

Women's Studies
University of Pittsburgh

WMST 2240

Critical Approaches to Masculinities

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Courseweb: <http://courseweb.pitt.edu>
Office hours: Thursdays 2:30-4pm, Saturdays 1-3pm, or by appointment

Meetings: Tuesdays 2-4:25pm
January 5 - April 15, 2004
WWPH 5G56

Requirements

You must come to class, and come to class for the entire meeting time. For everyone's benefit, I cannot accommodate other arrangements.

Ongoing participation

20% of your grade. This part of the grade includes short and informal responses to the readings. These responses will be mostly in class, but also include any responses outside of class such as during office hours or in on-line discussions, which will be available under courseweb.

This grade also includes serving as class secretary. Each student will serve as the class recording secretary once. This student will be responsible for taking the discussion minutes and posting them to courseweb by the Friday following the class.

Finally, each student must post a question about the reading for the discussion leader by midnight the Saturday before the discussion.

Response papers and discussion

40% of your grade. Each student will be required to write three response papers 4 pages in length that briefly critique the reading(s) and relate it/them to one of the larger themes around which the class is organized.

Each student is also required to lead at least one discussion during the semester, perhaps more depending on the size of the class. Students may write a response paper on the same readings for which they lead a discussion.

Semester project

40% of your grade. Each student will write a long research paper which analyses some kind of masculinity appropriate to their discipline, addressing questions both of that discipline and (in general) the themes discussed throughout the semester.

Schedule

Note: MR= The Masculinities Reader (Whitehead and Barrett 2001).

January 6: Background, introductions, questions, and themes

January 13: Building some background

Reading:

Whitehead 2002 Chapters 1-3

Connell 2000 Chapters 1-2

January 20: Diversity of masculinity

Reading:

Cornwall and Lindisfarne 1994 Chapters 1, 8, 9

Herdt 1999 Chapter 5

January 27: Scratching the surface of literature

Reading:

Knights 1999 Preface, Introduction, Chapter 1 and 4.

Card 1994

February 3: Labor, class, power

Reading:

Dunk 1991

Film: *Rocky* or *The Deer Hunter*

February 10: Language and interaction

Reading:

Eckert and McConnell-Ginet 2003 Chapter 2

Tannen 1990 Chapters 1-2

Kiesling in press, forthcoming

February 17: Boyhood and growing up

First semester project proposals are due.

Reading:

Salinger 1951

Herdt 1999 Chapter 4

Film: *Stand By Me*

February 24: Education

Full paper proposals are due.

Reading:

Mac an Ghail 1994
(Connell 2000 Chapter 9)

Film: *Fast Times at Ridgemont High* ??

March 2: Sexuality and masculinity

Reading:

Kiesling 2002
Kimmel in MR
Herdt 1999 Chapters 7, 9

Film: *Will and Grace*

March 9: Spring Break

March 16: Race/ethnicity

Reading:

Majors in MR
Mirande in MR
Wright 1940

Film: *Barbershop*

March 23: Leisure and sport

Reading:

Johnson and Findlay 1997
Foley 1990 Chapter 2
(Connell 2000 Chapter 5)

Film: *NFL pregame/halftime shows.*

March 30: No teacher

I would like you to meet to discuss your papers.

April 6: Masculinity, the military and violence

Reading:

Swofford 2003

Barrett in MR

Donald in MR

Film: *Saving Private Ryan*

April 13: Feminism and politics – Masculinity in crisis?

Reading:

Bly 1992

Connell 2000 Chapter 11

MacInnes in MR

Sampath in MR

Whitehead in MR

Film: *The Fight Club*

April 20: Colloquium

Oral presentation of final projects and wrap up of main issues.

Final projects are due April 23.

Bibliography

Most texts are available at the Book Center and are on reserve at Hillman. Manuscripts are available to copy in Hillman reserve and the student lounge in the Linguistics Department (28th Floor Cathedral).

Bly, Robert. 1992. *Iron John*. Random House. ISBN: 0679731199.

Card, Orson Scott. 1994. *Ender's Game*. New York: Doherty and Associates (St. Martin's Press). ISBN: 0812550706.

Connell, Robert W. 2000. *The Men and the Boys*. Berkeley: University of California Press. ISBN: 0520228693.

Cornwall, Andrea and Nancy Lindisfarne. 1994. *Dislocating Masculinity: Comparative Ethnographies*. New York: Routledge. ISBN: 041507942X

Dunk, Thomas W. 1991. *It's a Working Man's Town: Male Working Class Culture*. Montreal: McGill-Queens University Press. ISBN: 0773524835.

Eckert, Penelope and Sally McConnell-Ginet. 2003. *Language and Gender*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Foley, Douglas E. 1990. *Learning Capitalist Culture: Deep in the Heart of Texas*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press. ISBN: 0812213149.

Herdt, Gilbert. 1999. *Sambia Sexual Culture*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. ISBN: 0226327523.

Johnson, Sally & Finlay, Frank. 1997. Do men gossip? An analysis of football talk on television. In Sally Johnson & Ulrike Meinhof (Eds.) *Language and Masculinity* (pp.130-143). Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishers.

Kiesling, Scott F. 1998. Variation and Men's Identity in a Fraternity. *Journal of Sociolinguistics* 2:1, 69-100.

Kiesling, Scott F. In press. Hegemonic Identity-making in Narrative. In *The Discursive Construction of Identities*, Anna De Fina, Deborah Schiffrin & Michael Bamberg (eds.). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Kiesling, Scott F. Forthcoming. Dude. Manuscript.

Kiesling, Scott F. 2002. Playing the Straight Man: Displaying and Maintaining Male Heterosexuality in Discourse. In Kathryn Campbell-Kibler, Robert J. Podesva, Sarah J. Roberts, and Andrew Wong (eds.), *Language and Sexuality: Contesting Meaning in Theory and Practice* (pp. 249-266). Stanford, CA: CSLI Publications.

Knights, Ben. 1999. *Writing Masculinities: Male Narratives in Twentieth-Century Fiction*. New York: St. Martin's Press. ISBN 0312222459. **This book is out of print. It is on reserve in Hillman, and a copy of the chapters we are reading is available for copying in the Linguistics Department.**

Mac an Ghail, Mairtin 1994. *The Making of Men: Masculinities, Sexualities, and Schooling*. New York: Taylor & Francis. ISBN: 0335157815.

Salinger, J.D. 1951. *The Catcher in the Rye*. Little, Brown & Co. ISBN: 0316769487.

Swofford, Anthony. 2003. *Jarhead*. New York: Scribner. ISBN: 0743235355.

Tannen, Deborah. 1990. *You Just Don't Understand: Women and Men in Conversation*. New York: Ballantine Books.

Whitehead, Stephen. 2002. *Men and Masculinities*. Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishing. ISBN: 0745624677.

Whitehead, Stephen and Frank Barrett. 2001. *The Masculinities Reader*. Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishing. ISBN: 0745626890.

Wright, Richard. 1940. *Native Son*. HarperCollins Publishers. ISBN: 0060809779.