



UCSD Critical Gender Studies

Spring 2002 Volume IX, No. 2

Faculty Director Message

Dear Colleagues,

The 2001-2002 academic year has been a very eventful year for CGS. We embarked with the Ethnic Studies Department on our first senior joint faculty hire. The search brought five distinguished candidates to campus last quarter and raised the program's profile on campus. We hope to be able to announce the final outcome of this endeavor fairly soon.

This year three CGS majors, Cassandra Blazer, Christopher Brunette, and Landy Spencer, successfully completed honors theses and will therefore graduate with distinction. Congratulations to all three on their very fine work. Their ambitious projects were written under the guidance of CGS affiliated faculty: Yen Espiritu, Judith Halberstam, Nayan Shah, Lisa Yoneyama and myself. I would like to especially thank these faculty members for their willingness to share their time and expertise with our majors.

In Fall 2002, I will once again be teaching CGS 190, the honors seminar. I strongly urge those CGS majors who qualify (or would like to petition to qualify) for the Honors program next year to come speak with me or Nancy Hatch this quarter. Doing an Honors Thesis can be the most meaningful academic work that you do as an undergraduate. It reflects positively on your maturity as a scholar, intellectual curiosity, ability to think critically,-- all impressive attributes to have as you step out into the real world or apply to graduate school. So if you are a CGS major and are considering doing an honors thesis, come discuss it with me. I can be reached at rmgeorge@ucsd.edu.

This quarter we are very proud to present the program's first Regents Lecturer, the feminist filmmaker, Nilita Vachani. This internationally renowned filmmaker will present a public screening

of her award winning documentary film, When Mother Comes Home for Christmas on our campus on May 15th, 2002 (see below for details). She will visit select CGS courses and will also conduct a graduate level seminar on feminist documentary filmmaking on Friday the 17th of May.

Our spring quarter classes are well underway. Visiting Professor Beheroze Shroff is teaching CGS 100. Conceptualizing Gender: Theories and Methods. In this class, students study gender representations in film through readings and supporting material from different disciplines. Professor Martha Lampland's CGS 101. Gender, Modernity and Globalization, surveys the world beyond the modern West, to think about possibly different gender and sexual relations in other places and at other times. Professor Roddey Reid is teaching our first CGS 111. Gender and the Body, as a course on the formation of the family in the US, Europe and Japan.

For next year, we have planned a wide range of class offerings that satisfy the CGS core curriculum and at the same time expand the boundaries of coursework as usual. New courses include Lisa Yoneyama's CGS 104 in the Fall, which will focus on Asian Feminisms, Judith Halberstam's Introduction Gender and Sexuality (CGS 102) in the winter and Stephanie Jed's CGS 103 in the Spring Quarter on feminist fairytales.

Our newly designed Website is finally up and running. Check it out at: <http://www-muir.ucsd.edu/instructional/critical-gender/index.html> Now you can now learn about our new courses, about CGS affiliated faculty and their areas of research interest, about CGS sponsored events -- even read this newsletter, on the web.



If you are interested in taking a CGS class, writing an honors thesis, majoring in or doing a CGS minor, please visit the CGS offices, send me a note via email or come chat with Nancy Hatch. We have the answers to all your questions.

Peace,

Rosemary
Rosemary Marangoly George
Faculty Director
2061 H&SS, 0106
(858) 534-0995

CGS Fall Quarter Courses

(The QUARTERLY LIST of applicable/petitionable departmental courses are available in the CGS office and at our Web site beginning May 7th.)

CRITICAL GENDER STUDIES 2A

INTRODUCTION TO CRITICAL GENDER STUDIES : SOCIAL MOVEMENTS

STEVE EPSTEIN, Department of Sociology

This course will examine the role of twentieth-century social movements in promoting and contesting ideas and institutions relating to gender and sexuality. How do social movements challenge the social organization of gender and sexuality? How do movements mobilize, how do they frame issues, and what kinds of effects do they have on society? Examples will include feminist and antifeminist movements; men's movements; movements of women of color; women's health movements; reproductive rights movements; lesbian and gay movements; AIDS activism; and movements for peace, social justice, and human rights.

CRITICAL GENDER STUDIES 104

ADVANCED TOPICS IN COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVES: FEMINISM, ASIA, AMERICA

LISA YONEYAMA, Department of Literature

How have the nations of the Lotus Blossoms, Geisha, Madame Butterfly, and the so-called Picture Brides produced a number of prominent women activists for socialism, anarchism, anti-colonialism, as well as leaders of the pro-environment, anti-war and anti-nuclear movements? How did histories of imperialism, colonialism, war and the Cold War impact women's experiences and subjectivities in places such as Korea, Okinawa, the Philippines, Japan, and Vietnam? How have nationalism and feminism co-figured in Northeast, Southeast, and South Asia? How did western colonialism and imperialism shape discourses on women's liberation in various Asian

nations? What are the connections among modernity, the Women Question and Japanese colonialism in the region? Are Asian sisters following the same evolutionary path of emancipation as western women? What are some of the urgent global issues Asian/American women are facing today? The course explores the above and many other questions through examining literary works, ethnographies, and oral histories that traverse the boundary of Asia and America.

CRITICAL GENDER STUDIES 190

HONORS SEMINAR

ROSEMARY GEORGE, Critical Gender Studies, Department of Literature

Interdisciplinary readings in feminist theory and research methodology to prepare students for writing an honors thesis. Open to critical gender studies majors who have been admitted to Critical Gender Studies Honors Program. Prerequisites: admission to Critical Gender Studies Honors Program and department stamp required.

CRITICAL GENDER STUDIES 196A

HONORS RESEARCH

ROSEMARY GEORGE, Critical Gender Studies, Department of Literature

A program of independent study providing candidates for Critical Gender Studies honors to develop, in consultation with an advisor, a preliminary proposal for the honors thesis. An IP grade will be given at the end of the quarter; a final grade for both quarters will be given upon completion of Critical Gender Studies 196B,

Regents' Lecture

Screening and Discussion

When Mother Comes Home for Christmas

Nilita Vachani, Director

Wednesday, May 15

Price Center Theater

6:30 p.m.

Synopsis:

Josephine, a migrant woman from Sri Lanka, has traveled to Greece to take care of a Greek child while her own children grow up in orphanages. This documentary records her visit home to her family and children in Sri Lanka after an absence of eight years. A searing look at issues of domestic work, displacement, and the globalization of women's labor.

"[*When Mother Comes Home...*] is the product of extraordinary persistence, empathy and intelligence; ...it opens up the emotional lives of an entire family and reveals, in heartbreakingly direct fashion, the true meaning of the phrase 'global economy'."

Stuart Klawans, *The Nation*



Honors Program

Participation in the honors program is highly recommended for those students who are considering graduate school or other forms of postgraduate work in which research is involved. To be eligible for the program, a student should be a WS/CGS major and have senior standing by fall quarter 2001 with a 3.5 grade-point average in the major's upper-division courses. Interested and committed students who do not quite meet the grade requirement may be admitted at the discretion of the Critical Gender Studies Steering Committee.

Preparation begins during Fall Quarter in Critical Gender Studies 190, an honors seminar, and in CGS 196A, through which students research and identify thesis topics and find thesis directors. Work continues in Winter Quarter's CGS 196B: the production of the thesis itself. At graduation the identification of their Critical Gender Studies majors on diplomas and transcripts will include the notation "with distinction."

Landy Spencer, who participated in the honors program this year, had this to say about the experience:

The CGS Honors Thesis project is an incredible way to maximize your undergraduate experience at UCSD. The project is a way to utilize everything you have learned in previous classes while giving you the opportunity to explore at a much more intense level what you are interested in. The project is very challenging and humbling. I realized how little I knew while researching and writing. This experience has really motivated me to continue with my education because there is just so much to learn out there. I can't think of any opportunity offered at UCSD that compares to this course in terms of how much there is to gain from the learning process.

Students interested in entering the program or learning more about it should see CGS director Rosemary George or Nancy Hatch (2073 HSS).

