

**Ethnic Studies 330**  
**Women of Color Feminisms**  
**MW 4:00 PM-5:20 PM**

**Prof. Irmay Reyes-Santos**

Office Hours: W 1:30PM-2:30PM, and by appointment (313 McKenzie)

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**Course Description**

ES 330 introduces the conceptual, theoretical, and political questions that have mobilized women of color feminisms. Our goal is to engage their concerns about issues, such as, community organizing, cultural production, migration, racism, welfare, and militarism. Students will be expected to apply the analytical frameworks acquired in the course as they analyze a problem pertinent to a local community. We will be discussing what are the contributions of women of color feminists to a variety of debates and social justice struggles in the U.S. and abroad.

**Required Texts**

- **Sister Outsider (Audre Lorde-Duck Store)**
- **Feminisms without Borders (Chandra Talpade Mohanty-Duck Store)**
- **This Bridge We Call Home (Anzaldúa and Keating-Duck Store)**
- **Some readings will be placed on Blackboard**
- **Reserve readings** – You can find the books in hard reserves (but different editions) in the library.
- If you have any difficulties obtaining the readings (for financial or technological reasons) **please communicate with the professor** and the necessary arrangements will be made.

You **MUST** bring a hard copy of the assigned readings for every lecture. Read the assigned texts before lecture.

**Course Policies**

**Creating a safe learning environment:**

The student is responsible for attending **every** lecture, keeping up with all assigned readings, and participating actively in conversations in the classroom. The readings and lecture are only a small part of the learning experience. You must confront the challenge of the course by engaging with your teachers and classmates. Listen carefully and support your comments through references to the readings, sections, and lecture. In your comments and body language, you **MUST** show **RESPECT** for your instructors and peers. When someone is speaking, everyone listens. I reserve the right to ask you to leave the room, and/or drop the course, if you have disrupted classroom dynamics or disrespected your teachers and/or classmates. I must ensure that

the classroom is a safe space for all. For this reason, you will have a strictly PROFESSIONAL relationship with the professor and GTF.

See campus policy on these matters at <http://aaeo.uoregon.edu> and [http://arcweb.sos.state.or.us/rules/OARS\\_500/OAR\\_571/571\\_004.html](http://arcweb.sos.state.or.us/rules/OARS_500/OAR_571/571_004.html)

For campus regulations regarding academic dishonesty, classroom disruption, alcohol and drug violations, theft, physical assault, and sexual misconduct, see the Office of Student Judicial Affairs website: [http://studentlife.edu/programs/student\\_judi\\_affairs/index.htm](http://studentlife.edu/programs/student_judi_affairs/index.htm).

Also see campus policy on affirmative action and equal opportunity posted on Blackboard.

### **The Lecture:**

You should approach the lectures as models for understanding the texts. Be prepared to articulate the analytical frameworks presented in lecture in your assignments. I request that you avoid using your personal computers in lecture, unless it is necessary. They tend to be a distraction to you as well as your classmates. **If you take notes on your laptop, you must sit in the first row of the classroom. If you arrive late, you must do the same.** If you miss a lecture, or section, it is your responsibility to get notes from classmates and know the material. You can also come to see me during office hours to discuss material you have missed. Lecture notes will not be available by email or e-reserves.

### **Office hours:**

The classroom and office hours are the spaces and time-slots allocated to meet your intellectual needs. We can schedule appointments, if necessary. You **MUST** come to my office at least once in the quarter to talk about the readings, the lecture or assignments. When an assignment is due or an exam approaching, I may decide to set strict time-slots for individual students during my office hours. Therefore, if you have any questions, concerns, or just need to discuss anything at length with me, you should plan to meet before high demand periods. I strongly encourage you to seek feedback on your work. When you come to office hours, be open to constructive comments on your work.

### **Email policy:**

Email is not the primary medium to contact me. We should not be expected to respond to email immediately. Since not all of you have internet access all the time, it would be an unfair advantage for those who do to rely on email for communication. Moreover, the professor and GTFs have other responsibilities (preparing class, grading, writing), which are also part of their responsibilities and occupy their time outside the classroom and the office. You can email to set appointments, ask specific questions about the reading or lecture, or send the instructors information about any health-related or personal situation affecting your academic performance.

### **Email Etiquette:**

Please remember that correspondence by email is another way that you participate in the class. Therefore, it is important to ensure that your email interactions with me are professional and courteous. **Please include a subject line. Do not send papers to my email address. Do not email me questions that are already answered by the syllabus. You should always address me as Prof. Reyes-Santos by email, and sign your whole name at the end of your message.**

## Evaluation:

### Course Requirements

1. Attendance and Participation (CRUCIAL for passing-includes quizzes): 20%
2. One presentation per student. 20-minutes presentation each Monday introducing the text, its historical context, and questions for discussion: 10%
3. Weekly journal about the assigned text. Due on Wednesday: 10%
4. Mid-term (plan course content, 10 items in annotated bibliography, one-paragraph description, calendar): 30%
5. Final Portfolio (all journal entries, mid-term exam, draft workshop on week 10, final syllabus and one class exercise, 2-page essay on local matter): 30%

### Attendance and Participation

Your grade for attendance and participation requires active participation and doing the homework assigned. If you do not participate in our conversations for the whole quarter nor go to office hours, do expect to receive a 0 in participation. If you arrive late to lecture or section, just seat yourself quietly and wait until the class is over to ask what you missed. **If you use your laptop for activities not related to the course, you will lose ten percent of your participation grade.** You can be absent without an official excuse once during the quarter.

**Presentations** require you to produce discussion, provide historical context, posit themes and questions, compare to other texts, pay attention to stylistic components, analyze a quote, and bring a handout for your peers.

**Weekly Responses (one paragraph-one full page)** are meant to show that you have engaged the text in a critical manner. It is not just a first impression. *If you are writing about an academic piece*, you must summarize one of its arguments—as best as you can—and meditate on the kinds of questions it poses and tries to answer. *If you are writing about an essay or cultural text*, I want you to consider how it engages the concerns of women of color feminisms and discuss some of its formalistic components (narrative voice(s), structure, time and place, character development, use of language(s), tone, point of view).

### Late assignments

Late assignments will be marked down one-half letter grade (1.5%) for every day, unless you have a special arrangement with the instructor, which would only be possible under very extenuating circumstances. There are no make-up quizzes or examinations. You will be asked to produce a doctor's note if an exception is allowed. You cannot drop off late papers at the Ethnic Studies office or my office. You will have to wait until the next lecture.

### Late Papers, Grades, Questions

If you did not meet a deadline, avoid emotional outbursts in the Ethnic Studies office, my office, or email. You are responsible for your performance in the course and punctuality. We can always discuss exceptional circumstances.

### Plagiarism/Academic Dishonesty

I will not tolerate any kind of academic dishonesty. Familiarize yourself with campus policy with regards to academic dishonesty: <http://libweb.uoregon.edu/guides/plagiarism/students/>

Punishment could include an F for the assignment, an F or withdrawal from the course, and suspension or expulsion from the university. We actively investigate any sign of academic dishonesty in our grading.

### **Health Conditions and Disability Services**

If you have a documented health condition or experience any physical or emotional conditions that impede your full participation in the course, please meet me **soon**. You may be asked to bring a notification letter from Disability Services outlining your approved accommodations.

### **Course Calendar:**

#### **Week 1**

Monday: Introduction to the course, in-class exercise

Wednesday: "(Un)natural Bridges, (Un)safe spaces" (Anzaldúa); "Age, Race, Class: Women Redefining Difference" (Lorde)

#### **Week 2 Anger, Bridges**

Monday: "The Uses of Anger" (Lorde); "Being the Bridge" (Springer); "Imagining Differently" (Cervenak, et al)

Wednesday: film: A Place of Rage

#### **Week 3 Erotic, Desire**

Wednesday: "The Uses of the Erotic" (Lorde); "The Practice of Freedom" (Hames-García-Blackboard)

#### **Week 4 Families**

Monday: "Sitting in the Waiting Room of Adult and Family Services" (Kaeh Garrison); "Refugees Betrayed" (Lynn Fujiwara-Blackboard)

Wednesday: film: Eating Welfare

### **Mid-Term due on Friday, Week 5**

#### **Week 5 Colonialism, Solidarity**

Monday: "Under Western Eyes" (Mohanty); "Civil Rights vs. Sovereignty" (Jaimes Guerrero-Blackboard)

Wednesday: Library Day

#### **Week 6 Coalition, Imperialism**

Monday: "Sisterhood, Coalition . . ." (Mohanty); "Grenada Revisited" (Lorde)

Wednesday: Website Feminist Majority Foundation

#### **Week 7 Representation, Survival**

Monday: "Looking for Warrior Woman" (Barker); "The Cry-Smile Mask" (Lee); "(Re)Writing Home" (Pham)

Wednesday: video: Tyra Banks

**Week 8 Institutions**

Monday: "Privatized Citizenship, Corporate Academies" (Mohanty); "Missing Ellen and Finding the Inner Life" (Quintanales); "But Some of Us are Brave" (Gomez-Blackboard)

Wednesday: Continue discussion

**Week 9 Horizons of Struggle**

Monday: "'Under Western Eyes' Revisited" (Mohanty); "The Master's Tools Will Never Dismantle the . . ." (Lorde); Interview with Angela Davis (Blackboard)

Wednesday: Continue discussion

**Week 10**

Monday: TBA

Wednesday: Final Exam Draft workshop