

**INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Elaine Blakemore

**OFFICE:** Neff 388A

**TELEPHONE:** 481-6400

**EMAIL:** blakemor@ipfw.edu

**OFFICE HOURS:** 1 - 2 p.m. MTR, & by appointment.

**TEXTBOOK:** Crawford, Mary, & Unger Rhoda (2004). *Women and gender: A feminist psychology*, 4<sup>th</sup> ed. Boston: McGraw Hill

**READINGS:** Assigned readings found on Reserves Express

**CLASS WEB PAGE:** The class web page will be in Web CT. A link can be found at:  
<http://users.ipfw.edu/blakemor/psy345.htm>

### **COURSE GOALS**

1. To gain a knowledge of the Psychology of Women, the history of this field, and its contemporary state.
2. To understand the research processes and findings in this area.
3. To learn about the psychological experiences of women of diverse backgrounds.
4. To understand the feminist critiques of science in general, and psychology in particular.

### **REQUIREMENTS**

1. **Four exams, each worth 50 points.** These exams will be based primarily on text and lectures, with the possibility of some questions from films. The exams will be multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, and short essay. (Total: 200 points)
2. **Attendance at discussions.** You earn two points each for attending up to five discussions. (10 points)
3. **Discussion summaries.** Four discussion article summaries, worth 15 points each. Possibility of doing a fifth, with the four highest counting. (Total: 60 points)
4. **Electronic Discussion:** Participation in electronic class discussion list. (10 points)
5. **Paper or Project:** Choose from one of four options (book review, term paper, research proposal, service learning). Total: 100 points

### **EXTRA CREDIT**

1. **Extra Discussions:** You may attend two additional discussions for 2 points each up to a maximum of 4 extra credit points.
2. **Class Attendance:** You may earn up to 5 extra-credit points for perfect or near-perfect attendance during lecture days.
3. **Electronic Extra Credit Posts:** You may earn up to 4 extra-credit points as described in the electronic discussions section of the syllabus.

**TOTAL POINTS:**  $200 + 10 + 60 + 10 + 100 = 380$  (+ possible extra credit of 13 points)

**FINAL GRADES:** Your final grade will be based on total points – assigned as follows:

A	342 - 380 points	(90% or better)
B	304 - 341 points	(80-89%)
C	266 - 303 points	(70-79%)
D	228 - 265 points	(60-69%)
F	227 and below	(less than 60%)

**ATTENDANCE:** You are expected to attend class on a regular basis. You are responsible for all material missed due to your absence. In order to reward students with excellent attendance, the following extra credit points are available:

Perfect attendance:	5 points
One absence:	4 points
Two absences:	3 points
Three absences:	2 points
Four absences:	1 point

### **MAKE UP EXAMS**

Exams will be given on the dates listed in the syllabus. You may take a make-up only if (1) you notify me in advance of the exam of your **serious** illness or other emergency. (I may require verification from a physician, etc.) and, (2) you take the exam within one week of the date given unless you are hospitalized. Makeups will only be given between 8 A.M. and 4:00 P.M. on weekdays. After I have specifically given you permission to take a makeup exam, you must schedule it with the department secretary at 481-6403. You may not simply walk in to take a makeup exam; you must clear it with me and schedule it with the secretary.

### **ELECTRONIC DISCUSSION (10 points)**

All students are expected to participate in electronic discussion of class content via the discussions in WebCT. Messages can consist of reactions to or thoughts about readings, lectures, films, or in-class discussion. They can also be comments about issues or experiences from outside of class, as long as the topic is relevant to the class. The class web page has a list of rules of etiquette for posting messages. Please read them and follow them throughout the semester. I will monitor the discussion and occasionally post my own questions, replies and comments.

Over the course of the semester you are expected to post at least ten messages. You will earn one point for each message you send to the list, however you may not get credit for more than three messages during any grading period (period between exams). This ensures that you will spread your messages across the semester. You may send more messages, however, you may only earn three points per grading period. While this activity is based on earning ten points in total, I will allow four extra credit points (one per grading period). To gain an extra-credit point,

you need to have sent at least two other entries during that grading period unless have already earned all ten points. The extra-credit entry should be rather lengthy but not too long (several paragraphs but not pages and pages), and should reference additional sources (outside readings that you have located, or web sites including the URL). The source (readings or web sites) must be scientifically reputable to be acceptable for this kind of credit. To be sure I know that the message is meant to be an extra-credit entry, please indicate “extra credit” in the subject header.

### **IN CLASS DISCUSSIONS** (10 points)

Eight times during the semester (9/1; 9/8; 9/22; 10/6; 10/20; 11/3; 11/17; & 12/1) we will have a discussion. These may take place during the entire class session for that date, or during a portion of the class (e.g., the last 45 minutes); I will announce which the class before the discussion. In order to gain the ten points available for discussion, you must attend five of these sessions although you may attend all eight. ***Please do not attend if you have not read the articles we will be discussing.*** You will receive two points for each discussion you attend. If you attend more than five, you will still gain two points for up to two additional discussions. It is therefore possible to gain up to four extra credit points by attending seven discussions. You are certainly welcome to attend the eighth discussion for no additional attendance credit. The specific articles assigned for each discussion are listed in WebCT and can be found on Reserves Express on the Library web page, linked from WebCT.

### **DISCUSSION SUMMARIES** (60)

For four of the discussions, you should turn in a 300-400 word (total of all articles) summary of the article(s), and at least four questions or comments about the article(s). These papers should be typed and double spaced, and will generally be about two to three pages in length. The questions or comments should not be factual or true/false type questions, rather they should be the kinds of questions or comments that could generate discussion. The summaries and questions are worth 15 points each. If you turn in a fifth summary/questions, then your four highest scoring ones will count.

### **PROJECTS** (100 points)

Each student is required to do a project worth 100 points. There are four options that you may choose from; the class website has handouts that you can print out describing each of the options in greater detail. The options are:

1. Critically evaluate a popular book dealing with the psychology of women or gender role behavior.
2. Write a term paper on a topic related to gender or the psychology of women.
3. Write a research proposal for a study you might do as an independent study or honors thesis project in a future semester.
4. Do a service learning project at an agency that serves exclusively or predominantly female clients, or deals with issues of particular relevance to women such as domestic violence.

Papers must be your own work, and must have been written for this class only. Plagiarism, in which you use another person's work and take credit for it without citing the source, is considered to be academic dishonesty, and will result in a grade of zero for the paper. A handout on plagiarism, which you should consult, is available on WebCT. Copies of the first pages of all articles and the title pages of books used as references must be attached to the paper at the time it is turned in. Papers must follow APA style for the citation of sources in the body of the paper, and for the preparation of the reference page. Except for the research proposal, an abstract is not necessary. See the class website for a more detailed handout about writing a paper in APA style. Also consistent with APA style, please use gender-neutral language (e.g., don't use words like "mankind," and don't use the pronoun "he" when referring to a person of indeterminate gender).

### Stages and Deadlines for Options 1, 2, & 3

1. Topic: You must inform me in writing in class or on email (either inside WebCT, or to my regular email) about the kind of paper you plan to do, and its topic, by no later than **Tuesday, September 27**. It may be done earlier.

Your topic (the book you plan to review or the topic of your term paper or research proposal) must be approved by me; I will approve topics in writing or on email. Do not proceed unless you have clearance from me that your topic is acceptable. You will earn five points toward your paper by meeting this deadline. If you meet the deadline, but your topic is unacceptable, you will still earn the points but you will need to choose another topic, which will need to be cleared with me within one week of the date that I tell you that your paper topic is not acceptable.

2. References: You will need to locate your references and have them approved by me by no later than **Tuesday, October 18**. On that date you are to turn in a reference page prepared in APA style. You may turn it in before or after class, or any time until the end of the day (midnight). You may send an attached email file using Word or WordPerfect by midnight, or you may bring it to class. A sample reference page will be available on the class web page. There are five points available for meeting the deadline; five points for having no errors in APA style on the reference page; and twenty points for the quality and quantity of your sources. If you lose points for quality and number of sources, or for APA style errors, you may improve those scores by making appropriate changes, including additional references, to the final version of your paper. You may make changes in your references or add additional references to your final version, but they also should be approved by me.
3. Outline: You must turn in an outline of your paper (one to two pages, standard outline format with topics I, II, III, etc. and subtopics A, B, C, etc.) by **Tuesday, October 25**. The outline turned in on time will earn five points.
4. First Draft of Paper: The first draft (typed as described above) of your paper is due by 5:00 p.m. on **Friday, November 4** in the Psychology Department Office in Neff 388. You will need to turn in your paper in person because I will need the copies of your references (see above). Ask our secretary to stamp it with the date and time if you don't hand it directly to

me. You will earn five points for meeting this deadline. I will return these drafts to you with comments by no later than Tuesday, November 15 (probably by November 10). This version of the paper will be graded in the same way that the final version will be, although you will receive more extensive comments on the draft than on the final paper. If you are satisfied with the score you receive on this draft, you do not need to turn in a further version of the paper. If you do not meet the deadline, you may not turn in the paper for comments at a later date. Note that if you do not meet this deadline you lose five points and the opportunity for input, but nothing more.

5. Final Paper: The paper is due by 5:00 p.m. on **Friday, December 2** to the Psychology Department Office in Neff 388. **If you turned in a first draft, you must turn in the first draft and the grading sheet that I attached to it at the same time that you turn in the final version of your paper.** Copies of the references (see above) are again required. Ask our secretary to stamp it with the date and time if you don't hand it directly to me. I will not accept untyped papers, and late papers will lose two points for each school day late.

These papers should be between 7 and 10 pages in length, double-spaced, typed, using a proportional 12-point font such as Times New Roman. The content of the paper (excluding the title page or the references) should range between approximately 2000 and 3000 words. Longer papers are often of higher quality than shorter ones, but by no means is that always the case.

The 100 points will be divided as follows:

***All papers 1 - 3***

Meeting topic deadline (9/27)	5
Meeting reference deadline (10/18)	5
Meeting outline deadline (10/25)	5
Quality of sources	20
First draft turned in on time (11/4)	5
Clarity and organization	10
Grammar/spelling/paragraphing, etc.	5
Proper citation of sources in the body of the paper	5
APA style on the reference page	5
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>65</b>

***Critical Book evaluation***

Summary of book	10
Critical evaluation of book using research	25

***Term Paper/Research Proposal***

Content (quality and quantity)	35
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>

## Service Learning Option

To choose this option, you must make a commitment to volunteer at a community agency serving women (either solely or primarily), or which deals with issues of particular relevance to women, for at least two hours per week between Tuesday, Sept. 6 (you may begin sooner) and Friday, December 2. You need to complete 24 hours of volunteer time (24 one-hour sessions, or 12 two-hour sessions, or some other arrangement totaling 24 hours of time). You should receive signed verification of your attendance at the agency by agency personnel each time you attend, indicating that you completed the 24 total hours. Include this verification in your journal (there is a form in WebCT for you to use). If you wish to continue to volunteer after the semester is over, you may certainly do so; I encourage it.

There is a handout in WebCT describing the Service Learning Option, the community agencies at which you may volunteer, and the details of the written project for this option. If you choose the Service Learning Option, you must inform me that you plan to do so, and contact the agency at which you will volunteer by no later than **Thursday, September 1**. You will need to have visited the agency before September 6 and provide me with written notification from them that you will be volunteering there. I will accept the written notification until **Thursday, September 8**. Please note that you must have *student liability insurance* to take part in service learning, and that you must purchase it yourself at the Bursar's office (ask for the Psychology policy), and show me the receipt indicating that you have done so, also not later than Sept. 8. A copy of the receipt should also be included in your journal. The cost is \$13.00 for the semester.

You are to keep a diary or journal of your experiences at the agency, and prepare to turn in the journal three times over the semester, and at the end of the semester when the paper is due. I will hand out a list of due dates once I know who has chosen this option. Not everyone's journal will have the same due date. I will also ask you at the time your journal is due to spend a few minutes telling other students in the class about your experiences at your site, being careful to maintain the confidentiality of the clients who are served by the agency.

In addition to the journal, you are to complete a final paper about your experiences at the agency, integrating your experiences with the academic content of the course. The paper is due on **Friday, December 9 by 5 p.m.**, and will lose two points for each day late. You should cite references to the textbook or the other assigned readings in your paper, and list them on a reference page following APA style. No additional library references are required for this paper, but you may include additional references if you choose to. The paper should be between 4 and 6 pages in length, double-spaced, typed, using a proportional 12-point font such as Times New Roman.

## Stages and Deadlines for Service Learning

1. Informing me of service learning and contacting community agency by **Thursday, September 8**. I need written verification from agency personnel that you have done so, and I need verification that you have purchased liability insurance. The written verification for both will receive five points if turned in by Sept. 8.

2. Turning in journal three times per semester, and with the final paper. A handout with due dates will be provided. Each time the journal is turned in, including at the end of the semester, it will receive five points for the meeting the deadline, for a total of 20 points.
3. Very brief oral presentations to class when journals are due describing your activities at the agency. These are required, but no specific points are accorded them.
4. Verification of your attendance at the agency for a total of 24 hours across 11 or 12 weeks of the semester. This should be turned in with each journal, and at the end of the semester.
5. Paper integrating your experiences at the agency with course content, due **Friday, December 9**. The final journal and attendance records should be turned in with the paper.

The 100 points available for the service learning option will be divided as follows:

Meeting first deadline (9/8)	5
Journals	20
Verification of 24 volunteer hours	30
Paper	
Integration of experience with course content	25
Clarity and organization	7
Grammar/spelling/paragraphing, etc.	7
Proper citation of sources in the body of the paper	3
APA style on the reference page	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>

## COURSE OUTLINE

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Chapter in text</b>
Aug. 23, 25	Introduction	1
Aug. 30	Images, Stereotypes	2
<b><i>Sept. 1</i></b>	<b><i>Discussion</i></b>	
Sept. 6	Doing Gender	3
<b><i>Sept. 8</i></b>	<b><i>Discussion</i></b>	
Sept. 13	Gender Differences	4
<b>Thursday, September 15</b>	<b>EXAM I</b>	
Sept. 20	Biology	5
<b><i>Sept. 22</i></b>	<b><i>Discussion</i></b>	
Sept. 27	Biology cont'd	
<i>Tuesday, Sept. 27</i>	<i>Paper topic due in writing or on email</i>	
Sept. 29	Development	6 & 7
Oct. 4	Sexuality	8
<b><i>Oct. 6</i></b>	<b><i>Discussion</i></b>	
Oct. 11	October Break, no class	
<b>Thursday, October 13</b>	<b>EXAM II</b>	
Oct. 18	Relationships	9
<i>Tuesday, Oct. 18</i>	<i>Paper references due</i>	
<b><i>Oct. 20</i></b>	<b><i>Discussion</i></b>	
Oct. 25, 27	Motherhood	10
<i>Tuesday, Oct. 25</i>	<i>Paper outline due</i>	
Nov. 1	Work	11
<b><i>Nov. 3</i></b>	<b><i>Discussion</i></b>	
<i>Friday, Nov. 4</i>	<i>First draft of paper due</i>	
Nov. 8	Midlife	12
<b>Thursday, November 10</b>	<b>EXAM III</b>	
Nov. 15	Violence against women	13
<b><i>Nov. 17</i></b>	<b><i>Discussion</i></b>	
Nov. 22	Violence, cont'd	
Nov. 29	Physical and mental health	14
<b><i>Dec. 1</i></b>	<b><i>Discussion</i></b>	
<i>Friday, Dec. 2</i>	<i>Paper options 1-3 due</i>	
Dec. 6, 8	Conclusion	15
<i>Friday, Dec. 9</i>	<i>Service learning papers due</i>	
<b>Tuesday, December 13, 10:30 a.m.</b>	<b>EXAM IV</b>	

When a date is in ***bold and italics***, a discussion is scheduled for the last 40-50 minutes of that class period. Consult the reading list found on the course web page on WebCT for the specific assignments.