



UCSD Critical Gender Studies

Spring 2006, Volume XII, No. 1

New face in HSS 2073

Last fall we were pleased to hire Kathryn Hitchcock to be our new program representative. Kathryn has been undaunted by the challenges of mastering all the arcane knowledge needed to negotiate through student affairs at UCSD. Luckily, she is a quick learner. By now she can run rings around the benighted director, who depends mightily on her help to keep the program running.

Kathryn hails from Chicago. She did her degree in Sociology and Women's Studies at Loyola University. As many of you already know, she is a great addition to our community: quick to help out, full of ideas, and always smiling. She may soon convert to being a true Southern Californian (alas) by acquiring a car. In her time away from CGS, Kathryn has been focusing her creative energies on learning to weld metal sculptures.

Welcome, Kathryn.

New CGS Film Library

Buying spree

Last spring, Professor David Serlin (Communication), Stephen O'Riordan (Film/Video Curator, Geisel Library), and I submitted a proposal for funding to the Instructional Improvement Program, hoping to use the money to expand the library's film collection on topics important to CGS courses. We were successful, so we asked Professor Giovanna Chesler (Communication) to help us compile a list of recent films and videos that we would be keen to acquire. So began our (moderated) buying spree. Since the film and video collection at Geisel regularly buys from the major catalogues in these fields, we focused our efforts on identifying works that were more obscure or difficult to obtain. We hope that our faculty and students will avail themselves of these resources. We also hope that by strengthening our collection in the fields of sexuality and gender studies, others on campus will benefit, using these materials to expand their curricular horizons.

If you are unfamiliar with the library's extensive film and video collection, then visit <http://orpheus.ucsd.edu/fvl/FVLPAGE.HTM> to see the wealth of resources available.

Upcoming events...

CEP Review

The Committee on Undergraduate Education will be conducting its review of CGS on the 3RD AND 4TH of May. We anticipate a busy but productive visit.

CGS Senior Luncheon

The yearly luncheon held to honor our graduating seniors will be held on **MAY 24TH**. This is a time to share memories of UCSD and to learn of plans students are hatching for the future.

Honors Program Reminder

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 CGS major and have senior standing by fall quarter 2003 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."

Students interested in entering the program or learning more about it should see CGS director Martha Lampland or Kathryn Hitchcock (khitchcock@ucsd.edu, HSS 2073, (858) 534-3589).

Martha Lampland
Faculty Director
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CGS Courses Applicable to the CGS Major and Minor:

Summer Session I, 2006

7/3/06-8/5/06

Critical Gender Studies 102

"Neo-Noir Thrillers and Gender"

Denise Warren, Instructor

The course will examine how questions of gender and sexuality are at the heart of the neo-noir thriller. It will also explore how and why decades later, these thrillers re-visit the dark themes, moods and gender troubles of classic (1940s-50s) film noir. Deceit, betrayal and mind games dominate these more contemporary films and their stylish worlds rife with criminality and corruption, mayhem and murder. Their lethal center is often the figure of the neo-femme fatale with her explosive sexuality, deadly cunning and sharp intellect, and this re-emergence of the triumphant 'fatal woman' in contemporary neo-noir will also be a focus of class study. The course will consist of lectures, discussion, close study of selected films and film clips. Films include *Chinatown* (Polanski 1974), *Body Heat* (Kasdan 1981), *Basic Instinct* (Verhoeven 1992), *The Last Seduction* (Dahl 1994), *Se7en* (Fincher 1995), *Devil in a Blue Dress* (Franklin 1995), *Bound* (Wachowski Bros. 1996), *L.A. Confidential* (Hanson 1997), *Lost Highway* (Lynch 1997), and *U-Turn* (Stone 1997)

Summer Session II, 2006

08/07/06-09/09/06

Critical Gender Studies 102

"Advertising and Gender"

Denise Warren, Instructor

In what ways is gender coded, embedded in and transmitted through advertising images? How might these images be understood as normative constructs of "masculine/feminine" paradigms, gender relations or gender identity? This course will address these questions through the study of various forms of advertising: mainstream and niche magazine ads; fashion photography; the television commercial; the appropriation of art forms (painting, sculpture, film, music, etc.); and the meld of advertising, marketing and entertainment which characterize contemporary pop culture. Students will learn to do close analysis of advertising's word/image interplay, composition and use of color as well as study strategies of story-telling and visual persuasion. The course will also address how the representations of gender evolve historically and respond to cultural change. The class will consist of lectures, slide and video presentations, film clips and discussion.

Departmental Courses Applicable/Petitionable to the CGS Major and Minor:

Eligible for major/minor credit but must be petitioned

Cluster Areas in ()

SUMMER SESSION I

ETHNIC STUDIES 183
GENDER, RACE, ETHNICITY & CLASS
STAFF (1,5)

HISTORY/EU 108S
SEX AND ROMANCE IN THE ANCIENT WORLD
MIANO (5)

HISTORY/LA 161
HISTORY/WOMEN IN LATIN AMERICA
SANDERS (3,5)

LITERATURE/SP 175
GENDER, SEXUALITY & CULTURE
PITA (1,2,5)

PSYCHOLOGY 172
HUMAN SEXUALITY
ROBERTS (2, 5)

SOCIOLOGY/C 129
THE FAMILY
KLATCH (1)

SUMMER SESSION II

HISTORY/EU 105S
DEVOTIONS, DOCTRINES AND DIVISIONS
KELLER-LAP (2)

