WS 760: Feminist Methodology (5 credit hrs)
Call#: 21523-5     Spring 2009
Wednesday 1-3:48     Ramseyer 215

Patti Lather
Office Hours: Tuesday 1-4 and by appt. 688-3044
lather.1@osu.edu

Course Description: This course provides graduate students with an overview of feminist methodological issues and dilemmas and an introduction to a variety of research techniques and methods. Topics include: The historical and theoretical development of feminist approaches to research and scholarship, the ethical dilemmas of representation and the politics of feminist inquiry and the importance of research design and the strategies involved in collecting, interpreting, and analyzing primary materials.

Required Texts:


Cop-Ez Packet at Tuttle Park. Contact: uniprint.osu.edu

Recommended


Course Policy and Procedures

-absences: You are expected to attend each class session. See instructor about make-up work if absence is necessary.

-incompletes: Written request no later than last May class that includes email contact information. Include time line for getting work done within the next quarter. Incompletes are evaluated with higher expectations (given additional time to do the work) and receive minimal feedback.

-late work: Late work will be docked 1 step for each day late (A to A- to B+, etc.) and will receive sketchy comments.
Course Requirements:

Class participation (25%): participation, including taking a role as co-discussant for one of the assigned readings including Lather 07 and collecting questions about reading ahead of time. You can work in pairs. Write 2-3 p. evaluation of reading and discussion that incorporates comments and questions raised by class members. Due with final work.

Midterm (25%):

Option 1: mini-research project that includes 3-5 page mock research proposal/design. Attach simple listing of date/time/activities in field thus far.

Option 2: 2-3 page sketch of person/theory that you want to pursue in more depth, including the beginnings of a bibliography of what you will read. Indicate book you will be reviewing and sending off for publication consideration, including where you might send it.

Final paper (50%):

Option 1: a (meta) reflexive analysis of mini research experience that reflects issues raised in course discussion and reading (10-12 pages). Attach a simple listing of total date/time/activities in field and researcher log.

Option 2: a (meta) reflexive write up of person/theory. Include 2-3 page review of one book that you have sent off for publication consideration and annotated bibliography (10-12 pages total)
Course Outline:

April 1: Feminist Methodology Camp: History and (R)Evolution of Feminist Methodology

-Harding on method/methodology/epistemology, Naples on “feminist methodology,” Feminist Methodology 1.0, 2.0, 3.0: What do we know/think we know?

April 8: Epistemology and Theory of Feminist Research

-HB&L, ch. 1-4

From packet:

April 15: NO CLASS, AERA.

April 22: Practices of Feminist Methodology

-HB&L, ch. 5-11

From packet:

April 29: Feminist Methodology: Ethnography

From Working the Ruins
- Elizabeth St. Pierre and Wanda Pillow, Introduction, 1-25
- Deborah Britzman ch. 1, 27-40
- Sofia Villenas, ch. 3, 74-95
- Lubna Chaudhry, ch. 4, 96-113
- Elizabeth St. Pierre, ch. 13, 258-283

From packet:

**MIDTERM work due**

**May 6: Researching Race/Racing Research**

From Working the Ruins
- Hill Collins, ch. 2

From Racing Research
- France Winddance Twine, ch. 1: 1-34
- Naheed Islam, ch. 2: 35-67
- Charles Gallagher, ch. 3: 67-93
- Kathleen Blee, ch. 4: 93-110
- Lorraine Delia Kenny, ch. 5: 111-134
- Jonathan Warren, ch. 6: 135-164
- Kum-Kum Bhavnani and Angela Davis, ch. 10: 227-247

From packet:

**May 13: Feminist Methodology: Texts and Things**

From packet:

From Working the Ruins:
- Laurel Richardson, ch. 7, 153-163
May 20: Feminist Methodology: Visual and Cultural Narrative. Elaine Richardson will visit us, schedule allowing.

From packet:
- Elaine Richardson (2007) ‘She was working like forreal: critical literacy and discourse practices of African American females in the age of hip hop. Discourse and Society, 789-809.
- Video: YouTube: hip hop something something.

May 27: Feminists Visit the Archives. Nan Johnson visits us, schedule allowing.

From packet:
- notes on sources from exemplar from Working the Ruins
  - Donna Alvermann, ch. 5,114-129
  - Wendy Morgan, ch. 6, 130-150

June 3: Getting Lost: Toward New Feminist Methodologies

Read Lather, 2007.

Final Paper due: (Tuesday June 9)
760 reading packet

-assorted front material: Childer’s review of Lather’s book and field journal exemplar from Lather’s P&L 966.


22. Notes on sources.