

**Feminist Epistemologies**  
WGST 5020/POLS 5770/PHIL 5100  
**Fall 2016**

**Prof. Penny Weiss**  
Office: 314-977-3619

McGannon 137      [pweiss1@slu.edu](mailto:pweiss1@slu.edu)  
Cell: 765-977-3619      Office hours: M & Th 911:30

We will address four sets of questions, and the connections between them:

\* What are the implications of feminism for academic research (who/what we study, how we study it, what we do with the findings)?

\* What implications does feminism have for epistemology (what counts as knowledge/ignorance, how one learns, who knowers are, what barriers to knowledge are connected to gender and race, etc.)?

+ R Z G R H V : R P H Q ¶ V \* H Q G H U 6 W X G L H V D V D G L V F L S O L Q

:KHQ LW LV \RXU WXUQ WR SUHVHQW D UHGGLQJ «  
x \$VVXPH HYHU\RQH KDV ~~about~~ Gather than Describing the whole piece in detail You should be able to address the essay in 15 minutes.

x Here are some items that maybe useful to focus on (feel free to select others):

- o Show us where the author defines the purpose of the piece, explain why that is an important goal, and show that goal will be met. You always want to find this in your readings, and to include it in your writing.
- o Point out to us what you consider the two most important passages, explaining why they are central.

o 0DNH RU OLQNV WR RWKHU UHGGLQJV HDUOLH

o Tell us something you particular learned from the piece.

o Tell us how you might use something from the reading in your research

o Questions: Does this reading open up other research questions for you? Is WKHUH VRPHWKLQJ \RX¶G OLNH WKH FODVV WR G problematic to you?

:KHQ \RX DUH SURYLGLQJ D FXUUHQW HYHQWV OLQN «

x Tell us briefly what 77000300a HQ \RX DUH SU0`71.91 Tm [(1cfl)-/b(y)] o1 0 0/1 0

6(0(67(5 6&+('8/( ZKLFK ZH1OO WU\ PLJKWLO\ WR NHHS

**8/23 Introductions to one another and to feminist epistemology**

- x 'RQQD .DWH 5XVKLQ 37KH %ULGJH  
3RHP'
- x 0DUJH 3LHUF\ 38QOHDUQLQJ WR 1RW  
6SHDN'
- x 3\$ ERG\ RI NQRZOHGJH' H[HUFLVH

**8/30 The Tales We Tell: Knowledge, Culture, Curiosity, Re-Interpretation, etc.**

- x C\QWKLD (QORH 3%HLQJ &XULRXV DERXW  
2XU /DFN RI )HPLQHW &XULRVLW\ '  
Curious Feminist: Searching for  
Women in a New Age of Emp(ite. of  
California, 2004): 410.
- x (PLO\ 0DUWLQ 37KH (JJ DQG WKH 6SHUP  
How Science Has Constructed a  
Romance Based on Stereotypical Male P D O H 5Bn01st Approaches to  
Theory and Methodology: An Interdisciplinary Reading. Sharlene Hesse  
Biber, Christina Gilmartin, & Robin Lydeberg (Oxford U. Press, 1999):-28.
- x -HQQLIHU 7HUU\ 3/HVELDQV XQG HU WKH 0HGLFDO \*D]  
Remarkable Differences 050001D>-3<0003>[(e)4(mar)5(ka)49<00Si.93 568.4868.49<004<00

What does it mean for theories of knowledge to have a theory of ignorance? What questions is this relatively new area of research raising?

**9/13: The Epistemology and Politics of Ignorance**

- x &KDUOHV 0LOOV <http://www.millwhite-ignorance.pdf>
- x (OLJDEHWK 6SHOPDQ <sup>3</sup> <http://www.millwhite-ignorance.pdf>
- x 1DQF\ 7XDQD <sup>3</sup> &RPLQJ WR 8QGHUVWDQG 2UJDVP DQG  
, JQRUT <sup>3</sup> <http://www.millwhite-ignorance.pdf>
- x &\QWKLD 7RZQOH\ <sup>3</sup> 5HQYDOLR (Cunrler, 2006): 87  
55.

**9/20 Some history of feminist epistemology**

- x Christine de Pizan (1405) <http://www.millwhite-ignorance.pdf>
- x -XGLWK 6DUJHQW 0XUUD\ <sup>3</sup> 2Q WKH (TXDOLW\ RI  
<http://digital.library.upenn.edu/women/murray/equality/equality.html>
- x &KDUORWWH 3HUNLQV \*LOPDQ <sup>3</sup> 2XU %UDLQV DQ

**10/4 B. More on Credibility and Authoritative Knowledge**

- x & DWKHULQH .LQJILVKHU DQG \$QQ 0LOODUG ³¶0LON 0D  
1HHGV ,W¶ &RQIOLFW DQG &RQWUDGLFWLRQ LQ WKH  
.QRZOHM Medical Anthropology Quarterly 2, 4 (December 1998): 447-66.
- x \$QLWD +R ³7UW VWDQJ (( \$ \$ M W H P L F + X T R L O L W \ L Q ' L V D E I  
International Journal of Feminist Approaches to Bioethics 2 (Fall 2011): 102-123.
- x /LQGD 0DUWLQ \$OFRII ³2Q -XGJLQJ (SLVWHPLF & UHGL  
5HOHYEDWLRQ Waring Rationalities edited by Nancy Tuana and Sandra Morgen  
(SUNY Press, 2001): 580.
- x /RUUDLQH &RGH ³: R P W H Q C O S G K I S W H M I S T T h e o r y a n d  
the Construction of Knowledge (Cornell 1991): 173-221.

**10/11 C. Hermeneutical injustice**

- x Miranda Fricker, Epistemic Injustice Power and the Ethics of Knowing (Oxford University Press, 2007): 147-77

**D. Invisibility**

- x 0DULO\Q )U\H ³7R %The Politics of Reality (The Crossing Press)  
152-174
- x 0DUMRULH 'H9DXOW ³7DONLQJ DQG /LVWHQLQJ IURP  
StUDWHJLHV IRU ,QWHUYLHZLQJ DQG \$QDO\VLV ´

x

**11/22: Objectivity**

- x Hawkesworth, 76      <sup>3</sup>5HFRQFHSWXDOLJLQJ 2EMHFWLYLW\`
- x \$OLVRQ -DJJDU <sup>3</sup>/RYH DQG .QRZOHGJH (PWRWLRQ LQ )  
Method ed. Alison Jaggar (Boulder: Paradigm Publishers, 2008): 378

x