Phil 10022: Feminism and Philosophy Autumn 2018  
Dr Elinor Mason and Dr Maggie O’Brien

“Feminism is a movement to end sexism, sexist exploitation, and oppression.” bell hooks

In this class we will look at moral, political and conceptual issues concerning gender and patriarchy.

Classes: This class runs with one two hour lecture per week, plus one discussion section. You can see what discussion section you have been assigned to through your myEd channel. If you have problems please contact the course secretary, Ann-Marie Cowe (philinfo@ed.ac.uk).

Lecture time: Tuesday 2.10pm-4pm, David Hume Tower LG.11.

Discussion section times:  
Tuesday 4.10pm-5pm, 5.10pm-6pm.  
Thursday 10am-10.50am, 12.10pm-1pm, 1.10pm-2pm.

Assessment  
Regular assessment (applies to visiting students too):

Mid-term essay of 1,500 words (40%) due on Thursday 25th October 2018, by 12pm (mid-day).

End-of-semester essay of 2,500 words (50%) due on Thursday 13th December 2018, by 12pm (mid-day).

Please note, word limits are strict – no leeway. Word count includes footnotes but you can have a separate bibliography. Write your word count on the first page.

Participation 10% (attendance and participation in discussion.) If for some reason you feel that you cannot participate in discussion, please talk to me about an alternative.

4th Year Coursework dissertations: Notify the Teaching Office that you will be taking the dissertation option by the advertised deadline.  
Generally, any topic covered in the course is a suitable short dissertation topic, but please discuss your title with me.

Please note that there is some flexibility about essay topics: you can pick your own so long as you run it by me, but you must write on a topic from the course. Mid-term
essays must be on a topic from weeks 1-5, end-of-semester essays must be on a topic from week 7 or later.

Office hours:
Elinor Mason: Tuesdays 1-2pm or by appointment.
Maggie O’Brien: Tuesdays 11-12pm or by appointment.

Respect and Sensitivity
We will discuss some upsetting things in this class. Please bear in mind that some of the things we talk about are things that other students may have had personal experiences with. Talk to each other with this in mind. Be respectful at all times. It is not disrespectful to disagree with someone’s views, but the expression of that disagreement must be polite and impersonal, and based on argument. I will not offer trigger warnings before each potentially upsetting topic. Please look at the syllabus and if you feel uncomfortable, come and talk to me in confidence and we can discuss an alternative to attending class on that day.

Readings
Most of the readings are available online through the library. It is your responsibility to track them down.

The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy has very useful entries on feminist topics, some are linked here but there are many others that you may find relevant. The best use of the SEP is to get an overview of a topic and find further reading.

General and Background Reading


Finlayson, Lorna, 2016, Feminism: An Introduction (CUP).
Hackett, Elizabeth & Haslanger, Sally (ed.s), 2000. Theorizing Feminisms, OUP.
Haslanger, Sally, (2012). Resisting Reality (OUP)
Langton, Rae, (2009). Sexual Solipsism (OUP)
**Week 1 (18 Sep) Introduction**

*Essential*


*Recommended*


hooks, bell, Feminist Theory: From Margin to Center, esp Rethinking the Nature of Work.

*Further Reading*

Wollstonecraft, Mary, *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman* (esp. ch.s 2 and 3)

Mill, J.S. *The Subjection of Women* (esp ch.s 1-3)


Haslanger, Sally Oppression (Ch. 11 of *Resisting Reality*)


**Week 2 (25 Sep) Intersectionality (Mason)**

*Essential*


*Recommended*


Bailey, Alison (2010). ‘On Intersectionality and the Whiteness of Feminist Philosophy’. In George Yancy (ed.), *THE CENTER MUST NOT HOLD: WHITE
WOMEN PHILOSOPHERS ON THE WHITENESS OF PHILOSOPHY. Lexington Books.

Further Reading

Week 3 (2 Oct) Sex Work (O’Brien)
Essential
Chapter 11

Week 4 (9 Oct) Pornography and Silencing (Mason)
Essential
Langton, Rae ‘Speech Acts and Unspeakable Acts’, Philosophy and Public Affairs 22 (Fall 93) on JSTOR (and in her 2009 book, Sexual Solipsism (OUP)).

Recommended

Further Reading
Bauer, Nancy, How to Do Things with Pornography (Harvard University Press, 2015)

http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/feminism-objectification/
http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/feminism-language/

Week 5 (16 Oct) Reproduction and Family (O’Brien)
Essential


Week 6 (23 Oct) Rape and Consent (Mason)

Essential

Recommended

Further Reading
Joan McGregor, Is It Rape? On Acquaintance Rape and Taking Women’s Consent Seriously (Ashgate, 2005)

https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/feminism-rape/

Week 7 (30 Oct) Gender (Mason)

Essential

Recommended

Further Reading

http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/feminism-gender/
http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/feminism-metaphysics/

Week 8 (6 Nov) Trans Identity (Mason)
Essential

Recommended
‘Amelioration and Inclusion: Gender Identity and the Concept of Woman Katharine Jenkins Ethics Vol. 126, No. 2 (January 2016), pp. 394-421

http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/feminism-trans/

Further Reading
http://juliaserano.blogspot.com/2015/09/julia-serano-on-judith-butler.html
Butler, Judith, (1993). ‘Gender is burning: questions of appropriation and subversion’ (in Bodies that matter: on the discursive limits of sex, p. 121-140)

N.B. The SEP articles are particularly useful on this and the previous topics.

**Week 9 (13 Nov) Sexual Desire (O’Brien)**

*Essential*

Srinivasan, Amia Does anyone have the right to sex? London Review of Books March 22, 2018 https://www.lrb.co.uk/v40/n06/amia-srinivasan/does-anyone-have-the-right-to-sex


**Week 10 (20 Nov) Masculinity (O’Brien)**

*Essential*


*Recommended*


*Further Reading*


See also Jackson Katz’s documentaries (below).
Week 11 (27 Nov) Ideology and False Consciousness (Both)

*Essential*
Haslanger, Sally ‘But Mom, Crop-Tops Are Cute!” Social Knowledge, Social Structure and Ideology Critique. (ch. 15 of *Resisting Reality*)

*Recommended*

*Additional Resources*
Haslanger, Sally, 'Ideology, Generics and Common Ground' (ch. 17 of *Resisting Reality*)
Marx, Karl, and Friedrich Engels, *The German ideology, Theses on Feuerbach*. 
Tietjens Meyers, Diana, 2002. Gender in the Mirror: Cultural Imagery and Women’s Agency (OUP)

*Films and Documentaries*
Nanette
(Netflix)

Miss Representation
https://www.kanopystreaming.com/product/miss-representation-0

Tough Guise
https://www.kanopystreaming.com/product/tough-guise-2?pos=1

The Mask You Live In
http://therepresentationproject.org/film/the-mask-you-live-in/
Growing up trans
https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/film/growing-up-trans/

Going on 13
http://goingon13.com/

Paris is Burning
https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=hedJer7I1vl
(try to read Judith Butler's "Gender is Burning" and bell hooks' "Is Paris Burning?")

Jackson Katz on violence and masculinity
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KTvSfeCRxe8