

ANTHROPOLOGY 206
Seminar in the Archaeology of Gender
HSSB 2001A Thursdays 2-4:45 pm

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office hours: M 1:30-2:30 or by appt.

This course represents an overview of gendered approaches to understanding the past. We consider the development of this area of inquiry, a historical trajectory starting with critiques concerning the invisibility of women in the past, to explicit theory-building with a feminist bent, to case studies about women, and finally, to a consideration of gender as a relationship between men, women, children. The readings in this course are organized topically for the first 7 weeks, followed by 3 weeks of regional case studies from the New World.

The course is organized as a seminar, which means that you (the students) are responsible for **leading and participating in discussion** revolving around the readings. You are expected to attend class and to participate in discussion **every week**. Two students each week will be designated as discussion leaders, and will prepare a set of questions based on the readings that will spark discussion. As discussion leader, it will be your job to keep discussion going, provide adequate coverage of the week's readings, and steer the discussion if it gets off track. Participation in the seminar accounts for **25% of your grade**.

In addition to reading and discussion, you will be expected to write **three 6-page essays** dealing with issues relevant to the readings. The first two essays will be responses to a structured question that I will hand out a week before the essay is due. The final essay will be more open, allowing you to choose a topic of interest to you. All essays **MUST** engage the readings from the course in relevant ways.

Essay Due Dates

Essay 1 (25%) → Friday, Oct 23rd, by 5pm

Essay 2 (25%) → Friday, Nov 13th, by 5pm

Essay 3 (25%) → Friday, Dec 4th, by 5pm

COURSE READING SCHEDULE

Week 1 (Oct 1): INTRODUCTION/HISTORY (125 pages)

Conkey and Spector, 1984, Archaeology and the Study of Gender, in *Advances in Archaeological Method and Theory* 7:1-38.

Claassen, 1992, Questioning Gender: An Introduction, in *Exploring Gender through Archaeology*, 1-11.

Brumfiel, 1992, Distinguished Lecture in Archaeology, in *American Anthropologist* 94:551-567.

Nelson, 2004, Gender in Archaeology, Chapters 1-2, 1-33.

Nelson, 2006, Archaeological Perspectives on Gender, in *Handbook of Gender in Archaeology*, 1-30.

Week 2 (Oct 8): THEORY AND CRITIQUE (109 pages)

Wylie, 1991, Gender Theory and the Archaeological Record: Why is there no Archaeology of Gender, in *Engendering Archaeology*, 31-56.

Gero, 1993, Social World of Prehistoric Facts: Gender and Power in Paleoindian Research, in *Women in Archaeology: a Feminist Critique*, 31-40.

Nelson, 2004, Gender in Archaeology, Chapter 3, 34-47.

Brumfiel, 2006, Methods in Feminist and Gender Archaeology: A Feeling for Difference and Likeness, in *Handbook of Gender in Archaeology*, 31-58.

Sorenson, 2006, Gender, Things, and Material Culture, in *Handbook of Gender in Archaeology*, 105-136.

Week 3 (Oct 15): LABOR (118 pages)

Bruhns, 1991, Sexual Activities: some thoughts on the sexual division of labor and archaeological interpretations, in *Archaeology of Gender*, 420-429.

Wright, 1991, Women's Labor and Pottery Production in Prehistory, in *Engendering Archaeology*, 194-223.

Sassaman, 1992, Lithic technology and the hunter-gatherer sexual division of labor, in *North American Anthropologist* 13(3):249-263.

Peterson, 2002, An Investigation of Labor Patterns, in *Sexual Revolutions: Gender and Labor at the Dawn of Agriculture*, Chapters 1 & 3, 1-10, 55-72.

Nelson, 2004, Gender in Archaeology, Chapter 5, 64-87.

Waguespack, 2005, The Organization of Male and Female Labor in Foraging Societies: Implications for early Paleoindian Archaeology, in *American Anthropologist*, 107(4):666-676.

Week 4 (Oct 22): SPACE & STATUS (157 pages)

Conkey, 1991, Contexts of Action, Contexts for Power: Material Culture and Gender in the Magdalenian, in *Engendering Archaeology*, 57-92.

Tringham, 1991, Households with Faces: The Challenge of Gender in Prehistoric Architectural Remains, in *Engendering Archaeology*, 93-131.

Nelson, 2004, Gender in Archaeology, Chapters 6-7, 88-121

Hendon, 2006, The Engendered Household, in *Handbook of Gender in Archaeology*, 171-198.

Ashmore, 2006, Gender and Landscapes, in *Handbook of Gender in Archaeology*, 199-218.

Week 5 (Oct 29): IDENTITY (130 pages)

Nelson, 2004, Gender in Archaeology, Chapters 8-9, 122-149

Clark and Wilkie, 2006, The Prism of Self: Gender and Personhood, in *Handbook of Gender in Archaeology*, 333-364.

Voss, 2006, Sexuality in Archaeology, in *Handbook of Gender in Archaeology*, 365-400.

Alberti, 2006, Archaeology, Men, and Masculinities, in *Handbook of Gender in Archaeology*, 401-434.

Week 6 (Nov 5): FOOD PRODUCTION (129 pages)

Claassen, 1991, Gender, Shellfishing, and the Shell Mound Archaic, in *Engendering Archaeology*, 276-300.

Jackson, 1991, Pounding Acorn: Women's Production as Social and Economic Focus, in *Engendering Archaeology*, 301-325.

Watson and Kennedy, 1991, The Development of Horticulture in the Eastern Woodlands of North America: Women's Role, in *Engendering Archaeology*, 255-275

Peterson, 2006, Gender and Early Farming Societies, in *Handbook of Gender in Archaeology*, 537-570.

Crabtree, 2006, Women, Gender, and Pastoralism, in *Handbook of Gender in Archaeology*, 571-594.

Week 7 (Nov 12): BIOARCHAEOLOGY & MORTUARY ANALYSIS (116 pages)

Cohen and Bennett, 1993, Skeletal Evidence for sex roles and gender hierarchies in prehistory, in *Sex and Gender Hierarchies*, 273-296.

Walker and Cook, 1998, Gender and Sex: Vive la difference. In *American Journal of Physical Anthropology* 106(2):255-259.

Crass, 2001, Gender and Mortuary Analysis: what can grave goods really tell us? In *Gender and the Archaeology of Death*, 105-118.

Holliman 2001, Warfare and Gender in the Northern Plains: Osteological Evidence of Trauma Reconsidered, in *Gender and the Archaeology of Death*, 179-194.

Wilson and Cabak, 2004, Feminine Voices from Beyond the Grave: What Burials Can Tell Us about Gender Differences among Historic African Americans, in *Engendering African American Archaeology*, 263-286.

Arnold, 2006, Gender and Archaeological Mortuary Analysis, in *Handbook of Gender in Archaeology*, 137-170.

Week 8 (Nov 19): SOUTHEASTERN USA Case Studies (97 pages)

Sassaman, 1992, Gender and Technology at the Archaic-Woodland “transition”, in *Exploring Gender through Archaeology*, 71-79.

Troccoli, 1992, Colonization and Women’s Production: the Timucua of Florida, in *Exploring Gender through Archaeology*, 95-102.

Wilson, 1997, Gender, Diet, Health, and Social Status in the Mississippian Powers Phase Turner Cemetery Population, in *Women in Prehistory: North America and Mesoamerica*, 119-135.

Rodning, 2001, Mortuary Ritual and Gender Ideology in Protohistoric Southwestern North Carolina, in *Archaeological Studies of Gender in the Southeastern United States*, 77-100.

Sullivan, 2001, Those Men in the Mounds: Gender, Politics, and Mortuary Practices in Late Prehistoric Eastern Tennessee, in *Archaeological Studies of Gender in the Southeastern United States*, 101-126.

Lambert, 2001, Auditory Exostoses: A Clue to Gender in Prehistoric and Historic Farming Communities of North Carolina and Virginia, in *Archaeological Studies of Gender in the Southeastern United States*, 152-172.

Week 9 (TBA – must reschedule b/c falls on Thanksgiving): WESTERN UNITED STATES Case Studies (111 pages)

Holliman, 1992, Health consequences of sexual division of labor among prehistoric Native Americans: the Chumash of California and the Arikara of the northern Plains, in *Exploring Gender through Archaeology*, 81-88.

Crown and Fish, 1996, Gender and Status in the Hohokam pre-Classic to Classic transition, in *American Anthropologist* 98(4):803-817.

LeMoine, 2003, Woman of the House: Gender, Architecture, and Ideology in Dorset Prehistory, in *Arctic Archaeology* 40(1):121-138.

Voss, 2005, From Casta to California: social identity and the archaeology of culture contact, in *American Anthropologist*, 107(3):461-474.

Roth, 2006, The Role of Gender in the Adoption of Agriculture in the southern Southwest, in *Journal of Anthropological Research* 62(4):513-538.

Lowell, 2007, Women and Men in Warfare and Migration: Implications of Gender Imbalance in the Grasshopper Region of Arizona, in *American Antiquity* 72(1):95-123.

Week 10 (Dec 3): MESOAMERICA AND SOUTH AMERICA Case Studies (125 pages)

Brumfiel, 1991, Weaving and Cooking: Women's Production in Aztec Mexico, in *Engendering Archaeology*, 224-254.

Gero, 1992, Feasts and Females: Gender Ideology and Political Meals in the Andes, in *Norwegian Archaeological Review*, 25(1):15-30.

Storey, 1999, The mothers and daughters of a patrilineal civilization: the health of females among the Late Classic Maya of Copan, in *Sex and Gender in Paleopathological Perspective*, 133-148.

Joyce, 2000, Girling the Girl and Boying the Boy: the Production of Adulthood in Ancient Mesoamerica, in *World Archaeology* 31(3):473-483.

Bray, 2003, Inka Pottery as Culinary Equipment: Food, Feasting, and Gender in the Imperial Stated Design, in *Latin American Antiquity* 14(1):3-28.

Hendon, 2006, Textile Production as Craft in Mesoamerica: time, labor, and knowledge, in *Journal of Social Archaeology* 6(3):354-378.