

**Sex and Gender in Society**  
SOCY 134/WGSS 110/ER&M 264  
Fall 2017  
Tuesday and Thursday 3:30-4:20

**Professor Rene Almeling**  
Office: 493 College St., Room 309  
Office hours: Tu/W/Th 4:30-5:00, and by [appt](#)  
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### **Teaching Fellows**

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### **Course Overview**

In this class, we approach sex and gender as simultaneously biological and social. Using sociological theories and methods, we examine how sex and gender are socially constructed, paying particular attention to intersections with other social categories, such as race/ethnicity, class, sexuality, and nationality. The readings are organized around the lifecourse, from children's play and educational experiences, to employment in various kinds of workplaces, reproduction and parenting, and health and medicine. In each of these realms, we examine sex and gender on multiple levels, from individual experiences to structural inequalities.

### **Requirements**

Attendance and participation in class and section	10%
Quiz on readings and lectures, in class on Oct 12	15%
Quiz on readings and lectures, in class on Dec 7	15%
Research Paper (10 pages)	
Proposal (2 pages), due Oct 10	10%
First half of research paper based on interviews (5 pages), due Oct 31	20%
Final paper integrating interviews and surveys (10 pages), due Dec 5	30%

### **Readings**

All readings are available on the Canvas course website.

### **Cheating and Plagiarism**

Students who cheat on any of the course assignments will be given an F for the class, and the matter will be referred to Yale's Executive Committee (see [Definitions of Cheating and Plagiarism](#)).

## Schedule

### Introduction

Aug 31        *No reading*

### Sociological Theories of Sex and Gender

- Sept 5        Fausto-Sterling, Anne. 2000. *Sexing the Body: Gender Politics and the Construction of the Body*. New York: Basic Books. Pages 1-29, 233-255.
- Sept 7        West, Candace and Don Zimmerman. 1987. "Doing Gender." *Gender & Society* 125-151.
- Sept 12       Glenn, Evelyn Nakano. 1999. "The Social Construction and Institutionalization of Gender and Race: An Integrative Framework" in *Revisioning Gender*, edited by M. M. Ferree, J. Lorber, and B. Hess: Sage. Pages 3-13, 14-20 or 20-27, 28-35.
- Seidman, Steven, Nancy Fischer, and Chet Meeks (eds). *Introducing the New Sexuality Studies* (2nd Edition). Routledge. Pages xv-xvi, 3-12, 175-182.

### Childhood, Play, and Education

- Sept 14       Gould, Lois. 1978. *The Story of X*. Pages 1-4.
- Martin, Karin. 1998. "Becoming a Gendered Body: Practices of Preschools." *American Sociological Review* 63: 494-511.
- Sept 19       Lareau, Annette. 2011. *Unequal Childhoods: Class, Race, and Family Life*. Berkeley: University of California Press. Pages 1-13.
- Messner, Michael. 2000. "Barbie Girls versus Sea Monsters: Children Constructing Gender." *Gender and Society* 14: 765-784.
- Sept 21       Ferguson, Ann Arnett. 2000. *Bad Boys: Public Schools in the Making of Black Masculinity*. University of Michigan Press. Pages 1-3, 77-96.
- Khan, Shamus. 2010. *Privilege: The Making of an Adolescent Elite at St. Paul's School*. Princeton: Princeton University Press. Pages 114-40.

### Sex and Sexual Assault on Campus

- Sept 26       Wade, Lisa. 2017. *American Hookup: The New Culture of Sex on Campus*. New York: W.W. Norton. Pages 50-70, 158-179.
- Sept 28       Armstrong, Elizabeth A, Laura Hamilton, and Brian Sweeney. 2006. "Sexual Assault on Campus: A Multilevel, Integrative Approach to Party Rape." *Social Problems* 483-99.

## Work

- Oct 3 Wade, Lisa and Myra Marx Ferree. 2014. *Gender: Ideas, Interactions, Institutions*. New York: W.W. Norton. Pages 280-313.
- Oct 5 Schilt, Kristen. 2006. "Just One of the Guys? How Transmen Make Gender Visible at Work." *Gender and Society* 20: 465-90.
- Rivera, Lauren. 2015. *Pedigree: How Elite Students Get Elite Jobs*. Princeton: Princeton University Press. Pages 211-237.

## Research Method - Interviews

- Oct 10 *Paper copy of 2-page Research Paper Proposal due at beginning of class.*
- Weiss, Robert. *Learning from Strangers: The Art and Method of Qualitative Interview Studies*. Free Press. Pages 1-14, 39-51, 65-83.

## Care Work and Sex Work

- Oct 12 *Quiz in class*
- Duffy, Mignon. 2011. *Making Care Count: A Century of Gender, Race, and Care Work*. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press. Pages 1-8, 20-41.
- Oct 17 Hoang, Kimberly Kay. 2015. *Dealing in Desire: Asian Ascendancy, Western Decline, and the Hidden Currencies of Global Sex Work*. Berkeley: University of California Press. Pages 1-25, 53-77.
- Oct 19 *Fall Recess*

## Work and Family

- Oct 24 Damaske, Sarah. 2011. *For the Family? How Class and Gender Shape Women's Work*. New York: Oxford University Press. Pages 3-22.
- Wong, Jaclyn S. 2017. "Competing Desires: How Young Adult Couples Negotiate Moving for Career Opportunities." *Gender & Society* 31: 171-96.
- Oct 26 Belkin, Lisa. October 26, 2003. "The Opt-Out Revolution." *The New York Times Sunday Magazine*.
- Percheski, Christine. 2008. "Opting Out? Cohort Differences in Professional Women's Employment Rates from 1960 to 2005." *American Sociological Review* 73: 497-517.

## Research Method - Surveys

- Oct 31 *Paper copy of 5-page, interview-based research paper due at beginning of class. No reading.*

## Mothering & Fathering

- Nov 2            Hays, Sharon. 2004. *Flat Broke with Children: Women in the Age of Welfare Reform*. Oxford University Press. Pages 3-31.
- Desmond, Matthew. 2016. *Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City*. New York: Crown. Pages 1-5, 94-107.
- Nov 7            Raley, Sara, Suzanne M. Bianchi, and Wendy Wang. 2012. "When Do Fathers Care? Mothers' Economic Contribution and Fathers' Involvement in Child Care." *American Journal of Sociology* 117: 1422-59.

## Science and Medicine: Genes and Gametes

- Nov 9            Daniels, Cynthia. 2006. *Exposing Men: The Science and Politics of Male Reproduction*. New York: Oxford University Press. Pages 3-30.
- Martin, Emily. 1991. "The Egg and the Sperm: How Science Has Constructed a Romance Based on Stereotypical Male-Female Roles." *Signs* 16: 485-501.
- Nov 14            Richardson, Sarah S. 2012. "Sexing the X: How the X became the 'Female Chromosome'." *Signs* 37: 909-933.
- Nov 16            Almeling, Rene. 2007. "Selling Genes, Selling Gender: Egg Agencies, Sperm Banks, and the Medical Market in Genetic Material." *American Sociological Review* 72: 319-340.
- Nov 21, 23        *Thanksgiving Recess*

## Reproductive Medicine: Contraception and Abortion

- Nov 28            Roberts, Dorothy. 2017. *Killing the Black Body: Race, Reproduction and the Meaning of Liberty*. 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition. New York: Pantheon. Pages 56-103.
- Nov 30            Kligman, Gail. 1998. *The Politics of Duplicity: Controlling Reproduction in Ceausescu's Romania*. Berkeley: University of California Press. Pages 1-18, 148-151, and choose your own selections to read from 151-178 and 178-205.
- Dec 5            *Paper copy of full 10-page research paper (including approximately five pages based on surveys) due at beginning of class.*
- No reading.*

## Gender and Health

- Dec 7            *Quiz in class*
- Bird, Chloe and Patricia Rieker. 2008. *Gender and Health: The Effects of Constrained Choices and Social Policies*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Pages 1-45.