

Fall 2014
Thursday, 2-5, 4631A South Hall

Leila J. Rupp

***Feminist Studies 280A:
Research Seminar in Feminist Studies***

This is a seminar designed to provide experience in the research, writing, and critique of scholarly papers based on original research in the interdisciplinary area of feminist studies. Class time will be devoted to the presentation and discussion of whatever project you are working on this quarter. That could be an M.A. thesis, grant or dissertation proposal, dissertation chapter, or article manuscript. The focus will be on the creation, presentation, and supportive critique of a written project.

Although this quarter 280A is open only to Feminist Studies students, I would like to provide a similar experience to the normal course, which is larger and includes non-Feminist Studies students. The requirement of 280B was fulfilled for most (all?) of you through independent study courses during spring quarter.

Each of you will have a research partner who will be responsible for facilitating discussion of your project, making notes on the suggestions for revision that emerge from the discussion, and providing an especially attentive critique.

TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE:

October 2: Introduction
 Brief description of research projects

October 9: Setting the context: the state of the literature

Each of you will give a short (10-15 minute) presentation on the state of the existing literature on your topic. This means identifying what has been done and what has not been done, briefly analyzing the state of knowledge in this area, focusing on common themes that emerge from the literature, and indicating what it is you are going to add to what we already know.

October 16: Methodology, Methods, and Data Collection:

Each of you will give a short (10-15 minute) presentation on your methods, data collection process, and strategy for organizing your data to begin writing.

Assigning of research partners

October 23: The process and politics of publishing

October 30: No class: time to work on projects

November 6: Progress reports

November 13: No class: time to work on projects

November 20

December 4

December 11:

These classes will be devoted to presentation and discussion of your work. We will set up a schedule for presentations in class during the first weeks.

On the Monday before we meet to discuss your proposal, thesis, chapter, or article, email me a copy and I will post it on Gauchospace. You all are expected to read all of the texts, provide written comments, and come to class prepared to discuss them, but each of you will have special responsibility for the work of your research partner. This special responsibility will entail facilitating the discussion, providing a detailed written critique of the work (with a copy to me as well), taking notes on the suggestions for revision to give to your partner, and summarizing and concluding the discussion.

For every text, be prepared to ask questions, make suggestions, discuss problems, and offer praise. Your written comments, prepared in advance in response to your reading of the draft, should serve as the basis for our discussion in class. **Prepare your written comments as if you are reviewing an article or grant proposal (samples to be posted on Gauchospace). Do NOT edit and comment in tracked changes. Part of the point is to learn how to evaluate manuscripts and write reviews.**

We will spend about an hour on each project. Everyone will have read your work, so we will focus on discussing it rather than having you summarize it. Your research partner/facilitator should open the discussion with some preliminary comments, make sure everyone has a chance to participate, and summarize at the end of the period. You are welcome, if you would like, to invite your advisor (and anyone else) to come to class for the discussion of your paper.

You should revise your paper on the basis of the discussion and written comments. As would be required if you were revising and resubmitting an article manuscript, also provide me a short memo that outlines your response to the comments and suggestions your classmates and I provided and indicates what you

did and did not do. Final papers will be due **December 17**. Use whatever citation format is appropriate for your product (*Chicago Manual of Style*, MLA, etc.)

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

1. Regular attendance and active participation in class, including written comments on assigned projects.
3. Presentation and revision of a proposal, chapter, thesis, or article manuscript.

My office is 4710 South Hall, and my phone number is 893-6130. My e-mail address is lrupp@femst.ucsb.edu. My regular office hours are **Monday 2:30-3:30** and **Thursday 1-2**, but you may also make an appointment with me at another time.