

Spring 1990

Program Notes- Spring-Summer 1990

Women's Studies Program Staff

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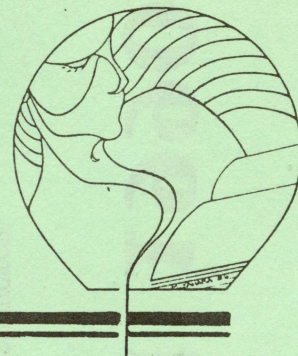
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PROGRAM NOTES

Volume 15, No. 2

Spring-Summer 1990



SOC 270: SOCIOLOGY OF THE LATINA

For the past twenty years, Hispanics have been the fastest-growing ethnic group in Chicago, with an estimated population of 538,000 (19 percent of the city's population), the majority of whom are of Mexican, Puerto Rican, or Cuban origin, with a smaller number of Central and South Americans. Latinos have the lowest median age in Chicago, 22.2 years; not surprisingly, females in this group are younger than other U.S. women and have a median age of 24.8 years, compared to 31.5 years for all women.

The course "Sociology of the Latina" - being offered in the Fall 1990 term - will familiarize the student with the differing historical forces shaping the ethos of contemporary Hispanics, while analyzing the political and socio-economic conditions controlling their lives. The focus of the course will be an examination of the experience of the Latina. Society and the media have continued to depict her as the Virgin mother, modest, passive, self-sacrificing, dependent, abnegated, and submissive; or the whore Eve, passionate, sexual, independent, aggressive. These dichotomous, culture-bound images can only be dispelled by looking at more realistic and better-rounded characterizations of the Latina.

It is the Hispana herself who can best mirror her experience in all its diversity. With the help of novels, short stories, poetry, and essays written by Latinas, we will explore issues of gender, class, ethnic identity, sexuality, oppression, acculturation, assimilation, and bilingualism.

IRENE CAMPOS CARR, Coordinator of Women's Studies, will teach the course.

WSP 150: "MODEL MUGGING: SELF-DEFENSE AND EMPOWERMENT FOR WOMEN"

"Model Mugging" will be offered for the fourth time at Northeastern Illinois University during the Fall 1990 term. The course will be taught from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m., on five consecutive Fridays: September 7, 14, 21, 28, and October 5.

Other schools in the Chicago area will be sponsoring the course as well:

- Mundelein College, 6363 N. Sheridan, Chicago. July 15, 18, 22, 25, and 29.
- College of DuPage. September 4, 8, 11, 15, and 18.
- Niles College, 7135 N. Harlem Ave., Niles. October 6, 10, 13, 17, and 20.

FACTS ABOUT RAPE

- Experts say that one in every three U.S. women will be assaulted at some time in her life.
- Rape victims range in age from a few months to 97 years old.
- Nearly 50 percent of sexual assaults occur in the victim's home or the home of an acquaintance.
- Statistics indicate that over 90 percent of all rape attacks are committed by single unarmed assailants.

FACTS ABOUT "MODEL MUGGING"

- It empowers women to more freely pursue their life interests.
- It enables women to channel fright response into fight response.
- Techniques require minimal physical fitness.
- Women report successfully stopping attacks up to eight years after graduation.

NEW STUDENT GROUP

WOMEN STUDENTS UNITED has been granted a temporary charter by the office of Student Activities. The preamble to the new organization's constitution reads: "Based on the recognition that women students have particular needs and concerns which are often not addressed in other organizations, Women Students United is being formed to promote a supportive community for all women students at Northeastern Illinois University."

The acting officers are Bridgett Russell, Chair; Mary Boyle, Vice-Chair; Maryellen Burns, Recorder; Laura Bentz, Treasurer. For meeting times and place, please contact Women's Studies, x 3308.

Women's Studies Courses, Fall 1990

DEPT. / COURSE NO.	COURSE TITLE	CREDITS	TIME	ROOM	INSTRUCTOR
WSP 101#-31	INTRODUCTION TO WOMEN'S STUDIES	3	7:05-9:45 pm T	S-301	Shelley Bannister
This course will introduce students to the philosophy of Women's Studies, to members of the Women's Studies faculty and the course they teach, and to key issues affecting women's lives. (This course is required for the Women's Studies minor. This course also fulfills the general-education requirement for 3 hours of interdisciplinary/professional studies.)					
WSP 150-14	MODEL MUGGING: SELF-DEFENSE AND EMPOWERMENT FOR WOMEN	1	6:00-10:00 pm F	CLS-2094	Martha Thompson and others
This five-week, one-credit-hour course is a highly specialized self-defense course in which women learn a knockout defense against an assailant of any size. The course is unique in its use of a specially trained, heavily padded assailant (the "model mugger"). With the support of other students and female instructors, students learn to use real, full-force defenses against the padded muggers in simulated rape scenarios. Five sessions: September 7 through October 5, 1990. Cost: \$200 if paid by the first day of class. To sign up, contact Martha Thompson in the Sociology Department (extension 5048).					

The following courses originating in other departments have been cross-listed as Women's Studies courses because they support the goals of the Women's Studies Program: to encourage new knowledge about women's experience, history, contributions, and status; to bring a critical perspective to traditional areas of knowledge dealing with women and gender roles; to promote non-sexist education. All of these courses (as the two above) may be applied to the Women's Studies minor.

***CRJU 315B-31 WOMEN, POVERTY, AND JUSTICE 3 4:15-5:30 pm T,R S-228 Renny Golden**
 This course will examine the astronomic rise in poverty among female heads of households, the economic losses that have accompanied women's political "gains," and the new generation of women's revision of the American Dream. The course will also analyze the links between gender, race, and economy. Required texts: Ruth Sidel's Women and Children Last and Sidel's On Her Own: Growing Up in the Shadow of the American Dream. Among recommended authors: Frances Fox Piven and Barbara Ehrenreich.

MNGT 378-01 THE CHANGING ROLE OF WOMEN IN BUSINESS 3 11:00-11:50 am M,W,F CLS-2071 Hamid Akbari
 The emerging role of women in business, and the special problems and opportunities created as a result.
 (Prerequisite: MNGT 370.)

PSCI-COMP 390-01 GENDER AND POLITICS

3 10:00-10:50 am M,W,F CLS-2081 Ellen Cannon

A study of the relationship of gender and gender roles to political attitudes, beliefs, and behavior. The nature of political socialization will be considered as well as political and economic structures pertinent to gender distinctions. (Prerequisite: PSCI-COMP 211 or consent of instructor.)

SOC 105#-31 WOMEN, MEN, AND SOCIAL CHANGE

3 5:40-6:55 pm T,R CLS-2105 Mary Ann Schwartz

This course will examine the roots of gender expectations and gender divisions; and historical and cultural variations in how gender has and is perceived. The course will raise questions about the consequences of the social organization of gender relations and the possibilities for change in the positions of men and women in society. (This is a general-education course which fulfills 3 of the 12 credit-hours required in the behavioral/social sciences.)

SOC 214-01 SOCIOLOGY OF MARRIAGE AND THE FAMILY

3 11:05-12:20 pm T,R CLS-2094 Mary Ann Schwartz

This course focuses on the major issues involved in the current criticism of family systems with a view to predicting how present traditional forms are likely to mesh with changing trends to form courtship, marriage, and family patterns in the future. Areas of study include the historical role of the family (including development of sex roles), family types, sexuality, marital interaction, divorce, and single parenthood.

SOC 270-01 SOCIOLOGY OF THE LATINA

3 11:05-12:20 pm T,R A-108 Irene Campos Carr

With the help of novels, short stories, poetry, and essays written by Latinas, the course will explore issues of gender, class, ethnic identity, sexuality, oppression, acculturation, assimilation, and bilingualism. (Former title: Social and Economic Issues Confronting Latina Women.)

SOC 376-31 SOCIOLOGY OF WORKING WOMEN

3 7:05-9:45 pm M S-351 TBA

An examination of the paid and unpaid work which typically falls to women in American society, the social characteristics of that work, and the ways in which women are both led to choose and prevented from leaving that work. Covers current and past changes in the nature of "women's work." Investigates sex discrimination in various sectors of the labor force and current efforts to combat it.

* A new course, being taught for the first time.

Note: Independent studies and internships are available for 1, 2, or 3 credit hours by arrangement with the coordinator of the Women's Studies Program.

The Women's Studies resource center, located in room A-108, carries books and periodicals on women's issues. Check the door for posted hours.

ANNUAL BOARD ELECTIONS

This year's elections to the Women's Studies advisory board, held on March 21 and 22, 1990, resulted in the election or re-election of the following:

FACULTY AND A&P

Angelina Pedroso
Teresita Diaz
Shelley Bannister
BarBara Scott

STUDENTS

Bridgett Russell
Jeanette Santana
Maryellen Burns
Laura Bentz
Mary Boyle

CIVIL SERVICE

Shirley Rovner
Elaine Deak

AT-LARGE

Janet Sandoval
Myrta Badillo

CHANGES ON THE BOARD

KARLA BERRY, Assistant Professor of Speech and Performing Arts and member of the Women's Studies advisory board, has accepted a position at the University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh. We will all miss Karla's talent and her dynamic, vivacious nature.

MARY ELLEN McGOEY, Assistant Professor, Foreign Languages, has been appointed by

Teresita Diaz, Chair of the Women's Studies advisory board, to fill the vacancy.

WOMEN'S STUDIES FACULTY AT NWSA 1990

The WOMEN'S STUDIES CORE FACULTY will be well represented at the National Women's Studies Association's 1990 conference at the University of Akron in June. BARBARA SCOTT, Sociology and Women's Studies, presents a paper entitled "Not So Subliminal Seduction: Images of African-American and White Women in Print Advertising"....ELLEN S. CANNON, Political Science and Women's Studies, participates in the panel "Some of My Best Friends Are...": Relations Between Jewish Lesbians and Jewish Heterosexual Women"....SHELLEY BANNISTER, Criminal Justice and Women's Studies, talks about "Teaching Women's Studies Classes in Women's Prisons"....DEMETRIA IAZZETTO, University Without Walls and Women's Studies, presents "Fat Jokes in a Culture of Thinness: Who's Laughing?"....IRENE CAMPOS CARR, Women's Studies, speaks on "Community Issues as Women's Issues: Activism in the Latino Community."

Program Notes is published three times yearly by the Women's Studies Program at Northeastern Illinois University and edited by James Glowacz. Coordinator of the Women's Studies Program is Irene Campos Carr. The program's offices are rooms C-521 and C-532 (phone: 583-4050, ext. 3308). The Women's Studies Resource Center is room A-108 (ext. 3006); check the door for post hours.

Program Notes
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