



Women's and Gender Studies Newsletter: Spring 2024

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Students

[Whitney Tatum, WGS Online Certificate, Class of 2024](#)

My journey into this field is driven by a strong desire to create a Financial Freedom course for underserved women, incarcerated women, and domestic violence survivors. I am committed to understanding the historical challenges women have faced and working toward a more equitable future.

I chose UMass Dartmouth for its renowned Women's and Gender Studies program, one of the oldest in the field.



This program provides me with a solid foundation to advance my cause and empower women financially.

Throughout my academic journey, two highlights stand out. Firstly, the exceptional professors at UMass Dartmouth combine deep knowledge with a genuine passion for the subject, motivating me to explore further. Secondly, my education has been more than a course; it's a passion project. I'm using the knowledge I've gained to create a Financial Freedom course that can transform the lives of underserved women, incarcerated women, and domestic violence survivors.

My journey through the Women's and Gender Studies program at UMass Dartmouth has equipped me with the tools and insights I need to make a positive impact. I am dedicated to creating a more equitable and just future for women, particularly those in need, and I'm excited to continue this journey.

Scholarship Awardees

PHOENIX LEITE '24

Psychology Major, WGS Minor

Awarded the 2023-2024 Women's and Gender Studies Scholarship

"I chose to become a WGS minor because of my mom, Rose. She has been working towards a WGS degree for the past 10 years and just graduated last year."



 College of Arts & Sciences
UMass Dartmouth
Women's & Gender Studies

THERESE GANGEMI '24

Graphic Design Major, WGS Minor

Awarded the 2023-2024 WGS Scholarship

"I chose to minor in WGS because I believe in creating art that advocates and educates others on the pressing issues in our society."



 College of Arts & Sciences
UMass Dartmouth
Women's & Gender Studies

Accepted Internships

***Daizha Reed '24, City of New Bedford
Office of Housing and Community
Development Intern***

I became a WGS major because being a woman of color I feel it is important to be educated on how gender, race, class, and sexuality affect aspects of complex social structures.

In my internship, I will be assisting low and moderate-income homeowners in accessing financial assistance programs. I will also be assisting in evaluating non-profit programs and suggesting process improvements, especially in the realm of homeless services.



Fall 2024 Internship with the WGS Department

Women's and Gender Studies Social Media & Promotion Internship

Do you need an Internship for Fall 2024? WGS is looking for a social media and promotion intern. As a WGS intern, you will work closely with a WGS Faculty supervisor, the WGS Chair, and the WGS Administrative Assistant to promote WGS and manage WGS social media. Interns will be able to apply and develop digital design and technology skills, communication skills, planning and time-management skills, and social media marketing knowledge that is useful for virtually all 21st-century career paths, including those in Women's and Gender Studies fields.



Interns are expected to work with the faculty supervisor(s) to develop a content calendar that includes at least 2-3 posts per week. Some examples of responsibilities and expectations include:

NEED AN ADVISOR IN WGS?

Wednesdays 11-12
CAS STAR Center
LARTS, 222

Professor
Anupama Arora

English &
Communication;
Women's and Gender
Studies



- Understand and represent the WGS Department, College of Arts & Sciences (CAS), and the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth's values and communities.
- Create engaging WGS Department content, following University Marketing guidelines for color, font, and design with Canva and Adobe Express software for posting on social media platforms such as Instagram.
- Attend and document WGS events for social media. Tasks may include taking video/photographs/notes and getting explicit written photo release permissions from participants
- Attend and document on-campus events for prospective students as the WGS student representative.

Social Media Intern Qualifications

Proficiency in social media functions and platform-specific cultures; digital/graphic design experience; verbal & written communication skills; organizational & time-management skills; professionalism & collegiality.

The position is open to both WGS majors and minors and can count as an elective toward your degree. This internship will qualify for WGS 298: Experiential Learning (1-3 credits). The chosen intern must submit paperwork before the beginning of the semester for the course to be listed as WGS 298. If you are interested in this internship, please email Professor Catherine Villanueva Gardner (cgardner@umassd.edu) with a brief letter indicating your interest and qualifications. Please also provide the name of at least one WGS professor who can serve as a reference if needed.

Faculty



Professor Anupama Arora, English and Women's and Gender Studies

Prof. Arora's book review of *Evacuee Cinema: Bombay and Lahore in Partition Transit, 1940-1960* (Cambridge UP, 2022) is forthcoming in the journal *Bioscope: South Asian Screen Studies* (2024).



Professor Catherine Villanueva Gardner

Prof. Gardner's chapter "Regress to the Future: Time Travel and Gender" will be published in the volume *Back to the Future and Philosophy*, edited by Josh Heter and Richard Greene, forthcoming from Carus Books.



Professor Katie Krafft, Crime and Justice Studies, with Caroline De Souza '23

Dr. Erin K. Krafft (CJS) and Caroline De Souza '23 are co-editing [a Special Issue of the Journal of Feminist Scholarship](#), on the topic of "Translating Transnational Feminisms." The Special Issue extends across two volumes; the first volume was published in Fall 2023,

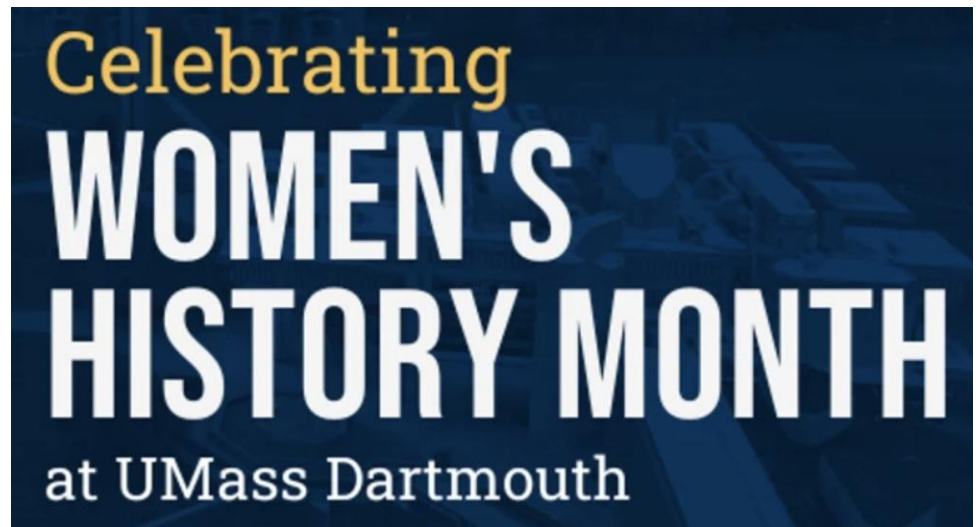
and the second is forthcoming in Spring 2024.



Women's History Month Faculty Speaker Series 2024

In recognition of Women's History Month, the Center for Women, Gender and Sexuality and the Department of Women's and Gender Studies have co-organized the

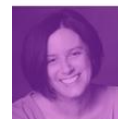
2024 Women's History Month Faculty Speaker Series. All the talks were held in CWGS (Campus Center, Room 207).



Dr. Kristin McHenry **"The Price of Water: Gendered Analysis of Water Contamination Related to Fracking"**

This research project analyzes Pennsylvania's

everyday lived experiences at the frontline of the fossil fuel industry, using critical energy justice and feminist frameworks. It specifically asks: what is the relationship between fracking, water, and gender? This article emerged from a longer study on fracking in Pennsylvania, where a long history of coal industry extraction has informed some communities' present-day opposition to fracking (Poole and Hudgins 2014). That study, which focused more on the environmental health impact of fracking on women, was based primarily on qualitative interview data gathered from adult women living in areas of Pennsylvania where fracking had occurred or was ongoing (McHenry 2017). The results suggest that communities are socially impacted and women's lives specifically are altered in inequitable ways by water contamination resulting from fracking. The Marcellus Shale in Pennsylvania has allowed the U.S. to be less reliant on non-domestic energy sources and to export energy, while promoting job and economic growth. However, those who live in Pennsylvania near fracking sites experience health and social disparities related to contaminated water. Fracking raises several concerns specific to water, including the sheer volume used in the process and the toxic chemicals that lead to negative health outcomes. The results show there



KRISTIN MCHENRY, PH.D.
HEALTH & SOCIETY,
"THE PRICE OF WATER: GENDERED
ANALYSIS OF WATER
CONTAMINATION RELATED TO
FRACKING."

**MARCH
06**



KATIE KRAFFT, PH.D.
CRIME & JUSTICE STUDIES,
"FEMINIST TRANSLATION STUDIES &
TRANSNATIONAL SOLIDARITIES."

**MARCH
20**



CAROLINE GELMI, PH.D.
ENGLISH & COMMUNICATION,
"SAPPHO, PARODY, POLITICS."

**MARCH
27**

is inadequate oversight and regulation of fracking practices as it pertains to water management, which contributes to the risk. Water scarcity and contamination significantly impact women's labor and increase their exposure to pollutants due to traditional gender expectations that women's work or responsibilities usually include laundry, cooking, and cleaning, all of which use water and involve exposure to contaminants. This talk uses the concept of petro patriarchy to explore the gendered dimensions of water politics.

Dr. Katie Krafft *"Feminist Translation Studies and Transnational Solidarities"*



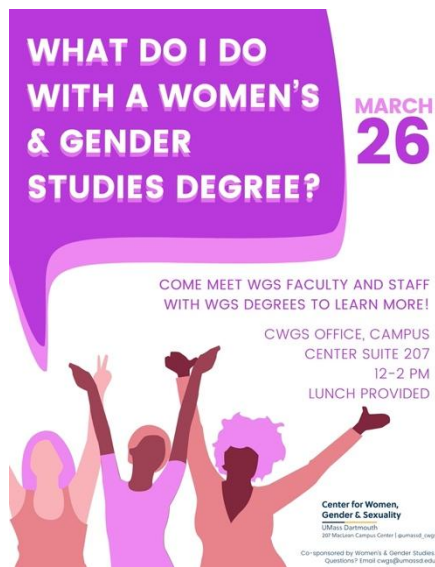
Transnational feminist solidarities rely on communication across borders on multiple levels – linguistic, cultural, social, political, and historical. In this lunchtime talk, Dr. Katie Krafft discussed the field of Feminist Translation Studies and its applications for both deconstructing and resisting the growth of the global far right, as well as what we can learn from Feminist Translation studies about obstacles and opportunities in even the most local coalition-building practices.

Dr. Caroline Gelmi *"Sappho, Parody, Politics"*

This talk explored the uses of the ancient Greek poet Sappho in late eighteenth- and early nineteenth-century U.S. political life. It discussed how parodies of fragment 31, Sappho's most famous poetic fragment, were published and republished, framed and reframed, in early national newspapers as part of a wider debate on the role of Englishness in American politics. The talk focused on how gender and sexuality played a major role in the reception and uses of Sappho and fragment 31 in these political contexts. In addition to teaching



students a bit about the history of American verse culture, this talk also helped them to think about how a now iconic figure of feminist and queer life has transformed over time.



What Do I Do with a Women's and Gender Studies Degree?

“Where the F*#k are the Women? Representation Matters!”



The panel “Where the F*#k are the Women? Representation Matters!” was co-organized by **Dr. Juli Parker**, director of the Center for Women’s and Gender Studies, and **Dr. Anupama Arora**, from the departments of English and Communication and Women’s and Gender Studies, as part of collaborative programming for the Women’s History Month, March 2024. In addition to Drs. Arora and Parker, other panelists on this March 4 event included **Dr. Katie DeLuca** (English and Communication) and WGS major **Daizha Reed**. Each panelist applied the “Bechdel test” to films nominated in the “Best Picture” category for the 96th Academy Awards. The Bechdel test, created in

1985 by the graphic novelist Alison Bechdel, asks three questions of a film: Does it contain two or more named female characters? Do they talk to each other? And, if so, do they discuss something other than a man? The panelists used this test as a starting point to reflect on women’s relevance to a film’s story, and whether women had any meaningful presence in a film. In addition to discussing if the Oscar nominated films passed or failed the Bechdel test, the panelists also offered reflections on how the films fared on other tests such as the “Du Vernay test” that gauges racial diversity in Hollywood; and the “Vito-Russo test” which examines how LGBTQ+ characters are included within a film.



Photos courtesy of Torch Media Production Manager Lilly Lafleur



Abortion Rights in the Dobbs Era: Policy and Politics

"Abortion Rights in the Dobbs Era: Policy and Politics" was organized by the Department of Political Science and the Political Science Student Association and co-sponsored by the WGS department. Assistant Professor Dr. Kristen Abatsis McHenry, Associate Professor Dr. Heidi Berggren, and Professor Dr. John Fobanjong presented.





ABORTION RIGHTS IN THE DOBBS ERA: POLICY & POLITICS

with PROFESSORS HEIDI BERGGREN
JOHN FOBANJONG
KRISTEN MCHENRY

Wednesday, March 20
12 noon – 1 pm
LARTS South Atrium
EVERYONE welcome –
FREE food & refreshments

Join the Conversation
**POLITICAL SCIENCE
STUDENT
ASSOCIATION**



Women's and Gender Studies Summer Course Offerings

Maymester: 5/20 - 6/7

- WGS 101-7101 Intro to Women's and Gender Studies (Prof. E. Lehr)

Summer Session: 6/10 - 7/12

- WGS 300-7103 / HST 389-7101 Topics in WGS: Queens and Princesses
- WGS 300-7104 / PHL 300-7101 Topics in WGS: Feminist Bioethics & Covid-19 (Prof. C. Villanueva Gardner)
- WGS 321-7101 / CJS 321-7101 Women, Crime, and the Law (Prerequisite: upper-class standing [45 or more credits] or permission of instructor; Prof. C. Nunez)
- WGS 347-7101 / ENL 347-7101 Special Topics in Women's Literature: Genre (Prof. A. Arora)

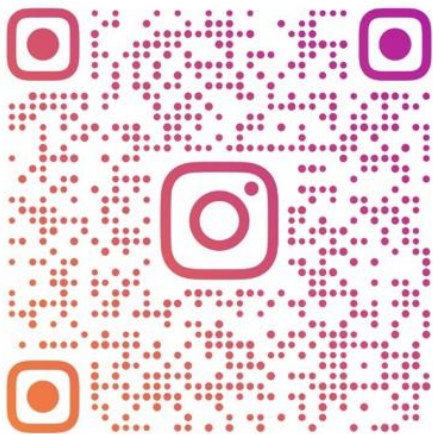


Summer Session 7/15 - 8/16

- WGS 300-7101 / CJS 344-7101 Topics in WGS: Intersectional Criminology (Prof. T. Mikell)
- WGS 300-7102 / CJS 350-7101 Topics in WGS: Intimate Personal Violence (Prof. S. Krumholz)



- WGS 300-7105 / HLT 350-7101 Topics in WGS: Gender & Health Disparities (Prof. K. McHenry)
- WGS 300-7106 Topics in WGS: Race, Gender, and Sexuality in French Film (Prof. S. O'Hara)



WGSTUDIES_UMASSD

Women's and Gender Studies Department

University of Massachusetts Dartmouth

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