American Studies 01:050:325:01/Women’s Studies 01:988:325:01:  
Women on the Fringe: Perceptions of Women  
as Social and Sex Role Deviants in American Civilization

Books Required for Purchase:


Continued on page 2
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Women on the Fringe: Perceptions of Women  
as Social and Sex Role Deviants in American Civilization

Books Required for Purchase, continued:

Zailckas, Koren. *Smashed: Story of a Drunken Girlhood*. 2005; reprinted New York:  

Print, new: $17.00. Print, new rental: $11.05 . Print, used rental: $7.65. eBook, buy: $15.00.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Response papers: Two one-page (two-paragraph) responses to assigned reading for  
each week. You may choose the weeks on which you write these papers from those beginning on January 26th through March 2nd but must sign up in advance. The responses will be graded on a scale of 1-5, based on the originality of your insights and the clarity, intelligence, wit or humor of your perceptions. Make sure to include the exact page numbers of any direct quotations or paraphrases from assigned course material. The responses should be posted on the Discussion and Private Messages section of the Sakai course web site and, only if that procedure fails for technical reasons, e-mailed to me at (fishbei@rci.rutgers.edu) no later than 7:00 P.M. on the night preceding class. Make sure to include your name and the text you are discussing on your paper as well as a question intended to stimulate class discussion. These papers will allow us to work on your writing on a regular basis. They also will improve class discussion.

Please note that for all writing assignments, you should consult Guide to Writing Essays and Term Papers and for your term paper you also should consult and use Acknowledging Sources, the American Studies Department citation guide, both posted on the course Sakai web site.

Thursday, March 14th: Midterm examination.

Thursday, April 18th: 8-10 page term paper due on topic to be decided in consultation with instructor by Thursday, February 28th.

Monday, May 11th: 8:00 A.M. -11:00 A.M: Final examination.
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NOTE: MORE THAN THREE UNEXCUSED ABSENCES MAY RESULT IN
FAILURE IN THE COURSE. TO BE EXCUSED ABSENCES MUST BE
DOCUMENTED BY A NOTE FROM YOUR DEAN OR OTHER
AUTHORITATIVE EVIDENCE.

If you have to miss class due to sickness, an emergency, or another excused
reason, please use the University absence reporting website
https://sims.rutgers.edu/ssra/ to indicate the date and reason for your absence.
An e-mail is automatically sent to me.

GRADING:
Response papers 10%
Class participation 10% (counted only positively)
Midterm exam 20%
Term paper 30%
Final exam 30%

PROFESSOR FISHBEIN’S OFFICE HOURS AND CONTACT INFORMATION:

TELEPHONE: 848-932-8650 OFFICE HOURS: Monday: 12:00-1:30 P.M.
E-mail: fishbei@rci.rutgers.edu Tuesday: 5:15-6:45 P.M.
OFFICE: Ruth Adams Building 024C, Douglass Campus and by appointment

LEARNING GOALS:
Department Learning Goals Met by this Course:

Students will be able to synthesize an interdisciplinary dialogue among the
different disciplinary methodologies that compose American Studies investigation of
American culture across time and space in the history, politics, literature, and arts of the
peoples of the United States. Students will be able to write well; speak articulately; and
think critically, analytically, and creatively.

Additional Learning Goals Met by this Course:

Women on the Fringe will provide students with an historical perspective on the
evolution of the concepts of female deviance from the colonial period to the present with
particular attention to the influence of race, ethnicity, class, region, gender, and religion.
Students will learn how to analyze film critically in terms of its cultural context and will
receive training in the analytical and methodological skills necessary to pursue a research
project in American Studies on the history of female deviance.
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THE SYLLABUS FOR THIS COURSE AND ALL OTHER INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS ARE AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD AT https://sakai.rutgers.edu/. THEY SHOULD BE PRINTED OUT AND BROUGHT TO CLASS. ANY COMMUNICATIONS WITH ME SHOULD BE SENT DIRECTLY TO MY E-MAIL ADDRESS: fishbei@rci.rutgers.edu.

NOTE: ALL PAPERS MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE INSTRUCTOR IN HARD COPY ON THE DATE ASSIGNED AND TO THE SAKAI DROP BOX IN WORD FORMAT. PENALTIES FOR LATENESS MAY INCLUDE FAILURE ON THE ASSIGNMENT.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

Except for collaborative assignments officially approved by the instructor in advance, all work a student submits must be his/her own independent effort. Students must cite properly all outside sources consulted in preparing written assignments. Students should review the university policy on Academic Integrity (see the website for the Center for the Advancement of Teaching: http://teachx.rutgers.edu/integrity/policy.html). You can obtain help in maintaining standards of academic integrity by taking any of the following academic integrity tutorials: For another view, use the Camden Plagiarism Tutorial: http://library.camden.rutgers.edu/EducationalModule/Plagiarism/. Consult Don't Plagiarize: Document Your Research! for tips about how to take notes so that you don't plagiarize by accident. The Rutgers University Libraries has RIOT (Rutgers Information Online Tutorial) to inform you how to perform research and citation properly: http://www.libraries.rutgers.edu/rul/lib_instruct/riot/. Failure to comply with the University’s academic integrity policy can result in failure of the course.

Plagiarism is the representation of the words or ideas of another as one's own in any academic exercise. To avoid plagiarism, every direct quotation must be identified by quotation marks or by appropriate indentation and must be promptly cited in the text or in a footnote. Acknowledgement is required when material from another source is stored in print, electronic, or other medium and is paraphrased or summarized in whole or in part in one's words. To acknowledge a paraphrase properly, one might state: "to paraphrase Plato's comment ..." and conclude with a footnote identifying the exact reference. A footnote acknowledging only a directly quoted statement does not suffice to notify the reader of any preceding or succeeding paraphrased material. Information which is common knowledge, such as names of leaders of prominent nations, basic scientific laws, etc., need not be footnoted; however, all facts or information obtained in reading or research that are not common knowledge among students in the course must be acknowledged. In addition to materials specifically cited in the text, only materials that contribute to one's general understanding of the subject may be acknowledged in the
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bibliography. Plagiarism can, in some cases, be a subtle issue. Any questions about what constitutes plagiarism should be discussed with the faculty member. For information on proper documentation, consult Acknowledging Sources: [http://amerstudies.rutgers.edu/downloads/general-documents/741-acknowledging-sources/file](http://amerstudies.rutgers.edu/downloads/general-documents/741-acknowledging-sources/file), the guide prepared by the Rutgers American Studies Department, which is available on the American Studies Department web site and on the course Sakai web site.

**ABSENCES:**

Regular class attendance is required by Rutgers and is essential to this class. You will be allowed one unexcused absence without grade penalty. The consequences of unexcused absences are as follows:

- 1 unexcused absence = No penalty
- 2 unexcused absences = 20% grade penalty = final grade no higher than a B
- 3 unexcused absences = 30% grade penalty = final grade no higher than a C
- 4 unexcused absences = failure in the course

Excused absences are those that result from documentable family emergencies, illness, religious observance, court dates, jury service, etc., that is, situations over which you have no individual control. Please inform me as soon as possible if you are unable to attend class on a regular basis.

**ABSENCE AND LATENESS POLICY**

Students are expected to arrive at class promptly and to attend the entire class.

Students are expected to attend all classes; if you expect to miss one or two classes for reasons such as jury duty, illness, family funeral, etc., please use the University absence reporting website [https://sims.rutgers.edu/ssra/](https://sims.rutgers.edu/ssra/) to indicate the date and reason for your absence. An email is automatically sent to me.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

Women on the Fringe examines societal responses to female behavior deviating from prescribed norms of social and feminine behavior from the colonial period to the present through the use of historical narratives, literature, and film to treat such themes as heresy, madness, prostitution, adultery, criminality, juvenile delinquency, drug and alcohol addiction, political protest, and lesbianism.
FILM SHOWINGS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FILM</th>
<th>SHOW DATE</th>
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<tr>
<td><em>Means of Grace</em> (1995, 57 minutes)</td>
<td>Thursday, February 26&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Girl Trouble</em> (2004, 75 minutes)</td>
<td>Monday, March 23&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Our Bodies, Our Minds</em> (2001, 67 minutes)</td>
<td>Thursday, April 9&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Rape Culture</em> (1983, 35 minutes)</td>
<td>Thursday, April 16&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>A Litany for Survival</em> (2006, 52 minutes)</td>
<td>Thursday, April 30&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Step by Step: Building a Feminist Movement</em> (1998, 56 minutes)</td>
<td>Monday, May 4&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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</table>

FILM PLACED ON RESERVE AT UNDERGRADUATE RESERVE DESK, ALEXANDER LIBRARY

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<th>FILM</th>
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<tr>
<td><em>Gaslight</em> (1944)</td>
<td>Thursday, January 29&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; - Thursday, February 12&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:
The Office of Disability Services for Students, located in the Kreeger Learning Center (151 College Avenue, Suite 123), offers services for students with documented disabilities. Contact the ODSS at (732) 932-2848, or visit [http://disabilityservices.rutgers.edu/](http://disabilityservices.rutgers.edu/).

Students with documented disabilities should present their documentation to the instructor during the first two weeks of the semester in order to be afforded appropriate accommodations. Full disability policies and procedures are available for review at: [http://disabilityservices.rutgers.edu/](http://disabilityservices.rutgers.edu/). Students with disabilities requesting accommodations must follow the procedures outlined at: [https://ods.rutgers.edu/my-accommodations](https://ods.rutgers.edu/my-accommodations)

- University religious holiday policy is at [http://scheduling.rutgers.edu/religious.shtml](http://scheduling.rutgers.edu/religious.shtml)
- An interfaith calendar can be found at [http://www.interfaithcalendar.org/index.htm](http://www.interfaithcalendar.org/index.htm)

CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENT:
I encourage the free exchange of ideas in a safe, supportive, and productive classroom environment. Such an environment requires that students and faculty behave with mutual respect and common courtesy. As a result, behavior that distracts students and faculty is not acceptable.

Such behavior includes cell phone use, surfing the Internet, checking e-mail, text messaging, listening to music, reading newspapers, leaving and returning, leaving early without permission, discourteous remarks, and other similarly disruptive or discourteous behavior. Indeed, NO ELECTRONIC DEVICES will be allowed in class except when they are needed for emergency situations for which you have received instructor permission in advance or when they are required to support the learning process for a student with a documented disability who had provided the instructor with documentation of that disability at the beginning of the semester. You will have to take notes the old-fashioned way: using pen and paper. This method is both quaint and courteous.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

Except for collaborative assignments officially approved by the instructor in advance, all work a student submits must be his/her own independent effort. Students must cite properly all outside sources consulted in preparing written assignments. Students should review the university policy on Academic Integrity: http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/integrity.shtml. This site clarifies many issues regarding the University’s policy on academic integrity. Failure to comply with this policy can result in failure of the course.

Plagiarism is the representation of the words or ideas of another as one's own in any academic exercise. To avoid plagiarism, every direct quotation must be identified by quotation marks or by appropriate indentation and must be promptly cited in the text or in a footnote. Acknowledgement is required when material from another source is stored in print, electronic, or other medium and is paraphrased or summarized in whole or in part in one's words. To acknowledge a paraphrase properly, one might state: "to paraphrase Plato's comment ..." and conclude with a footnote identifying the exact reference. A footnote acknowledging only a directly quoted statement does not suffice to notify the reader of any preceding or succeeding paraphrased material. Information which is common knowledge, such as names of leaders of prominent nations, basic scientific laws, etc., need not be footnoted; however, all facts or information obtained in reading or research that are not common knowledge among students in the course must be acknowledged. In addition to materials specifically cited in the text, only materials that contribute to one's general understanding of the subject may be acknowledged in the bibliography. Plagiarism can, in some cases, be a subtle issue. Any questions about what constitutes plagiarism should be discussed with the faculty member. For information on
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proper documentation, consult Acknowledging Sources:
http://amerstudies.rutgers.edu/documents/AcknowledgingSources.pdf, the guide prepared
by the Rutgers American Studies Department, which is available on the American
Studies Department web site and on the course Sakai web site.

AMERICAN STUDIES EVENTS CALENDAR:

For updated events consult http://amerstudies.rutgers.edu/news-and-
events/upcoming-events/range.listevents/-

An Evening of Gospel Choirs: Celebrating Black
History Month.

Saturday, February 28, 2015. 7:00 P.M. Voorhees Chapel, Douglass Campus. Free Admission.

The New Jersey Folk Festival

The New Jersey Folk Festival (njfolkfest.rutgers.edu) is an annual festival presented
under the auspices of the American Studies Department which attracts some 10,000
people to the campus. The festival's plan is a celebration of regional folk culture—folk
arts, farm arts, folk music, and contemporary crafts. The goal is to stimulate awareness
and appreciation for folklore and folk-life, past and present. The Folk Festival is under
the direction of Prof. Angus Gillespie and a committee made up of students, each of
whom is responsible for coordinating various aspects of the festival. This year the theme
of the festival is Celebrating Maritime Folklife. Saturday, April 25, 2015. 10:00 A.M.-
6:00 P.M. Woodlawn, aka Eagleton Institute, Douglass Campus. Free admission.
ASSIGNMENTS: All readings on reserve at the Alexander Library Reserve Desk and all articles available on electronic reserve.

I. January 22nd
   (Thursday)

II. January 27th
   Complete reading Levin, ed., *What Happened in Salem?*

   Film assignment for week of February 11th: *Gaslight* (1944, 114 minutes), on reserve at Music Library, Mabel Smith Douglass Library, Thursday, January 29th - Thursday, February 12th

III. February 2nd

IV. February 9th


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| IV. | February 9th  
*GASLIGHT (1944, 114 MINUTES) TO BE DISCUSSED IN CLASS, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12TH*


*MEANS OF GRACE (1995, 67 MINUTES) SHOWN IN CLASS THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26TH*


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<tr>
<td>IX.</td>
<td>March 16&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>MIDSEMESTER BREAK</td>
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<td></td>
<td>APRIL 1&lt;sup&gt;ST&lt;/sup&gt;: PASSOVER; READ CLASS LECTURE POSTED ON SAKAI BY THURSDAY, APRIL 4&lt;sup&gt;TH&lt;/sup&gt; CLASS</td>
<td>The Strange Relationship Between Feminism and Sex Work By Carol Leigh, On The Issues Magazine Posted on September 12, 2008, Printed on June 23, 2009 <a href="http://www.alternet.org/story/98645/">http://www.alternet.org/story/98645/</a></td>
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<td><em>OUR BODIES, OUR MINDS (2001, 67 MINUTES) SHOWN IN CLASS THURSDAY, APRIL 9&lt;sup&gt;TH&lt;/sup&gt;</em></td>
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**THURSDAY, APRIL 18TH:**  
TERM PAPER DUE


Vanessa Grigoriadis, “Meet the College Women Who are Starting a Revolution Against Campus Sexual Assault,” *The Cut, New York Times Magazine* 21 September 2014:  


The Editorial Board, “Rolling Stone and Rape on Campus,” *New York Times* 8 December 2014:  


**RAPE CULTURE (1983, 35 MINUTES) SHOWN IN CLASS, THURSDAY, APRIL 16TH**
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| XIII. | April 20\(^{th}\) | Koren Zailckas, *Smashed: Story of a Drunken Girlhood.*
| XIV.  | April 27\(^{th}\) | Audre Lorde, *Zami: A New Spelling of My Name.*
                                   Acknowledgments; Dedication; pp. 3-5; Prologue: p. 7, 9-253; Epilogue: pp. 255-256. |

* A LITANY FOR SURVIVAL (2006, 52 MINUTES) SHOWN IN CLASS, THURSDAY, APRIL 30\(^{TH}\)

| XV.  | May 4\(^{th}\) | Review for final examination                                                      |

* STEP BY STEP: BUILDING A FEMINIST MOVEMENT (1998, 56 MINUTES) SHOWN IN CLASS MONDAY, MAY 4\(^{TH}\)  

MONDAY, MAY 11\(^{TH}\): 8:00 A.M-11:00 A.M.: FINAL EXAMINATION.