

**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.)?

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

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

- o Show us where the author defines the purpose of the ~~piece~~, ~~and~~ ~~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 ~~in~~ ~~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 ~~VR~~ ~~PH~~ ~~WK~~ ~~L~~ ~~Q~~ ~~J~~ \RX ~~¶~~ ~~G~~ ~~OL~~ ~~NH~~ ~~WK~~ ~~H~~ ~~F~~ ~~O~~ ~~D~~ ~~V~~ ~~V~~ ~~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 5Bn011 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> 5HQYDHO%DAWL, R(QURRer, 2006): 87D  
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  
5HOHYEDQWÉring Rationalities edited by Nancy Tuana and Sandra Morgen  
(SUNY Press, 2001): 580.
- x /RUUDLQH &RGH ³:RPHQDQCSGKHSW FEMINIST Theory and  
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