Textbook and/or Resource Material

There are no required textbooks for this course. All readings will be made available on Blackboard for no additional cost.

We will be using the iClicker student response system in class this term. Be sure to bring your iClicker device each day. The iClicker will be used for daily quizzes, polls, and review questions.

You should purchase the one of the following:
Title: iClicker2 student remote
Author: iClicker
Copyright: 2018
ISBN: 978148603041
Cost to buy: $53.99; rental options available
This is NOT an open educational resource

Title: iClicker Reef subscription
Author: iClicker
Copyright: 2015
ISBN: 1498600751
Cost to buy: (six months) $14.99
This is NOT an open educational resource
Students can purchase an iClicker Reef subscription from within the Reef web, iOS, or Android applications. The campus bookstore should also have access cards available.

How to register:
To receive credit for the responses you submit with iClicker, you must register your iClicker. You must do so by September 5. Students who register after this time will not receive credit for previous quizzes.

Special instructions for Polling by iClicker

To create a REEF Polling by iClicker account, visit app.reef-education.com or download the app for iOS. Creating an account automatically starts a free 14-day trial subscription. If you choose to use a remote, you can add your iClicker remote to your REEF account by following the prompt on your screen.

Be sure to select UTRGV and the appropriate course and appropriate section.

Once you create your REEF Polling account, be sure that you’ve added your Student ID to your profile to complete the registration process.
Cheating

I consider bringing a fellow student’s iClicker to class to be cheating and an act of scholastic dishonesty. If you are caught with a remote other than your own or have votes in a class that you did not attend, you will forfeit all clicker points and may face additional disciplinary action (see page 8 of the syllabus).

Classroom Laptop Policy
The use of laptops or other electronic devices is not permitted unless otherwise stated by the professor.

Course Description and Prerequisites
This course discusses and explores a wide range of gender-related issues in a global perspective, some of which are controversial. The course covers theories, practices, and issues related to the social construction of gender and the institutional basis of gender inequality that affects our lives as women and men in the United States and other societies. This course encourages students to rethink and reevaluate much of what we have experienced and learned, to gain major vocabulary and analytic skills, to challenge what has been taken for granted, and to formulate a vision for the future.

Learning Objectives/Outcomes for the Course
Students in the course will develop an understanding of how gender and sex roles have been created and changed, how these vary across contexts, and how gender affects life chances. Upon completion, students should understand and be able to engage with prominent theories and sociological research in this area, convey criticism and concerns through writing and discussion, and better understand their own gendered lives.

Learning Objectives for Core Curriculum Requirements
This course is not part of the Core Curriculum.
This course is a degree elective.
This course can be applied towards the Gender & Women’s Program Minor or Undergraduate Certificate.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Program Student Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Standards</th>
<th>Major Course Requirement/Major Assignment/Examination</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Convey criticism and concerns through discussion</td>
<td>Critical thinking</td>
<td>Expected to directly engage with course readings and encourage thoughtful discussion</td>
<td>Discussion Questions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Understanding origins and applications of sex/gender roles</td>
<td>Understanding basic social constructs</td>
<td>Correct answers expected to cover readings and lecture review; participation</td>
<td>iClicker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Understanding key concepts; convey criticism and concerns through writing</td>
<td>Critical written communication</td>
<td>Accuracy; creativity; organized writing</td>
<td>Response Papers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Application of key concepts to own gendered life
Applying sociological perspectives to outside world
Thoroughness; critical analysis; clear writing
Short Application Papers

Display ability to use and engage with key sociological theories and research on gender
Application of key social theories and sociological research
Accurate recall and application of lecture material, readings, and key concepts
Midterm/Final Exam

**Grading Policies**
Discussion Questions (10%)
iClicker Points (15%)
Response Papers (20%)
Short Application Papers (20%)
Midterm Exam (15%)
Final Exam (20%)

*Late work:* I will not accept late work. Therefore, you need to be certain that you turn in your work on time.
UTRGV’s grading policy is to use straight letter grades (A, B, C, D, or F).

**Discussion Questions**
Each week, students are responsible for submitting **3 discussion questions about the week’s readings** to the discussion leaders by **5pm Sunday**. You can skip 2 weeks of questions without penalty.

Two or three students will act as discussion leaders each week. Discussion leaders will create an organized document of student questions for the class, using this document to lead discussion. Discussion leaders should send a copy of their document to the professor by **8am Tuesday**. The professor will make copies for the class. **Not participating as discussion leader during the assigned week will result in a two letter-grade drop in your final grade.**

**iClicker**
Each class will start with a short quiz that you will take with your iClicker device—either a student remote or your smartphone. **Be sure you arrive on time.** The quizzes will cover material from previous lectures or the readings to be discussed that day. No notes will be permitted during this time.

Throughout the class, you will also use your iClicker remote to respond to poll questions, opinion questions, and review questions.

You must be physically present in the room to answer iClicker questions.

The points are a running total, and I will drop the lowest 10% of your responses. Students will receive one additional point per class if 100% of questions are answered.

**There are no makeups for missed iClicker questions.**

**Response Papers**
Students are required to submit weekly response papers based on the readings. You should focus on one theme or key point in the reading, summarize the concept or argument, provide an example or application, and offer a critique. Grades will be based on (1) organization and clarity of writing, (2) discussion of the topic, and (3) inclusion of all necessary parts. An example and detailed directions are posted on Blackboard. Page number references should be used for direct quotes, though use of direct quotes is discouraged. **Response papers are**
expected to be 2 double spaced pages (12 pt font, 1” margins) and should be submitted to Blackboard before class on Tuesdays. You are required to submit 8. Graded assignments will receive a 70, 80, 90 or 100. Missing or late assignments will receive a 0.

Short Application Papers
In lieu of a term paper, there are four short application papers, typically 3-5 pages. Detailed instructions for each paper are posted on Blackboard.

Exams
Exams will be given in class. They will be a combination of defining/understanding terms, short answer, and essay questions.

Exams are closed book and a computer is not permitted. There are no make-up exams. If you are absent, this absence must be officially excused and communicated as soon as possible.

Any form of cheating or communication with other students during an exam will results in a 0 on that exam for everyone involved.

Calendar of Activities

Course Schedule (*Subject to change*)

Week 1: Introductions and Theoretical Perspectives
August 27: Introduction
August 29: Theory
September 3: Politics

Week 2: Sex, Gender & Difference
September 5:
September 10: First response paper due

Week 3: Gender Roles
September 12:

Week 4: Masculinity
September 19:
**Week 5: The Gendered Family**

**September 26:**

**First short application paper due**

October 1:


**Week 6: Sex and Sexuality**

**October 3:**

October 8:

Kane, Emily. 2006. “‘No Way My Boys are going to Be Like That!’: Parents’ Responses to Children’s Gender Nonconformity.” *Gender and Society* 20(2): 149-176.

Excerpts from “Sexual Relations, Intimacy, and Power.” in *Gender through the Prism of Difference*

**Week 7: Violence**

**October 10:**

**Second short application paper due**

October 15:

Excerpts from “Violence.” in *Gender through the Prism of Difference*


**October 17: MIDTERM EXAM**

**Week 8: Gender and Education**

**October 22:** Education Lecture

**October 24:** Special Class Activity with Dr. Mario Gil

**October 29**


**Week 9: Gender and Health**

**October 31:** Health Lecture & “Spooky Sociology”

**November 5:**


**Week 10: Gender and the Labor Force**

**November 7:**

Third short application paper due

**November 12:**


**Week 11: Gender and Religion**

**November 14:**

Fourth short application paper due

**November 19:**


**Week 13: Gender and Immigration**

**November 21:**

**November 26:**


Espiritu, Yen L. 2001. "'We Don't Sleep Around Like White Girls Do': Family, Culture, and Gender in Filipina American Lives." *Signs* 26:414–40

**Week 14: Intersectionality**

**December 3:** No new readings

**EXAM: December 12 @ 8am**

The UTRGV academic calendar can be found at [https://my.utrgv.edu/home](https://my.utrgv.edu/home) at the bottom of the screen, prior to login. Some important dates for Fall 2019 include:

- **August 26** First day of classes
- **August 29** Last day to add a course or register for Fall 2019
- **September 2** Labor Day Holiday – NO classes
- **November 13** Last day to drop a course; will count toward the 6-drop rule
- **November 28 - 29** Thanksgiving Holiday – NO classes
- **December 5** Study Day – NO classes
- **December 6 - 12** Final Exams
- **December 13 - 14** Commencement Exercises
**Other Course Information**

*Professionalism: Professional behavior is expected in this course. Any acts of unprofessional behavior will be reflected in a lowered final grade.*

Unprofessional behaviors include:
- showing up to class late or leaving early
- violating classroom laptop policy
- submitting non-original work as your own
- texting or other phone use in class
- disrespecting others (not paying attention, sleeping, interrupting others)
- missing deadlines or coming to class unprepared
- using email inappropriately (see [http://www.wikihow.com/Email-a-Professor](http://www.wikihow.com/Email-a-Professor) for tips on how to avoid common errors students make when emailing professors). Read emails before you send them, check the syllabus for policies first, and email me regarding regrading.
- Engage in other similar unprofessional behavior

**Extra Credit**

You will receive a 2-point bonus to your midterm exam grade for uploading a profile picture to Blackboard by September 10th. This should be a clear picture of your face with no one else included, similar to your university ID card picture.

**Personal Identities**

Gender is central to the lives of many students, and not all students go by their legal name or find that the information in the University system does not accurately portray their identity. Please send me an email and let me know what your preferred name and pronouns are. For example, I prefer to be called Professor Bostic or Dr. Bostic, and my preferred pronouns are her & she.

**UTRGV Policy Statements**

**STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:** Students with a documented disability (physical, psychological, learning, or other disability which affects academic performance) who would like to receive academic accommodations should contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) as soon as possible to schedule an appointment to initiate services. Accommodations can be arranged through SAS at any time but are not retroactive. Students who experience a broken bone, severe injury, or undergo surgery during the semester are eligible for temporary services.

**Pregnancy, Pregnancy-related, and Parenting Accommodations**

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits sex discrimination, which includes discrimination based on pregnancy, marital status, or parental status. Students seeking accommodations related to pregnancy, pregnancy-related condition, or parenting (reasonably immediate postpartum period) are encouraged to contact Student Accessibility Services for additional information and to request accommodations.

**Student Accessibility Services:**

**Brownsville Campus:** Student Accessibility Services is located in 1.107 in the Music and Learning Center building (BMSLC) and can be contacted by phone at (956) 882-7374 or via email at ability@utrgv.edu.

**Edinburg Campus:** Student Accessibility Services is located in 108 University Center (EUCTR) and can be contacted by phone at (956) 665-7005 or via email at ability@utrgv.edu.
MANDATORY COURSE EVALUATION PERIOD:
Students are required to complete an ONLINE evaluation of this course, accessed through your UTRGV account (http://my.utrgv.edu); you will be contacted through email with further instructions. Students who complete their evaluations will have priority access to their grades. Online evaluations will be available on or about:

- Module 1: October 2nd – 8th
- Module 2: November 27th – December 3rd
- Full Fall Semester: November 14th – December 4th

ATTENDANCE:
Students are expected to attend all scheduled classes and may be dropped from the course for excessive absences. UTRGV’s attendance policy excuses students from attending class if they are participating in officially sponsored university activities, such as athletics; for observance of religious holy days; or for military service. Students should contact the instructor in advance of the excused absence and arrange to make up missed work or examinations.

SCHOLASTIC DISHONESTY:
As members of a community dedicated to Honesty, Integrity and Respect, students are reminded that those who engage in scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and expulsion from the University. Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to: cheating, plagiarism (including self-plagiarism), and collusion; submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person; taking an examination for another person; any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student; or the attempt to commit such acts. Since scholastic dishonesty harms the individual, all students and the integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced (Board of Regents Rules and Regulations and UTRGV Academic Integrity Guidelines). All scholastic dishonesty incidents will be reported to Student Rights and Responsibilities.

SEXUAL MISCONDUCT and MANDATORY REPORTING:
In accordance with UT System regulations, your instructor is a “Responsible Employee” for reporting purposes under Title IX regulations and so must report to the Office of Institutional Equity & Diversity (oie@utrgv.edu) any instance, occurring during a student’s time in college, of sexual misconduct, which includes sexual assault, stalking, dating violence, domestic violence, and sexual harassment, about which she/he becomes aware during this course through writing, discussion, or personal disclosure. More information can be found at www.utrgv.edu/equity, including confidential resources available on campus. The faculty and staff of UTRGV actively strive to provide a learning, working, and living environment that promotes personal integrity, civility, and mutual respect that is free from sexual misconduct, discrimination, and all forms of violence. If students, faculty, or staff would like confidential assistance, or have questions, they can contact OVAVP (Office for Victim Advocacy & Violence Prevention) at 665-8287, 882-8282, or OVAVP@utrgv.edu.

COURSE DROPS:
According to UTRGV policy, students may drop any class without penalty earning a grade of DR until the official drop date. Following that date, students must be assigned a letter grade and can no longer drop the class. Students considering dropping the class should be aware of the “3-peat rule” and the “6-drop” rule so they can recognize how dropped classes may affect their academic success. The 6-drop rule refers to Texas law that dictates that undergraduate students may not drop more than six courses during their undergraduate career. Courses dropped at other Texas public higher education institutions will count toward the six-course drop limit. The 3-peat rule refers to additional fees charged to students who take the same class for the third time.

STUDENT SERVICES:
Students who demonstrate financial need have a variety of options when it comes to paying for college costs, such as scholarships, grants, loans and work-study. Students should visit the Students Services Center (U Central) for additional information. U Central is located in BMAIN 1.100 (Brownsville) or ESSBL 1.145 (Edinburg) or can be reached by email (ucentral@utrgv.edu) or telephone: (888) 882-4026. In addition to financial aid, U Central can assist students with registration and admissions.
Students seeking academic help in their studies can use university resources in addition to an instructor's office hours. University Resources include the Advising Center, Career Center, Counseling Center, Learning Center, and Writing Center. The centers provide services such as tutoring, writing help, critical thinking, study skills, degree planning, and student employment. Locations are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Center Name</th>
<th>Brownsville Campus</th>
<th>Edinburg Campus</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advising Center</td>
<td><a href="mailto:AcademicAdvising@utrgv.edu">AcademicAdvising@utrgv.edu</a></td>
<td>BMAIN 1.400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(956) 665-7120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Career Center</td>
<td><a href="mailto:CareerCenter@utrgv.edu">CareerCenter@utrgv.edu</a></td>
<td>BCRTZ 129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(956) 882-5627</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Counseling Center</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Counseling@utrgv.edu">Counseling@utrgv.edu</a></td>
<td>EUCTR 109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(956) 665-2574</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learning Center</td>
<td><a href="mailto:LearningCenter@utrgv.edu">LearningCenter@utrgv.edu</a></td>
<td>BMSLC 2.118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(956) 882-8208</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing Center</td>
<td><a href="mailto:WC@utrgv.edu">WC@utrgv.edu</a></td>
<td>BUBLB 3.206</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
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<td>(956) 882-7065</td>
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