Third Wave Feminism 2011 Spring

Dr. Su-lin Yu
e-mail: sulinyu@mail.ncku.edu.tw
Office Phone: ex. 52222
Office Location: 26520
Office Hours: By appointment.

Course description:
In the last three decades, a paradigmatic shift in feminist consciousness has occurred. One sign of the shift is the current use of the term “Third-Wave Feminism.” To situate itself against such other positions as antifeminism, postfeminism, and Second-Wave feminism, Third-Wave feminism has declared an agenda of its own that exerts a powerful force on current feminist consciousness and relationships. This course will explore how discursive, historical, cultural, and political contexts construct the relation between Second- and Third-Wave feminism: how do feminist narratives constructed by Second-Wave feminists make Third-Wave feminism possible? First, we will trace the movement from Second-Wave feminism to Third-Wave feminism, analyzing the complex formation of feminist consciousness among women in the Third Wave. Second, we will examine how the overlapping narratives of the two waves have influenced feminist consciousness and contribute to formation of current feminist movements. Finally, we shall analyze how contemporary women writers in different locations respond to the changes in feminist consciousness that accompany the ideological struggles of our time.

1. Introduction to the course and feminism
2. Third wave feminism, postcolonial feminism, postfeminism
3. The dialectics between second wave and third wave feminism
4. Becoming the Third Wave, Third Wave Agenda
5. What is Third Wave Feminism?
6. The Personal Narratives of Third Wave Feminism
7. The Personal Narratives of Third Wave Feminism
8. Women of color in Third Wave Feminism
9. Third Wave Black Feminism
10. Midterm paper presentation (5 pages)
11. Asian American women in the Third Wave
12. Third Wave Feminism: A Postcolonial Perspective
13. Third Wave Feminism: A Transnational Perspective
14. Is there a Third Wave Feminism in Taiwan?
15. Sexual Politics of Third Wave Feminism
16. response paper due
17. Final paper presentations (10pages)

**Grading Formula:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midterm paper</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class participation &amp; attendance</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Response paper</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oral presentations</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term Paper</td>
<td>40%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100%</td>
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**Reading Assignments:**


Siegel, Deborah L. “The Legacy of the Personal: Generating Theory in Feminism’s Third Wave.” *Hypatia* 12.3 (Summer 1997): 46-75.


**CLASSROOM REGULATIONS:**

1. Attendance: Attendance is taken at each class. You are allowed one absence without penalty. Save this day when you need it. Any absences beyond this one must be documented with a signed note from a medical doctor or therapist. Any undocumented absence after the absence will result in loss of attendance points and lower grades for class participation. (Each absence will account for a three-point loss out of your final grade.

2. Lateness: If you come to class after the attendance has been taken, you will be
counted late. Two lates will equal one absence. If you arrive late, you should notify me at the end of class to make sure that you have been counted late and not absent for that day.

3. Make-up work and late papers: Daily work cannot be made up. Late papers will be penalized at the rate of 20% grade per class day.

4. Paper specifications: All assignments must be word processed and double-spaced, in a 12-point readable font with standard one-inch margins. Identifying information (your name, instructor’s name, class and section number, assignment, and date) should be typed in the upper left hand of the first page. The title should be centered and correctly capitalized, and the paper stapled (not clipped) together. All assignments must be typed.

5. Oral Reports: oral reports are required of each student. The minimum length of each report is 15 minutes.

6. Plagiarism: Intentional plagiarism is a serious academic offense with potentially grave consequences. Don’t take chances. Do your own work.