

WEIS - Women's, Ethnicity and Intersectional Studies

Courses numbered 500 to 799 = *undergraduate/graduate*. (Individual courses may be limited to undergraduate students only.) Courses numbered 800 to 999 = *graduate*.

WEIS 587. Theories of Feminism (3).

Because feminism is not a single ideological stance or perspective, course examines a variety of ideas underlying feminist cultural critiques and visions for social change. Discusses the contribution of women's studies to various academic disciplines. Prerequisite(s): WOMS 287, 387, or 6 hours of women's studies courses, or instructor's consent.

WEIS 588. Gender, Race and the West/East Divide (3).

Examines critically the role of gender and race in the making of a supposed essential divide between the West and the East. Students are introduced to Edward Said's concept of Orientalism and the field of critique that targets how Europe and the U.S. craft an identity the West via its other, called variously, the Orient, Islam, the Muslim world, and the Arab world. Questions explored include: What is Orientalism? What is the relationship between colonialism/imperialism and the representation of the Orient or the East? How, for whom, and for what purposes do gender and race matter in this construct of a divide between West and East? These questions are examined across genres and media — i.e., in travel accounts, film, literature, policy making and news reportage.