i>Angela Davis:</i> Part 3 (p 113-145)
Tuesday Mar 10	Black Nationalism	<i>Angela Davis:</i> Part 4 & 5 (p 145-347)
Thursday Mar 12	Black Nationalism	<i>Angela Davis:</i> Part 6 & Epilogue (p 347-399)
Tues/Thurs Mar 17 & 19	<b>Spring</b>	<b>Break</b>
Tuesday Mar 24	The Weather Underground	BB: TBA  <b>Biography due today!</b>
Thursday Mar 26	The Weather Underground	BB: TBA
Tuesday Mar 31	Women’s Liberation	<i>Outlaw Woman:</i> Part I – V (p 1- 225)
Thursday Apr 2	Women’s Liberation	<i>Outlaw Woman:</i> Part VI – VIII (p 225- 339)
Tuesday Apr 4	Women’s Liberation	<i>Outlaw Woman:</i> Part IX- X & Epilogue (p 339-411)
Thursday Apr 9	Women’s Liberation	<i>Streets:</i> Principles Redstockings Manifesto Women Support Panther Sisters Women Destroy Draft Files

		Goodbye to All That Free Our Sisters, Free Ourselves (p 406-409; 415-422)
Tuesday Apr 14	Gay Liberation	<i>Streets:</i> Lesbians and the Ultimate Liberation The Woman-Identified Woman (p 506-508; 429-434)
Thursday Apr 16	Group Projects	
Tuesday Apr 21	Group Projects	
Thursday Apr 23	Group Projects	

**FINAL EXAM: Thursday, April 30<sup>th</sup> 10am-12pm held in CPR 115.**