American Separatist Movements

Sayles 253
Tues & Thurs 10:30-12:15
PS 353, Spring 2000

Prof: Barbara Allen
Willis 408
Office Hours: Wed 2:00-3:30 (sign up)
and Mon, Tues, Thurs by appt.

The Course:

This course is designed as a research seminar. We will be considering the political ideas that inform three separatist movements and ideologies: radical Zionism, black power, and lesbian separatism. Although each of these movements has an international component, we will concentrate primarily on writings and activities of American activists, with due attention given to the international context of these movements. The goal of the course is to uncover the ideology or theory of separation in each of these movements and to evaluate both the theoretical content of these ideas as their usefulness as an element in an activist strategy for social change. Toward this end we will be concerned with the rhetoric, meaning, claims about just relationships, understanding of the individual and the community, and basis for the ethics of the separatisms studied. We will be concerned about the historical and political context of our readings, many of which are selected from recent activist periods, including the 1960's and 70's. As a way to look at these ideas more deeply, we will also think about the individual who might find herself facing pressures to belong to more than one separatist movement with contradictory aims. Such has been the case for example, for African-American feminists; Jewish lesbian-feminists; gay male African-American activists, and for others who face the intersection of gender, race, ethnicity, social class, and other important identities within themselves.

Readings:

The instructor has gathered many primary source materials for our readings and for the students' independent research project. These readings are on reserve at the library. In addition, the instructor has assembled a reader from The Black Panther; this weekly paper and a number of other "alternative press" magazines and papers have been purchased on microfilm by the library for your research. I encourage you to put together your own readers for your research and to share these with the class. In addition to these materials several books have been ordered for the class including: E. Cleaver, Soul on Ice; E. Beck, Nice Jewish Girls; S. Hoagland, Lesbian Ethics; M. Daly, Pure Lust; C. Carson, Black Panthers; B. Hooks, Killing Rage, A. Gutman, Multiculturalism and Will Kymlicka, Liberalism, Community and Culture.

Requirements:

This research seminar requires one major paper for the term. The topic for this paper should be selected very early in the term, to facilitate your research strategy and our class discussions (which will include time for your own research questions to be addressed).

You will present your 20-page paper orally and in writing. Please note the schedule for turning in topic proposals, drafts, etc. In addition to this paper, you will also lead a discussion and write a discussion paper (a critique of the readings or an idea for that day's discussion), which is due the day you lead discussion. These activities plus class participation will be graded as follows.

Grades:

Assignments will be counted toward your final grade:

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<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tr>
<td>Written research paper</td>
<td>70</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discussion paper</td>
<td>30</td>
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<td>Total</td>
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Assignments:

Tues Mar 28 Introduction to feminist theory and analysis

Read on reserve "Reconstructing social protest from a feminist perspective" Guida West & Rhoda Blumberg

Thurs Mar 30 Multiculturalism

Read Gutman and Taylor *Multiculturalism* Intro "Politics of Recognition"

"Historically Correct" R. Perry (on reserve)

Tues Apr 4 Multiculturalism

Read Kymlicka Ch 1-3

Thurs Apr 6 Concepts of Zionism and Jewish Oppression in America

In Zionism reader on reserve

*The Jewish State*, Theodor Herzl;

The Labyrinth of Exile: The Life of Theodor Herzl, ch. 10, 11, 13, 30;

The Zionist Idea, Arthur Heller

"To Uncle Tom and Other Jews" M. Rosenberg;

"A Radical Zionist Strategy for the 1970's" T. Bisk

"The Oppression of American Jews" A. Zuckoff

Kymlicka 4,5

Tues Apr 11 Zionism and Jewish Women

In Zionism reader on reserve

"Are Jewish Women Oppressed?" J. Timberg

"National Liberation and the Jewish Woman" S. Baron

"The Women Worker's Movement: First-Wave Feminism in Pre-State Israel" D. Izraeli

*Nice Jewish Girls* (selections) E. Beck

Kymlicka 7

Thurs Apr 13 Zionism and Racism; Critique of Zionist Strategies

In Zionism reader on reserve:

"From Hard Ground: Jewish Identity, Racism, and Anti-Semitism, E. Bulkin

"Open Letter to the Black Panther Party" I. Epstein

https://acad.carleton.edu/curricular/POSC/classes/Psoc353/S00/index.html
"Is Zionism Compatible with Radicalism?" J. Goldberg
"The Failure of Jewish Radicalism" B. Novak
"My Jewish Problem--And Ours: Israel, the Left, and the Jewish Establishment" S. Stern

Kymlicka 8

******************Research Proposal is due IN CLASS***************

Tues Apr 18 The Black Power Movement, The Black Panther Party

Hooks Ch 1-3, 10 & 11

E. Cleaver *Soul on Ice*

selections from *The Black Panther* (on reserve)

In Black Power reader on reserve:

"An Open Letter to my Sister Angela Davis" J. Baldwin

TBA **********Workshop on Research Design**********

Thurs Apr 20 Black Panther Party and Political Prisoners

Hooks 4, 5, 19

selections from Carson

selections from *The Black Panther* (on reserve)

In Black Power reader on reserve:

"Political Prisoners, Prisons and Black Liberation" A. Davis
"Lessons: From Attica to Soledad" A. Davis
"Prisoner's in Rebellion: The Folsom Prisoners Manifesto"
"How a Prison Picks Its Victims" E. Pell
"Toward the United Front" G. Jackson
"A Political Biography" A. Davis
"Prison Interview" A. Davis
"Prison Where is Thy Victory?" H. Newton

Tues Apr 25 Racism and Sexism

Hooks 6-8

In Black Power reader on reserve:

from S. Firestone *Dialectic of Sex*, ch. 5 "Racism: the sexism of the family of man"
"Granny, Mama, Carrie and Bell: Race and Class, Personal Account" M. Segrest

"Thy Neighbor's Wife, Thy Neighbor's Servants': Women's Liberation and Black Civil Rights" C. Stimpson

TBA ************Workshop on Research Design ************

Thurs Apr 27 Feminist Critique of intersection of gender & race

Hooks 13, 22, 23

In Feminism reader on reserve:

"Towards a Black Feminist Criticism" B. Smith

"Reflections: On Black Feminist Therapy" E. Johnson

"Notes for Yet Another Paper on Black Feminism, Or Will the Real Enemy Please Stand Up" B. Smith

"Feminism & Politics" J. Elshtain

"Liberal Heresies" J. Elshtain

"Sovereignty, Identity, & Sacrifice" J. Elshtain

"Illiberal Reporting" A. Jardine

Tues May 2 Homophobia and Gay Liberation: Activist Context of Lesbian Separatism

Kymlicka 9, 10, 14

In Feminism reader on reserve:

"Homophobia and Romantic Love" J.Rule

"Homophobia: The Pathology of a social disease" M. Freedman

"Remembering Ourselves" A. Rich

"The Meaning of Our Love for Women" A. Rich

"Compulsory Heterosexuality" A. Rich

"Just What can Feminism Afford?" M. Franchild

"Her Majesty the Queen vs. Pink Triangle Press" The Body Politic

"Lesbians Call for Autonomy" The Body Politic

"Gay Prisoners Organize: None of us is free …" E. Meade

"Men Supporting Women" Gay Community News

"Lesbian Feminism" J. Johnston

"The Making of a Lesbian Chauvinist" J. Johnston
"Lesbians in the Mainstream: Images of Lesbians in Recent Commercial Fiction"
M. Brady & J. McDaniel

Thurs May 4 Theoretical Context of Lesbian Separatism

* Pure Lust* M. Daly Ch 1-4

* A Passion for Friends* (selections) J. Raymond (book on reserve)

Tues May 9 Being a Lesbian Separatist

* Pure Lust* M. Daly Ch. 9-12

In Feminism reader on reserve:

* The Politics of Reality* (selections) M. Frye

Thurs May 11 No Class Meeting

Tues May 16 Lesbian Ethics: Towards New Value

* Lesbian Ethics* S. Hoagland Intro & Ch.1-3

Thurs May 18 Lesbian Ethics: What is lesbian separatism?

* Lesbian Ethics* S. Hoagland Ch. 4-6

Tues May 23 Race, Gender, Sexuality, and Social class 1

In Feminism reader on reserve:

"James Baldwin & His Critics" A. Lowenstein

*******Draft of Research Paper is Due IN CLASS*************

Thurs May 25 Oral Presentation of Research

Tues May 30 Oral Presentation of Research

*******Final Version of Paper due in class ************