

Mayland Community College  
Spring Semester 2004  
Hum 150.75  
American Women's Studies  
Independent Study  
3 Credit Hours; 3 Contact Hours  
Prerequisites – Red 090

Instructor Information

Instructor: Michael Mann  
Office: LRC  
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Office Hours: Tuesday 5 – 6 \_ Wednesday 2 – 6

Course Description

This course provides an interdisciplinary study of the history, literature, and social roles of American Women from colonial times to the present. Emphasis is placed on women's roles as reflected in American Language usage, education, law, the workplace, and mainstream culture. Upon completion students should be able to identify and analyze the roles of women as reflected in various cultural forms. *This course has been approved to satisfy the Comprehensive Articulation Agreement general education core requirement in humanities/fine arts.*

Course Information

Meets: Tuesday 6 – 9 Room 230

Required Texts:

Baumgardner, Jennifer, and Amy Richards. *Manifesta: Young Women, Feminism, and the Future*

Ensler, Eve. *The Vagina Monologues: The V-Day Edition*

hooks, bell. *Feminism is for Everybody: Passionate Politics*

Instructor Handouts

Grading Scale

A = 90 – 100  
 B = 80 – 90  
 C = 70 – 80  
 D = 60 – 70  
 F = Below 60

Grading Criteria and Percentages

Weekly Reports/Discussion	30%
Reaction Papers	20%
Final Exam	20%
Final Project	30%

Description of Assignments

Weekly Written Reports: Each week the student will compose a report (minimum 3 double-spaced, type-written pages) on the assigned reading, or according to prompt provided by instructor. Reports based solely on the readings will consist of (at least) one page of content/context summary, and two pages of discussion/opinion. Reports are due by 6 p.m. each Tuesday.

Weekly Discussion: Each week the student will engage in a brief discussion (email or telephone is acceptable) with the instructor concerning the content and context of the week's reading. These discussions are designed to guide the student in understanding the material *before* she writes her weekly report.

Reaction Papers: Each week the student will write an informal reaction paper addressing one of the following: 1) a feminist issue assigned by the instructor, or, when no specific assignment has been made, 2) a feminist issue of the student's choosing. For example, for one reaction paper the student will be asked to analyze the content of a Women's Magazine from a feminist perspective. Reaction Papers are due by 6 p.m. each Tuesday.

Final Exam: This will be a cumulative short answer and essay exam.

Final Project: A research project involving written and oral presentation on any topic related to feminist issues.

**Withdrawal Dates:**

Unconditional Withdrawal Cutoff	Friday, February 13
Conditional Withdrawal Cutoff	Monday, March 29

### Assignment Schedule

(All Readings are to be completed by the date for which they are listed;  
The schedule of assignments can and *will* be adjusted as necessary)

January 13	Intro Discussion: What is Feminism?
January 20	hooks: Introduction & Chapters 1 – 5; <i>Manifesta</i> : Prologue: “A Day Without Feminism”
January 27	hooks: 6 – 10; Enslar: “Foreword”
February 4	Enslar: 3 – 73
February 11	Enslar: 74 – 144; Field Trip: The Vagina Monologues (Date TBA)
February 18	Enslar 145 – 185.
February 25	hooks: Chapters 11- 14
March 2	hooks: Chapters 15 – 19
March 9	Spring Break
March 16	<i>Manifesta</i> : Intros and Chapters 1 & 2
March 23	<i>Manifesta</i> : 3 & 4
March 30	<i>Manifesta</i> : 5& 6
April 6	<i>Manifesta</i> : 7
April 13	<i>Manifesta</i> : 8
April 20	<i>Manifesta</i> : Epilogue
April 27	Final Exam;
May 4	Final Project Due