Gender Matters

#BLM Book Club

Wikipedia: The Free Encyclopedia

University at Buffalo Institute for Research and Education on Women and Gender
The outbreak of the Coronavirus strain, COVID-19, has had devastating and differential effects on people based on race, class, and gender. To explore these issues, the Gender Institute has compiled this reading list: [https://bit.ly/Covid19Syllabus](https://bit.ly/Covid19Syllabus). This document is constantly updating and we welcome suggestions. Send links to Graduate Assistant Hilary Vandenbark at hilaryva@buffalo.edu.

Sections of the syllabus include: Coping and Productivity; Feminism, Gender & COVID-19; Intersectionality of a Pandemic; and Historical Perspectives on Pandemics. The list includes several sub-topics that tackle how the Coronavirus affects all aspects of our daily lives.
On the eve of the centennial of the ratification of the 19th Amendment (August 26), and less than three months until the US presidential election, it is important to recognize the progress that women—in all of our diversity and complexity—have made in many aspects of life, while at the same time acknowledging the deeply embedded obstacles that still face us. This summer, in the midst of a pandemic, there has been a historic reckoning with the racial and economic injustices that continue to plague our nation. The spirit of public protest and the suffragist call to “make noise” continue to shape the ongoing struggle for equal rights and to inform the work of the Gender Institute.

It is in this spirit that we have included on this page New Yorker cartoonist Liza Donnelly’s powerful #SayHerName tribute to Breonna Taylor, an emergency medical technician who was killed on March 13 when Louisville police stormed into her apartment using a no-knock warrant and shot her multiple times. For the past three years, Donnelly has given us permission to feature one of her images and we selected this one.

This semester, the UB Gender Institute will continue the conversation begun at our symposium last March on “Legacies of Suffrage: Women’s Activism Then and Now,” with virtual programming for all of our events. On October 22, we will have a virtual discussion of the Hulu mini-series “Mrs. America,” about the 1970s movement to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment. Join me and Karen King, Executive Director of the Erie County Commission on the Status of Women and Commissioner of Public Advocacy, for a spirited conversation about this timely drama.

We have two exciting Signature Virtual Events this semester. Professor Lisa Downing at the University of Birmingham (UK) will speak about her most recent book *Selfish Women* on September 17, at noon (EST). Downing works at the interstices of medicine, culture, and politics to explore female extremists from female killers to selfish women. Please make sure to register ahead of time to receive the Zoom link.

The second Signature Event features Mishuana Goeman, a Center for Diversity Innovation Distinguished Visiting Scholar at UB. She will give a virtual talk entitled “Electric Lights, Tourist Sights: Gendering Dispossession and Settler Colonial Infrastructure at Niagara Falls” on Thursday, October 15, at 4 p.m.

We have a stellar line-up for our fall Feminist Research Alliance Series, featuring new work by Professors Joseph Conte (English), Margaret Rhee (Media Study), and Laina Bay-Cheng (Social Work).

We are updating our Affiliates website to encourage an easier display of research interests to facilitate interdisciplinary collaboration. If you haven't already done so, please submit your information here. Open to researchers and faculty; it carries no new obligations. Gender may be the primary focus of your work, or it may be just one part among many.

We are looking forward to sustaining our UB Gender Institute Community virtually this semester and ‘seeing’ you at one of our events.

Carrie Tirado Bramen
Director of the Gender Institute

We are also kicking off a year-long virtual Black Lives Matter Book Club, featuring recent work by Black feminists. This is a graduate student led series, initiated by our Graduate Assistant Hilary Vandenbark and our Dissertation Fellow Dana Venerable, together with Visiting Professor Mope Ogunbowale.
LISA DOWNING: “ON SELFISH WOMEN”

In this lecture, Lisa Downing will discuss the key themes of her book, *Selfish Women*. The book offers a provocative rejoinder to many dominant ideas in mainstream culture, as well as in much feminist thinking, about the ethical character of women and the female proclivity to care, to be for the other. *Selfish Women* asks why difficult, unpalatable — selfish — women are treated with such ambivalent fascination and demonization. Focusing on controversial and influential figures who have espoused philosophies and politics of selfishness, including Ayn Rand and Margaret Thatcher, it asks whether their ideas of self-interest might, counterintuitively and used against the grain, lend something valuable to feminist politics — and, more broadly, whether progressive politics might be missing a trick in rejecting the notion of “self-interest”.

Thursday, September 17, 2020
Noon (EST)
To register and receive the Zoom link, visit: https://bit.ly/LisaDowningWebinar

Lisa Downing is a specialist in interdisciplinary sexuality and gender studies, critical theory, and the history of cultural concepts, focusing especially on questions of exceptionality, difficulty, and (ab)normality. Recent books include: *The Subject of Murder: Gender, Exceptionality, and the Modern Killer* (2013); *Fuckology: Critical Essays on John Money’s Diagnostic Concepts* (co-authored with Iain Morland and Nikki Sullivan, 2015); and *After Foucault* (as editor, 2018), as well as *Selfish Women*. Her next book project will be a short monograph-manifesto entitled *Against Affect*. 
Join us for a special conversation on the hit FX-Hulu series Mrs. America! Dr. Bramen and Dr. King will discuss the show’s portrayal of the contentious fight to pass the Equal Rights Amendment and the women who fought for--and against--the ERA.

**Mrs. America: A Conversation**

**Featuring:**
Carrie Bramen, Director, UB Gender Institute
Karen King, Erie County Commissioner of Public Advocacy and Executive Director, ECCSW

Join us for a special conversation on the hit FX-Hulu series Mrs. America! Dr. Bramen and Dr. King will discuss the show’s portrayal of the contentious fight to pass the Equal Rights Amendment and the women who fought for--and against--the ERA.

**Thursday, October 22, 2020**
7 p.m. (EST)
RSVP to receive the Zoom link: [https://bit.ly/MrsAmericaConversation](https://bit.ly/MrsAmericaConversation)

---

**WIKIPEDIA EDITING WORKSHOP**

**STEM+GENDER**

Wednesday, November 11, 2020 @ 4:30 p.m. (EST)

Discover how to edit Wikipedia and increase the representation of women in the STEM fields in the digital archive.

No experience necessary!

Presented in collaboration with the UB Women in STEM Cooperative.

---

**Mishuana Goeman**

2020-2021 UB Center for Diversity Innovation Distinguished Visiting Scholar and Associate Professor of Gender Studies, American Indian Studies, and affiliated faculty of Critical Race Studies in the Law School, UCLA

“Electric Lights, Tourist Sights: Gendering Dispossession and Settler Colonial Infrastructure at Niagara Falls”

Presented by the Center for Diversity Innovation in conjunction with the Gender Institute.

---

**Signature Events | Fall 2020**

**Thursday, October 22, 2020 @ 7 p.m. (EST)**
RSVP to receive the Zoom link: [https://bit.ly/MrsAmericaConversation](https://bit.ly/MrsAmericaConversation)

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2020 @ 4:30 P.M. (EST)**

**BIKE TO WORK WEEK**

**Thursday, October 15, 2020 @ 4 p.m. (EST)**
RSVP to receive the Zoom link: [https://bit.ly/MishuanaGoemanUBGenderIn](https://bit.ly/MishuanaGoemanUBGenderIn)
WHAT’S HAPPENING

FEMINIST RESEARCH ALLIANCE
FALL SERIES
Thursdays @ Noon (EST)
via Zoom

The Feminist Research Alliance Workshop advances and energizes interdisciplinary conversation and collaboration among feminist scholars locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally. At our convivial meetings, faculty, graduate students, and visiting scholars present and discuss research-in-progress. A fertile space for idea-incubation, the workshop also is community-building, enabling students and faculty to network. Visit our website for details on these fascinating talks and register for the Zoom link!

Joseph Conte  
Department of English  
October 1, 2020

Margaret Rhee  
Department of Media Study  
October 29, 2020

Laina Bay-Cheng  
School of Social Work  
November 12, 2020

The Gender Institute is committed to highlighting and supporting Black feminist scholarship, especially during this moment of reckoning with systemic racism, the legacies of slavery in America, misogynoir, and police brutality. We recognize that we all have work to do in order to live up to our values of anti-racism. We acknowledge that academia consistently stifles Black scholars and treats their work as “niche” or as a form of identity politics, which the hashtag #BlackintheIvory has shown clearly.

The Gender Institute will host a virtual book club featuring the work of Black feminist scholars, public intellectuals, and activists during the 2020-2021 academic year facilitated by Mopelolade Ogunbowale (Visiting Professor, Transnational Studies) and Dana Venerable (Ph.D. Candidate, English). Visit our website for more details!

BLACK LIVES MATTER
Book Club

The Book Club will feature:  
Ijeoma Oluo  
Moya Bailey  
Mikki Kendall  
and  
Patrisse Cullors

To join us, email Hilary Vandenbark at hilaryva@buffalo.edu

The New York Times Bestseller

The New York Times Bestseller

The New York Times Bestseller
Ph.D. DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIP

Dana Venerable
Department of English


Dana Venerable is a writer and co-editor of P-QUEUE poetry journal. Her dissertation investigates primarily black women artists/theorists and how they develop maneuvers through signature moves, via a methodology of notation and noticing. It focuses on how their signature moves exist through constant citational practices and bridge literary and performance studies in their emphasis on composition. These moves enact a series of teaching methods that black women devise through praxis.

ISABEL MARCUS INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

Azalia P. Muchransyah
Ph.D. Candidate, Department of Media Study

HIV PARA-DOC: Media Activism and the Paradoxes of HIV Advocacy in Indonesian Prisons and Related Populations.

DUKE FEMINIST THEORY WORKSHOP TRAVEL GRANT

Gabriela Cordoba-Vivas
Ph.D. Candidate, Department of Media Study

I SUPPORT THE GENDER INSTITUTE

Private gifts to the Gender Institute have a profound effect on the lives of university faculty, students, and staff.

Please print your name as you would like to be acknowledged:
Name ________________________________

☐ Please make my gift anonymous
Address ________________________________
Phone/Email _____________________________

☐ Please make my gift in honor of ________________
☐ I have enclosed a check in the amount of ________ payable to the UB Foundation.

To make a donation with a credit card, please visit www.buffalo.edu/genderin/support0

Your donation allows us to continue funding emerging feminist scholarship and research projects like these. We are especially appreciative for your support amid COVID-19.

Please detach and return to:
UB Gender Institute
520 Lee Entrance, Suite 207
Buffalo NY 14228

THANK YOU!
**IMPORTANT DEADLINES**

Grants & Scholarships

**Deadlines for Applications 2020-2021**

- Nov 16   Undergraduate Scholarship
- Dec 07   Faculty Research Award
- Feb 01   Isabel Marcus International Research Fellowship
- Apr 05   PhD Dissertation Fellowship

**STAY CONNECTED**

- www.buffalo.edu/genderin
- UB Gender Institute
- @UBGenderIn
- UBGenderInstitute
- UB Gender Institute