

# U.S. WOMEN OF COLOR

WS 5463-02 \* Fall 2010 \* Wednesdays 2:30-5:20 p.m. \* Course Code: 56005

*The United States is not just the domicile of a historically specific form of racial oppression, but it sustains itself as a structure through that oppression. If race—and its strategic social and ideological deployment as racism—didn't exist, the United States' severe inequalities and betrayal of its formal commitments to social equality and social justice would be readily apparent to anyone existing on this ground.*

Wahneema Lubiano

*I'm saying that the basis of our unity is that in the most important way we are all in the same boat all subjected to the violent pernicious ideas we have learned to hate that we must all struggle against them and exchange ways and means hints and how tos that only some of us are victims of sexism only some of us are victims of racism of the directed arrows of oppression but all of us are sexist racist all of us.*

Rosario Morales

## COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This reading/writing-intensive seminar explores through multiple perspectives the historical and contemporary experiences of U.S. women of color. Theoretical essays, first-person narratives, poetry, film, and a variety of multimedia sources center on themes of identity, representation, oppression, resistance, agency, and transformation. In this seminar, we employ a relational framework through which we explore issues that include but are not limited to the following: racism, poverty, capitalism, immigration, sexualized violence, nationalism, xenophobia, disability, sexuality, reproduction, motherhood, activism, and social change.

## READINGS ARE SELECTED FROM THE FOLLOWING REQUIRED TEXTS:

***this bridge we call home: radical visions for transformation.*** Eds. Gloria Anzaldúa and AnaLouise Keating. New York: Routledge, 2002. ISBN 978-0415936828

***Unequal Sisters: An Inclusive Reader in US Women's History.*** Eds. Vicki L. Ruiz and Ellen Carol DuBois. New York: Routledge, 4 edition, 2007. ISBN 978-0415958417

***The Color of Violence: The Incite! Anthology.*** Ed. INCITE! Women of Color Against Violence. Cambridge, MA: South End P, 2006. ISBN 978-0896087620

***Undivided Rights: Women of Color Organizing for Reproductive Justice.*** Eds. Jeal Silliman, Marlene Gerber Fried, Loretta Ross, and Elena R. Gutierrez. Cambridge, MA: South End P, 2004. ISBN 978-0896087293.

***The Ruptures of American Capital: Women of Color Feminism and the Culture of Immigrant Labor.*** Grace Kyungwon Hong. Minneapolis, MN: U of Minnesota P, 2006. ISBN 978-0816646357.

*\*\*In addition to the required textbooks, we will be reading a number of journal articles and viewing a variety of multi-media.*

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