

Anne Balsamo

Course Syllabi: 400-level undergraduate course, quarter system

The broad topics of this course include:

- 1) Discussion of basic philosophical issues pertaining to the study of science, technology, and gender;
- 2) Review of recent studies of gendered technologies;
- 3) The investigation of cultural media(ted) myths of gender identity;
- 4) Ethical and political issues for the 21st century.

TEXTS:

(Available from: Charis Books, Little Five Points, Euclid Ave., 524-0304)

Evelyn Fox Keller and Helen E. Longino, eds. *Feminism and Science* (New York: Oxford UP, 1996)

Anne Balsamo, *Technologies of the Gendered Body: Reading Cyborg Women* (Durham: Duke UP, 1996)

Judy Wajcman, *Feminism Confronts Technology* (University Park, PA: Pennsylvania UP, 1991)

Joanna Russ, *The Female Man* (Boston: Beacon Press)

READINGS:

(A copy of each reading will be available for students to duplicate individually)

Bernice Sandler, "The Chilly Climate"

Stephen Brush, "Women in Science and Engineering"

Donna Haraway, "The Cyborg Manifesto"

GROUP PRESENTATION TOPICS:

Group 1: The History of Women at Georgia Tech

Group 2: Women in Science

Group 3: Cyborgs in Popular Culture

Group 4: Women and Invention

Group 5: The Economics of Reproduction

Group 6: Gender and Computing

Group 7: History of Women in Science Fiction

REQUIREMENTS:

- Participation in class discussion is expected.
- Attendance at every class session is required; more than 2 absences will result in a final grade reduction.
- All papers must be typed (word processed).
- Papers will be graded for form as well as content. Proofread for grammar and spelling errors.

GRADE DISTRIBUTION:

Weekly Reading Quizzes	20%
p Project	20%
Take-Home MidTerm Exam	30%
Final Project/paper	30%

“I’d rather be a cyborg than a goddess.”

WEEK	READING/ASSIGNMENT
Week 1 Jan 6, 8	Introduction to Course Fears/Pleasures, What do we Know? How do we Know? Presentation: <i>Women of the World Talk Back</i> Presentation: Advertising Gender
Week 2 Jan 13, 15	Women@GeorgiaTech.Making.History.Now Bernice Sandler, "The Chilly Climate" (handout) Stephen Brush, "Women in Science and Engineering" (handout) Presentation: <i>The Montreal Massacre</i> <u>Group 1 Presentation: The History of Women at Georgia Tech</u>
Week 3 Jan 20, 22	Feminism and Science Keller, "Feminism and Science," <i>Feminism and Science</i> Stepan, "Race and Gender: The role of Analogy in Science," <i>Feminism and Science</i> Presentation: Evelyn Fox Keller, <i>Feminism and Science</i> <u>Group 2 Presentation: Famous Women in Science</u>
Week 4 Jan 27, 29	Epistemological Questions Harding, "Strong Objectivity," <i>Feminism and Science</i> Haraway, "Situated Knowledges," <i>Feminism and Science</i> Haraway, "The Cyborg Manifesto" (handout) <u>Group 3 Presentation: Cyborgs in Popular Culture</u>
Week 5 Feb 3, 5	Gender and Technology Wajcman, "Feminist Critiques of Science and Technology" Wajcman, "The Technology of Production" Wajcman, "Domestic Technology: Labour-saving or enslaving?" Wajcman, "The Built Environment" <u>Group 4 Presentation: Women and Invention</u>
Feb 10, 12	FILM VIEWING: <i>The Handmaid's Tale</i> TAKE HOME MIDTERM EXAM DUE (Anne Has Jury Duty)
Week 7 Feb 17, 19	Reproductive Technologies and the Reproduction of Gender Martin, "The Egg and the Sperm," <i>Feminism and Science</i> Wajcman, "Reproductive Technologies" Balsamo, "Public Pregnancies and Cultural Narratives of Surveillance" <u>Group 5 Presentation: The Economics of Reproduction</u>
Week 8 Feb 24, 26	Multimediating the Gendered Body Balsamo, "Reading Cyborgs, Writing Feminism" Balsamo, "On the Cutting Edge" Balsamo, "The Virtual Body in Cyberspace" Balsamo, "Feminism for the Incurably Informed"

Group 6 Presentation: Gender and Computing

Week 9
Mar 3, 5

From Gendered Fictions of Science to Science Fictions of Gender
Russ, *The Female Man*
Group 7 Presentation: History of Women in Science Fiction

Week 10
Mar 10, 12

Wrap-Up, Conclusion, Where do we Go from Here?

Exam Week
Mar 1

Final Paper Due

