

# Three Rivers Community College

## Course Syllabus

**Course Title:** Sociology of Gender 10745 Soc K211 T1    **Spring 2016**    T/Th 11-12:15    Rm D211

**Prof. Lois Scozzari BA BSN MA**    [nwcc.commnet.edu](http://nwcc.commnet.edu)    860-841-7998    **Office hours by appoint.**

### **Course Description:**

Sex and gender are used as principles of social organization in all known societies. This course surveys research in the sociological study of gender with the goal of providing students with a theoretical grounding for analyzing gender from a sociological perspective. We will explore how our lives and the world around us are shaped by gender and how gender has been constructed over time. We will examine how sociological research on gender helps us to understand power and inequality at various levels – institutional, organizational and interactional – by examining various topics such as gender socialization, reproduction, education, work, and violence. We will also pay attention to how gender reinforces and builds upon other areas of inequality such as social class, race, ethnicity and age

**Text:** The Gendered Society, Michael Kimmel    Oxford University Press    5<sup>th</sup> Edition    2013

### **Educational Objectives:**

- To understand the “interplanetary” theory of gender difference
- To understand the nature and nurture theories of gender difference, what they have in common, and why they might be insufficient explanations of gender difference and gender domination
- To start thinking about masculinity and femininity as equally important concerns for gender studies
- To understand the statistical evidence about differences between men and women in contradistinction to differences among men and among women
- To be able to articulate what a “gendered” society.

## **Schedule**

### **January**

- 21 Introduction; Explanation of the course expectations and requirements
- 26/28 Ch. 1 Introduction: Human Beings: An Endangered Species

### **February**

#### **Part 1 Explanations of Gender**

- 2/4 Ch. 2 Ordained By Nature: Biological Constructs of the Sexes
- 9/11 Ch. 3 Spanning the World: Culture Constructs Gender Differences
- 16/18 Ch.4 “So That Explains It” Psychoanalytic & Developmental Perspectives in Gender
- 23/25 Ch.5 The Social Construction of Gender Relations

### **March**

#### **Part 2 Gendered Identities, Gendered Institutions**

- 1/3 Ch. 6 The Gendered Family: Biology Constructs for the Family **Quiz #1**
- 8/10 Ch. 7 The Gendered Classroom
- 15/17 Ch. 8 Gender and Religion

22/24 **Break**

- 29/31 Ch. 9 Separate and Unequal: The Gendered World of Work

### **April**

- 5/7 Ch. 10 The Gender of Politics and the Politics of Gender **Quiz #2**

#### **Part Three Gendered Interactions**

- 12/14 Ch. 11 The Gendered Media
- 19/21 Ch.12 Gendered Intimacies: Friendship and Love
- 26/28 Ch.13 The Gendered Body

**Ten (10) significant points due one week after group presentation**

### **May**

- 3/5 Chapter 14 The Gender of Violence
- 10/12 Epilogue/Final **Quiz#3**  
**Editorial due**

## Course Requirements

1. **Readings:** Complete weekly chapter readings. Come to class prepared for discussion.

2. **Exams:** 33%  
Three mandatory short exams will be given covering the assigned readings, vocabulary, class work and discussions. Exams will consist of vocabulary and other terms, a select number of multiple-choice questions and a **brief** critical essay.

3. **Focused chapter project** 33%  
The class will divide into 4 groups (see below) Each student will read the chapter of choice thoroughly. Students will work within their group to present the information in the chapter to the class in sociological terms. The group will also decide what form the presentation will take; power point, presi, video etc. The project will be graded on how effectively the information is presented. Each student will submit (10) key statements in writing which are emphasized in the chapter. These written statements are due from each student no later than one week after the presentations. Students will be graded 50% presentation and 50% statements. Attendance for all students is mandatory whether presenting or not. Students who are not presenting will enjoy the presentation and submit index cards with questions and comments.

1. Ch.11 The Gendered Media
2. Ch.12 Gendered Intimacies: Friendship and Love
3. Ch.13 The Gendered Body
4. Ch.14 The Gender of Violence

4. **Gendered Society in Film Project, Virtual Fieldwork and Editorial** 33%  
The class will view several films over the course of the semester that deal with multiple gender issues. These issues will be identified, discussed and solutions proposed using a sociological perspective. Students will receive selected worksheets to assist with the recording and assessment of these issues which also coincide with topics introduced in chapter readings.

In addition to discussion of these issues, a paper in the form of an **editorial** will be written by each student concerning the facts, proposals to solve the identified problems. A rubric explaining how to proceed with the writing of the Editorial will be found on Blackboard.

## **Evaluation and Grade Criteria**

Material for exams, class and group discussions and papers will include information from readings, class lectures, audio/visual material, discussions, and other pertinent literature. It is essential to read each assignment carefully and completely. **All** assignments must be handed in and **on time** to get full credit. Much information is discussed in class, so attendance is essential.

## **Participation and Attendance**

Regular attendance, focused attention in class to the topic at hand and appropriate, respectful behavior toward the instructor and other students is expected at all times for the most productive learning environment. You are expected to attend class both physically and mentally, be on time and prepared. If you are absent, you are still responsible for work covered in class and will not benefit from class discussion or receive credit for participation.

Students should take part in class discussion and will be graded for critical thinking! Understand that as we piece together the class dialogue that there will naturally be valid diverse points of view. These points should be given and received with openness and respect. The topics we discuss in sociology are by nature sensitive, often controversial and potentially volatile. Each student is responsible for conducting themselves in a mature, openly receptive and professional manner in all class discussions and projects.

- ✚ Arriving late or leaving early is not acceptable. Please notify me ahead of time if you expect to be late or absent for any reason.

**Cell phones** must be on silence and put away during class. This activity is unnecessary and disruptive and will not be tolerated. It is unacceptable for students to leave class to answer cell phones or make calls or texts. Persistent cell phone users will be required to leave class. The use of laptops will be at the Instructor's discretion and will be put away when not needed.

## **College Policies and Procedures**

**Plagiarism:** Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty are not tolerated at Three Rivers CC. Violators of this policy will be subject to sanctions ranging from failure of the assignment (receiving a zero), failing the course, being removed/expelled from the program and/or the College. Please refer to your "Student Handbook" under "Policy on Student Rights," the Section entitled "Student Discipline," or the College catalog for additional information.

**Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA):** The College will make reasonable accommodations for persons with documented learning, physical, or psychiatric disabilities. Please notify me as needed.

**School Cancellations:** If snowy or icy driving conditions cause the postponement or cancellation of classes, announcements will be made on local radio and television stations and posted on the College's website at [www.trcc.edu](http://www.trcc.edu). Students may also call the College directly at **(860)215 9000** to hear a recorded message concerning any inclement weather closings. Students are urged to exercise their own judgment if road conditions in their localities are hazardous.

**Withdrawal:** The policy of withdrawal from this course is based on the college policy. The student is required to follow through with all paperwork to avoid a grade of F.

**Incomplete:** An incomplete is granted after at least 75% of work has been completed and under extenuating circumstances. You must discuss this plan with me as soon as possible to determine its feasibility and a completion plan must be developed based on college policy.

