English 30
Professor Jane Juffer: Ofc. Phone: 865-9414
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Office Hours: TTh, 9:30 to 11, 1 to 2, and by appointment
Class hours: TuTh, 11:30-12:30

Course description
This course will analyze how our understandings of sex, gender, and sexuality are shaped in various institutional contexts, including government, education, the media, and the music industry. Keeping in mind that gender and sexuality are always informed by other aspects of identity, such as class and race, we will focus on how these aspects come together in specific places and contexts. Hence, the course will be structured around topical units, such as definitions of family, welfare reform legislation, rap music and censorship, and the transformation of Times Square into a Disney entertainment zone. Because this course is intended to develop your skills at writing, argumentation, and source analysis, we will devote considerable time to the analysis of how each of these issues is covered in various sources, from "mainstream" media such as CNN and The New York Times to "alternative" sources such as Rolling Stone and The Nation.

Course structure
The bulk of your grade in this class will be derived from paper writing; the breakdown is as follows:
Paper one: 10 percent
Paper two: 15 percent
Paper three: 20 percent
Paper four (research): 40 percent
Participation (includes attendance, engagement in paper workshops, one in-class report, and general discussion): 15 percent

Please come to see me if you EVER have ANY questions about your grade or any of the comments I write on your paper. I expect you to carefully read these comments and incorporate suggestions into future papers. I encourage both e-mail correspondence and "actual" conferences during office hours or by appointment.

Attendance and class participation
Attendance is expected; more than three unexcused absences will likely lower your grade. Class participation will also contribute to your grade (see above). Your participation is crucial to the success of the course and to your ability to understand, absorb, and work through material which may be new, confusing, disturbing, and exhilarating.

Required texts (available at student bookstore)
--Sandra Cisneros, House on Mango Street
--Essay packet
Reading assignments
Complete the week's reading assignments carefully and in their entirety BEFORE class. Occasional quizzes may be given.

**Tu Aug 24**  Introductions  
Excerpts, *Wizard of Oz*

**Th Aug 26**  Doreen Massey, "The conceptualization of place"

**Tu Aug 31**  Massey continued; discuss first writing assignment

**Th Sept 2**  Student reports; drafts of first papers due for in-class workshop

**Tu Sept 7**  FIRST PAPERS DUE  
*Homes and Homelessness*  
*Begin House on Mango Street*

**Th Sept 9**  *House on Mango Street*

**Tu Sept 14**  "No Refuge"

**Th Sept 16**  Struggles over definitions of home and family  
Joshua Quittner, "Invasion of Privacy"

**Tu Sept 21**  Elmer-Dewitt, Philip. "Cyberporn"  
Rosen, Jeffrey, "Cheap Speech: Will the Old First Amendment Battles Survive the New Technologies?"  
handouts:  
"Court Rejects 'Virtual Community' in Computer Pornography Conviction"  
"U.S. Bases a Decency Act Defense on Zoning Laws"

**Th Sept 23**  Shere Hite, "Bringing Democracy Home"  
Donna Minkowitz, "In the Name of the Father"

**Tu Sept 28**  Erica Werner, "The cult of virginity"  
Excerpts from Ellen Fein and Sherrie Schneider,*The Rules: Time-Tested Secrets for Capturing the Heart of Mr. Right*  
Pandora's Rag

**Th Sept 30**  Paper workshop

**Tu Oct 5**  Kath Weston, "Families We Choose"  
SECOND PAPERS DUE
Th Oct 7  Weston continued

Tu Oct 12 Welfare and the Family
Charles Murray, "What to do about Welfare"

Th Oct 14 Valerie Polakow, "On a Tightrope without a Net"
Barbara Bergmann and Heidi Hartmann, "A Program to Help Working Parents"
Caverly Stringer, "Confessions of an Urban Outlaw."
Forrest Chisman, "Can the States Do Any Better?"

Tu Oct 19 URBAN SPACES
Richard Rodriguez, "In Athens Once"
Ruben Martinez, "Tijuana Burning"
Discuss third papers

Th Oct 21 Marshall Berman, "Times Square"
Bill Landis, "Sex Square"
Natasha Stovall, "Teen Square"
Lynn Yaeger, "Square Deals"

Tu Oct 26 Times square continued; begin student reports

Th Oct 28 DISNEY'S definition of family values--student reports on Disney films

Tu Nov 2 GOVERNMENT AND THE ARTS
Dubin, "Gay Images and the Social Construction of Acceptability"
THIRD PAPERS DUE

Th Nov 4 Dubin continued
DISCUSS final research projects

Tu Nov 9 Crenshaw, Kimberle. "Beyond Racism and Misogyny: Black Feminism and 2 Live Crew"

Th Nov 11 Tricia Rose, "'Fear of a Black Planet': Rap Music and Black Cultural Politics in the 1990s"

Tu Nov 16 DOMESTIC/INTERNATIONAL LABOR
Mary Romero, "Domestic Service and Women of Color"
Research sources due

Th Nov 18 Cynthia Enloe, "Blue Jeans and Bankers"
Research paper outline due

Tu Nov 23  Paper workshop
Research paper drafts due

Th Nov 25  No class; Thanksgiving

Dec 2      Film viewing: Roger and Me

Dec 7      Conclusions; evaluations
FINAL PAPERS DUE