NOTE to prospective students: This syllabus is intended to provide students who are considering taking this course an idea of what they will be learning. A more detailed syllabus will be available on the course site for enrolled students and may be more current than this sample syllabus. Summer term courses may be accelerated – please check the Ecumpus Schedule of Classes for more information.

WGSS 325 - Disney: Gender, Race, Empire
Oregon State University Ecumpus
Instructor: Nancy Barbour

COURSE CREDITS:
(3) This course combines approximately 90 hours of instruction, online activities, and assignments for 3 credits.

PREREQUISITES, CO-REQUISITES AND ENFORCED PREREQUISITES: N/A

COURSE DESCRIPTION FROM CATALOG
WGSS 325. DISNEY: GENDER, RACE, EMPIRE (3). Is Baccalaureate Core Course
Explores constructions of gender, race, class, sexuality, and nation in the animated films of Walt Disney; introduces concepts in film theory and criticism, and develops analyses of the politics of representation. (Bacc Core Course)

Baccalaureate Core Course Attributes:
Core, Pers, Diff/Power/Disc

CONTACT INFORMATION:
For more information, contact: LIDDY DETAR, 220 WALDO, 541-737-4299

Sample syllabi may not have the most up-to-date information. For accuracy, please check the Ecampus Schedule of Classes to see the most
COURSE DESCRIPTION:

In this course, we will explore constructions of gender, race, class, sexuality, and nation in the animated films of Walt Disney. By examining the content of several Disney films created within particular historical and cultural contexts, we will develop and expand our understanding of the cultural productions, meanings, and intersections of racism, sexism, classism, colonialism, and imperialism. We will explore these issues in relation to Disney’s representations of concepts such as love, sex, family, violence, money, individualism, and freedom. Also, students will be introduced to concepts in feminist film theory and criticism, and will develop analyses of the politics of representation.

WGSS 325 – Disney: Gender, Race, and Empire fulfills the Difference, Power, and Discrimination (DPD) requirement in the Baccalaureate Core. The DPD requirement engages students in the intellectual examination of the complexity of the structures, systems, and ideologies that sustain discrimination and the unequal distribution of power and resources in society. The unequal distribution of social, economic, and political power in the United States and in other countries is sustained through a variety of individual beliefs and institutional practices. These beliefs and practices have tended to obscure the origins and operations of social discrimination such that this unequal power distribution is often viewed as the natural order. Examination of DPD course material will enhance meaningful democratic participation in our diverse university community and our increasingly multicultural U.S. society.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

DPD Outcomes
As part of the DPD program, students who take this course will be able to:

- Explain how difference is socially constructed.
- Using historical and contemporary examples, describe how perceived differences, combined with unequal distribution of power across economic, social, and political institutions, result in discrimination.
- Analyze ways in which the interactions of social categories, such as race, ethnicity, social class, gender, religion, sexual orientation, disability, and age, are related to difference, power, and discrimination in the United States.

Course Outcomes
As a result of having taken this course, students will be able to:

- discuss and explain general concepts and themes in feminist film and media studies.
- analyze the intersections of gender, race, class, sexuality, and nation.
- demonstrate the necessary skills to historically and socially contextualize media images and representations, using a feminist framework.
demonstrate a theoretical framework for critical analysis of Disney representations in terms of gender, race, class, sexuality, and nation.

- analyze power, particularly in terms of structural and institutionalized forms of oppression.
- recognize other, related themes in relation to the Disney canon, including Orientalism, colonialism, conquest, militarism, globalization, war, and genocide.
- recognize the distinctions between Disney’s animated representations and the experiences of actual people and communities in various parts of the world.

These objectives will be assessed through each student’s participation in the online discussion forum, critical essays, and the final exam.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

You are required to purchase the following two texts:

*From Mouse to Mermaid: The Politics of Film, Gender, and Culture.* Elizabeth Bell, Lynda Haas, and Laura Sells, eds.

*The Mouse That Roared: Disney and the End of Innocence.* Henry Giroux,

The purchase of *Diversity in Disney Films*, is optional. A digital copy is available via OSU’s Valley Library. Additional readings will be posted to Canvas. If you need help accessing these resources, please let me know.

Films must be screened on your own. All films are widely available through Netflix, iTunes, Amazon, local libraries, and other DVD rental and online streaming services. Additional clips will be posted to Canvas.

NOTE: For textbook accuracy, please always check the textbook list at the OSU Bookstore website. Sample syllabi may not have the most up-to-date information.

POLICIES:

Diversity Statement
The Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies program strives to create an affirming climate for all students, including underrepresented and marginalized individuals and groups. Diversity encompasses differences in gender, race, ethnicity, culture, national origin, citizenship, religion, socioeconomic background, physical ability, veteran status, and sexual identity or orientation.

Statement Regarding Students with Disabilities
Oregon State University is committed to student success; however, we do not require students to use accommodations nor will we provide them unless they are requested by the student. The student, as a legal adult, is responsible to request appropriate accommodations. The student must take the lead in applying to Disability Access Services (DAS) and submit requests for accommodations each term through DAS Online. OSU students apply to DAS and request accommodations at our Getting Started with DAS page. Any student with documented disabilities or any student who needs specific accommodations should email or speak to the instructor directly and set up an appointment in order to ensure that accommodations can be made for you to get the most out of your experience in this course.
Accommodations are understood as collaborative efforts between students, instructors, and Disability Access Services (DAS) which can be contacted at: 541-737-4098.

Academic Integrity and Student Conduct (OSU policy)
Students are expected to be honest and ethical in their academic work. Intentional acts of academic dishonesty such as cheating or plagiarism may be penalized by imposing an “F” grade in the course. Student conduct is governed by the universities policies, as explained in the Office of the Dean of Student Life: Student Conduct and Community Standards. In an academic community, students and faculty, and staff each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment, whether online or in the classroom. Students, faculty, and staff have the responsibility to treat each other with understanding, dignity, and respect.
Students are expected to conduct themselves in the course (e.g. on discussion boards, email postings, etc.) in compliance with the university's regulations regarding civility. Students will be expected to treat all others with the same respect as they would want afforded to themselves. Disrespectful behavior (such as harassing behavior, personal insults, inappropriate language) or disruptive behaviors are unacceptable and can result in sanctions as defined by Student Conduct and Community Standards. For more info on these topics please see:
- Statement of Expectations for Student Conduct
- Student Conduct and Community Standards - Offenses
- Policy On Disruptive Behavior

Plagiarism
You are expected to submit your own work in all your assignments, postings to the discussion board, and other communications, and to clearly give credit to the work of others when you use it. Academic dishonesty will result in a grade of “F,”
- Statement of Expectations for Student Conduct
- Avoiding Academic Dishonesty

Technical Assistance
If you experience computer difficulties, need help downloading a browser or plug-in, assistance logging into the course, or if you experience any errors or problems while in your online course, contact the OSU Help Desk for assistance. You can call (541) 737-3474, email osuhelpdesk@oregonstate.edu or visit the OSU Computer Helpdesk online.
- COURSE DEMO
- GETTING STARTED

COURSE SITE LOGIN INFORMATION
Information on how to login to your course site can be found HERE.

Tutoring
For information about possible tutoring for this course, please visit our Ecampus NetTutor page. Other resources include:
- Writing Center
- Online Writing Lab

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS:
*Students are required to complete all components of the course. In order to receive a passing grade, you must earn at least 50% of the possible points for each of the following four (4) components.
1. Participation in Discussion Forums (20% - 2 points per week, 20 points total)

2. Two Essays (40% - 20 points each, 40 points total)

3. My Side of the Story Project (20% - 20 points) In this project, you will choose a Disney villain from one of the films we cover in class and tell their side of the story.

4. Final Exam (20% - 20 points)

TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE: 100

CLASS SCHEDULE (subjects/movies may vary by term):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Film(s)</th>
<th>Discussion Board posts due</th>
<th>Additional Assignment(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td><em>Snow White</em> (1937), <em>Cinderella</em> (1950), and <em>Sleeping Beauty</em> (1959)</td>
<td>Thursday and Sunday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td><em>Mickey Mouse Monopoly</em> (2002, 52 min.)</td>
<td>Thursday and Sunday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td><em>The Little Mermaid</em> (1989, 83 min.)</td>
<td>Thursday and Sunday</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td><em>The Hunchback of Notre Dame</em> (1996, 91 min.)</td>
<td>Thursday and Sunday</td>
<td>Midterm Essay due end of week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 5</td>
<td><em>Aladdin</em> (1992, 90 min.)</td>
<td>Thursday and Sunday</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 6</td>
<td><em>Pocahontas</em> (1995, 84 min.)</td>
<td>Thursday and Sunday</td>
<td>My Side of the Story project due end of week</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 7</td>
<td><em>Mulan</em> (1998, 88 min.)</td>
<td>Thursday and Sunday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 8</td>
<td><em>Tarzan</em> (1999, 88 min.)</td>
<td>Thursday and Sunday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 9</td>
<td><em>Hercules</em> (1997, 93 min.)</td>
<td>Thursday and Sunday</td>
<td>Final Essay due end of week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 10</td>
<td><em>The Princess and the Frog</em> (2009, 98 min.)</td>
<td>Thursday and Sunday</td>
<td>Final Exam at end of week</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

REFUND POLICY INFORMATION

Please see the [Ecampus website](http://ecampus.oregonstate.edu) for policy information on refunds and late fees.