WELCOME TO GENDER AND THE MEDIA (SJMC 3175)!
This course provides an overview of major topics that comprise social scientific and, to a lesser extent, critical cultural research examining gender in the media. We will explore a range of topics that include the media’s role in sexual socialization, body image development, and activism. Students will be exposed to numerous social scientific theories, read published papers, and analyze case studies that include sexual consent on college campuses and the Dr. Christine Blasey Ford’s testimony to congress. To facilitate this process, students will be given an overview of the field of media studies, introduced to foundational principles of gender and media studies research, and taught the basics of social scientific research and writing.

COURSE OBJECTIVES
This class has five learning objectives. By the end of the term students will:
- Understand the major topics and debates comprising research on gender and the media;
- Explore how gender is presented in the media;
- Understand how gender shapes our relationships to and experience of the media;
- Consider how identity and social context contribute to audience engagement with the media;
- Have a basic understanding of social scientific media research.

READINGS
Required Book: Girls & Sex by Peggy Orenstein available at Iowa Book and Amazon.com
All other readings will be posted to the ICON course page.

ASSIGNMENTS
All additional assignments including podcasts, videos, and assignment prompts will be available on ICON. All assignments will be submitted through the ICON system unless specified otherwise.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS
20% CLASS PARTICIPATION
20% REACTION ASSIGNMENTS (2 TOTAL, 10% EACH)
30% CRITICAL ANALYSIS #1 – GENDER REPRESENTATION
30% CRITICAL ANALYSIS #2 – SEXUAL SOCIALIZATION
CLASS PARTICIPATION

Class participation comprises four areas:

- **Attendance** – You are allowed three absences from class this term. Any additional absences will result in a 1% reduction of your final grade, PER ABSENCE. If you know you have to miss multiple classes for sports or health reasons, talk to me as soon as possible.

- **Preparedness** – Come to class having read/watched/listened to the assigned material. Take notes as you read, watch, or listen. Write down any questions that arise from the readings.

- **Contribution** – This includes offering critiques of the material in class, but also active listening, engaged group work, and posing interesting questions for discussion.

- **Civility** – Rudeness to fellow classmates and/or disrespect to your peers will not be tolerated. You will treat your fellow classmates with respect. Repeated instances of incivility will result in a 0% for your participation grade. I have included the discussion guidelines below to facilitate civility in class discussion.

DISCUSSION GUIDELINES

Although this class is a mix of lecture and discussion, students should think of this course as an extended conversation about gender and the media. This requires that students come to every class prepared to discuss the readings and their perspectives on the media. Discussions are an exchange and require that you talk and listen. In order to get the most out of our discussions, stick to the following guidelines.

- Respect others’ rights to hold opinions and beliefs that differ from your own.
- Listen carefully to what others are saying even when you disagree with what is being said.
- Limit distractions so you can focus on what’s being said. Stay off of your phone!
- Be courteous! Don’t interrupt or engage in private conversations while others are speaking.
- Support your statements. Use evidence and provide a rationale for your arguments.
- Allow everyone the chance to talk.
- If you take issue with something someone else has said, respectfully speak up!

GRADES

Letter grades will be allocated based on the following scale.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>99 – 100%</td>
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<td>A</td>
<td>93 – 98%</td>
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<td>A-</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87 – 89%</td>
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<td>B</td>
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<td>C+</td>
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<td>C</td>
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<td>C-</td>
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<td>D+</td>
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<td>D</td>
<td>63 – 66%</td>
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<td>D-</td>
<td>60 – 62%</td>
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GRADE APPEAL POLICY

If you have questions about your grade, you must wait 24 hours after receiving a graded assignment before contacting me with questions. You have 5 business days after the return date of the assignment to ask questions, and we must meet within 7 business days after the return date of the assignment if further discussion is needed. Other than tabulation error, I will not change a grade, without regrading, Regrading will be done in very rare cases and may result in a further reduction of your grade.
ACCOMMODATIONS FOR DISABILITIES
UI is committed to an educational experience that is accessible to all students. A student may request academic accommodations for a disability (such as mental health, attention, learning, vision, and physical or health-related condition) by registering with Student Disability Services (SDS). Students who have documentation from Student Disability Services (SDS) for accommodations must present the documents and meet with the professor before the third week of classes. Simply emailing the forms to your TA and professor is not sufficient. For more information, please see the section titled Accommodations for Disabilities under The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences: Policies and Resources page at the end of the syllabus. If you have other health or personal circumstances (not covered by SDS) that might affect your ability to be successful in this course, please speak with the professor as soon as possible.

Daily Schedule and Assignments
HOMEWORK IS DUE THE DAY IT IS LISTED!

WEEK 1
Guiding Question: What is gender and how can we analyze it in the media?

Tuesday 1.21
Class: Introductions, Course Overview, What Is the Media?
Homework: None.

Thursday 1.23
Class: Gender, Sex, and Intersectionality


WEEK 2
Guiding Question: What are some common ways we think about gender in society?

Tuesday 1.28
Class: Gender Ideologies: Manhood and Masculinity

Thursday 1.30
Class: Gender Ideologies: Womanhood and Femininity
**WEEK 3**

**Guiding Question:** Who is represented in our media and how?

**Tuesday 2.4**

Class: Representing Gender in the Media - Overview
Homework: UCLA Hollywood Diversity Report 2019

**Thursday 2.6**

Class: Gender Representation
Homework: Collins. (2011). Content Analysis of Gender Roles in Media: Where Are We Now and Where Should We Go?

**WEEK 4**

**Guiding Question:** What do we do with gender ideologies in spaces that are queer and non-binary?

**Tuesday 2.11**

Class: Race X Sexuality X Gender: Start *Paris Burning*

**Thursday 2.13**

Class: Race X Sexuality X Gender: Finish *Paris Burning*

**REACTION PAPER 1 DUE – BEFORE CLASS on 2.18**

**WEEK 5**

**Guiding Question:** What are some common ways gender is represented in the media?

**Tuesday 2.18**

Class: Objectification

**Thursday 2.20**

Class: Self-Representation

**WEEK 6**

**Guiding Question:** How do media industries contribute to gendered practices in production?

**Tuesday 2.25**

Class: WRITING WORKSHOP #1
Homework: Read Critical Analysis #1 Prompt
Thursday 2.27
Class: Gender in Media Production
Homework: Hill. (2014). Recasting the casting director: Managed change, gendered labor

WEEK 7
Guiding Question: How do media industries contribute to gendered practices in production? Continued.

Tuesday 3.3
Class: #MeToo and Media Industries:

Thursday 3.5
Class: The Pied Piper of Perversion: Begin Surviving R. Kelly
https://www.buzzfeednews.com/article/jimderogatis/parents-told-police-r-kelly-is-keeping-women-in-a-cult

WEEK 8
Guiding Question:

Tuesday 3.10
Class: Wrap-Up of Representation and Industries.
Homework: TBD

Thursday 3.12
Class: WRITING WORKSHOP #2
Homework: Work on Critical Analysis
CRITICAL ANALYSIS #1 - DUE 3.12 by 11:59 pm - late papers will be penalized

SPRING BREAK NO CLASS/ NO HOMEWORK WEEK 9: 3.17 and 3.19

WEEK 10
Guiding Question: How do gendered representations of love and relationships impact our thinking about the world?

Tuesday 3.24
Class: Introduction to Gender and Sexual Socialization.

Thursday 3.26
Class: Media Sexual Socialization: Orenstein TED Talk
WEEK 11
Guiding Question: How does our gendered culture contribute to young men and women’s experiences of sex and relationships?

Tuesday 3.31
Class: Media Sexual Socialization: Girls & Sex
Homework: Orenstein. (2016). Girls & Sex. Ch. 3 – Ch. 5


Thursday 4.2
Class: Media Sexual Socialization: Boys & Sex
Homework: Orenstein. (2016). Girls & Sex. Ch. 6 – Appendix B


WEEK 12
Guiding Question: How do normative gender constructions of sex and relationships impact how we think about family formation?

Tuesday 4.7
Class: Families and single status.


Thursday 4.9
Class: Families and single status.

WEEK 13
Guiding Question: What is the role of media in shaping gender equity in our dating and relationship lives?

Tuesday 4.14
Class: Sexual (Re)socialization: Evolving Notions of Consent
Thursday 4.16
Class: Sexual (Re)socialization: Evolving Notions of Consent

REACTION PAPER #2 DUE before class 4.21

WEEK 14
Guiding Question: How do we understand gender through media events?

Tuesday 4.21
Class: WRITING WORKSHOP #3
Homework: Read Critical Analysis Prompt #2

Thursday 4.23
Class: Gender, Media, and Spectacle: Anita Hill, Start Anita


WEEK 15
Guiding Question: How do media events shift our understandings of gender?

Tuesday 4.28
Class: Gender, Media, and Spectacle: Anita Hill, Finish Anita
Homework: TBD

Thursday 4.30
Class: Gender, Media, and Spectacle: Christine Blasey-Ford
Homework: TBD

WEEK 16
Guiding Question: How do make meaning of gender in a fully mediated world?

Tuesday 5.5
Class: Hot Topics in Gender & Media
Homework: Please identify one popular story to discuss in class. You will be asked to briefly present your article.

Thursday 5.7
Class: WRITING WORKSHOP #4
Homework: WORK ON FINAL PAPERS
CRITICAL ANALYSIS #2 – DUE 5.7 by 11:59 pm - late papers will be penalized
Additional Course Policies & Resources

TRIGGER WARNINGS
The University of Iowa is neutral on the use of trigger warnings in classes. Accordingly, I will not issue trigger warnings in this class. For more information about the University of Iowa’s trigger warning policy please read this article from the *Daily Iowan*: http://daily-iowan.com/2016/09/07/ui-neutral-on-trigger-warnings-safe-spaces/

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION
Students are responsible for official correspondences sent to their UI email address (uiowa.edu) and must use this address for all communication within UI (Operations Manual, III.15.2). I will respond to your email within 72 hours of receiving it. I do not check or respond to UIOWA email after 8 pm. I rarely check UIOWA email on the weekend. Plan your correspondence accordingly. Please use appropriate etiquette when emailing.

TECHNOLOGY
Computers, cell phones, tablets etc. facilitate connectivity and collaboration, but these devices are also INCREDIBLY distracting for students and instructors. I allow the use of computers etc. in my course on a trial basis and reserve the right to revoke technology permissions for the class. I expect the following from my students regarding their technology use:

- Phones are to be placed on silent, or better yet airplane mode. Vibrate settings can be loud and make noises of their own.
- No social media, texting or chatting, shopping, or blogging during class time.
- No watching anything, unless it is related to class and you are instructed to do so.
- I suggest students use a privacy screen to limit distraction and keep people out of your business.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY
Plagiarism is taking someone else’s ideas, words, statements, or other work and passing it off as your own without proper acknowledgement or citation. Cheating is copying from others, not doing your own work, or using unauthorized sources. Both of these infractions are strictly prohibited. Consequences may range from failing the assignment, to failing the entire course. All undergraduates enrolled in courses offered by CLAS have, in essence, agreed to the College’s Code of Academic Honesty. Misconduct is reported to the College, resulting in suspension or other sanctions, with sanctions communicated with the student through the UI email address.

WRITING SUPPORT
I strongly recommend each and every student visit the University of Iowa Writing Center. They offer hands on support to help you improve your writing. For more information about the writing center please visit: https://writingcenter.uiowa.edu/- services.
MAKING A COMPLAINT
Students with a complaint should first visit with the instructor or course supervisor and then with the departmental executive officer (DEO), also known as the Chair. Students may then bring the concern to CLAS (https://clas.uiowa.edu/students/handbook/student-rights-responsibilities).

UNDERSTANDING SEXUAL HARRASSMENT
Sexual harassment subverts the mission of the University and threatens the well being of students, faculty, and staff. All members of the UI community must uphold the UI mission and contribute to a safe environment that enhances learning. Incidents of sexual harassment must be reported immediately. For assistance, definitions, and the full University policy see https://osmrc.uiowa.edu/.

NONDISCRIMINATION IN THE CLASSROOM
UI is committed to making the classroom a respectful and inclusive space for all people irrespective of their gender, sexual, racial, religious or other identities. Toward this goal, students are invited to optionally share their preferred names and pronouns with their instructors and classmates. The University of Iowa prohibits discrimination and harassment against individuals on the basis of race, class, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, and other identity categories set forth in the University’s Human Rights policy. For more information, contact the Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity at diversity@uiowa.edu or diversity.uiowa.edu.

ADMINISTRATIVE HOME
The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) is the administrative home of this course and governs its add/drop deadlines, the second-grade-only option, and other policies. These policies vary by college (https://clas.uiowa.edu/students/handbook).

CLAS FINAL EXAMINATIONS POLICIES
The final exam schedule for each semester is announced around the fifth week of classes; students are responsible for knowing the date, time, and place of a final exam. Students should not make travel plans until knowing this final exam information. No exams of any kind are allowed the week before finals. (https://clas.uiowa.edu/faculty/teaching-policies-resources-examination-policies.)