SYLLABUS FOR PHIL 10172—SEMINAR 1 & 2: TOPICS IN THE PHILOSOPHY OF GENDER & RACE

INSTRUCTOR: DR. TOMMY J. CURRY

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COURSE SECRETARY: ANN-MARIE COWE

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LOCATION: DAVID HUME ROOM (DSB 3.11)

SEMINAR 1: TUESDAY 9:00 A.M.—10:50 A.M.

SEMINAR 2: THURSDAY 11:10 A.M. TO 1:00 P.M.

OFFICE: DUGALD STEWART BUILDING 6.14 OFFICE HOURS: BY APPOINTMENT

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course will take its central focus to be the kinds of violence that arises from various Western anthropological impositions and constructions of racialized others. Throughout this course queries into death and dying, rape, and non-being will be illuminated through theories such as Gendercide, Black Nihilism, Black Male Studies, and Social Dominance Theory. The readings in this course are designed to give students a new grammar to diagnose the substance to the problem of Western (MAN) and the logics of death that arise from otherization. In short, the student will learn to think through the categories deployed during dehumanization and how this racialization breeds rationalizations for lethal and sexual violence against the other.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: The student will be able to explain the origin and development of the concepts deployed to evaluate race and gender in contemporary scholarship. The student should be able to (1) describe the historical development of the gender concept in the United States and U.K. from the 19th century to the 20th century and its origin in anti-Black racism, (2) explain the origin of woman as a minority group, (3) explain the ethnological theories used to create masculine and feminine distinctions between white and non-white races, (4) explain the racist and colonial origins of feminism and women’s rights, (5) theorize anti-Blackness, Non-Being, and phobo-genesis within various racial contexts, and lastly, (6) understand racialized/Black males as the generative origin of white sexual oppression, anxiety, and violence from the mid-19th century to our present day.
ASSESSMENT: The student will be graded in two areas: (1) A Midterm Essay worth (40%), and (2) their Final Paper (60%). The Midterm paper is expected to be a 1,500 word essay exploring one theme from the class readings (the rape of racialized men or women in the Holocaust or Slavery, the relationship between sexual violence and racism, the construction of male vulnerability vs female vulnerability in atrocities, etc.) and how the chosen theme fractures our popular assumptions concerning race and gender. The Final paper is expected to be a 2,500 word essay analyzing a theory from the course and its application to contemporary social problems dealing with racism, anti-Blackness, and sexual violence. Your MIDTERM paper is due by NOON on Thursday 24th October, 2019. Your FINAL paper is due by NOON on Thursday 12th December, 2019.

**Semester Schedule Fall 2019**

**WEEK 1—RACE/GENDER AS CATEGORIES BIRTHED FROM SLAVERY**


**WEEK 2—THE ETHNOLOGICAL ORIGIN OF GENDER—A RACIAL ACCOUNT**


**WEEK 3—WHITE WOMEN AND THE OWNING OF BLACKS**

**OCTOBER 1**st & **OCTOBER 3**rd: Stephanie Jones-Rogers, “Mistresses in the Making”(pp.1-24), “Missus Done Her Own Bossing” (pp.57-80), “Wet Nurse for Sale or Hire”(pp.101-122), and “Epilogue: Lost Kindred, Lost Cause” (pp.200-205) in *They Were Her Property: White Women as Slave Owners in the American South* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2019).

**WEEK 4—GENDER WAS FOR WHITE PEOPLES: FEMINISM AND SUFFRAGISM AS IMPELIALIST MOVEMENTS**


WEEK 5— ON THE SEXUAL VULNERABILITY OF RACIALIZED MEN


WEEK 6— FROM PATERNALISM TO PATRIARCHY: CREATING GENDER FROM RACE


WEEK 7— NEGRO PHOBOPHENESIS AND SEXUALIZATION OF WHITE ANXIETY


WEEK 8— GROUNDING DEATH AND NIHILITY


WEEK 9—SOCIAL DOMINANCE THEORY


WEEK 10—SEXISM AS RACIST ENDOGAMY
