This course is a survey of women and gender in the United States from 1830 through the present. The class will examine the political and social history of women as well as the role played by ideologies of gender—both masculinity and femininity—in shaping historical events. Topics will include the transformation of women's identities over time; slavery and the family; the winning of the vote; intersections between gender and race; the rebirth of feminism; sexuality and popular culture; and the "post-feminist" decades.

Requirements include: weekly “reflection papers” on assigned reading; a midterm exam, given on Thursday, October 13; a five page paper on EITHER Diary of a Shirtwaist Striker OR Memoires of an Ex-Prom Queen, due October 7th or December 2 respectively; and a final exam. Papers are to be turned in to my history department “drop off box” by 5:00 P.M. I will hand out questions for the paper the week before it is due. However, I encourage you to discuss themes of your own in your papers wherever possible. There will be discussion of each week’s reading assignments on the day they are due. Discussion—including reflection papers—is a central part of this class, and will make up a significant portion of your final grade. Reflection papers on not formal papers, but rather meant to be a place where you can pose questions about the reading, point out what you found interesting or perhaps unconvincing about the reading. You may hand write reflection papers when necessary due to time constraints, but in general they should be typed, double spaced and 1-2 pages. Again, the phrasing and language can be casual—you will not be graded on form.

Readings that are preceded with an asterisk (*) will be posted on Sakai. YOU MUST PRINT OUT A COPY OF THE DAY’S READING AND BRING IT TO CLASS WITH YOU.

Grading:

- Midterm: 25%
- Paper: 20%
- Final: 25%
- Discussion: 30%

The Following Books are Available at the Tulane Book Store:
Elizabeth Cady Stanton, *The Solitude of the Self*
Theresa Serber Malkiel, *The Diary of a Shirtwaist Striker*
Kathleen Blee, *Women of the Clan: Gender and Racism in the 1920s*
Harriet Jacobs, *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl*
Susan Faludi, *Backlash*
Angela Davis, *Blues Legacies and Black Feminism*
September 6-8: “True” Womanhood in the 19th Century

Sept. 6:  *Barbara Welter, “The Cult of True Womanhood”
*Carol Smith-Rosenberg, "The Female World of Love and Ritual: Relations between Women in Nineteenth Century America”

Sept. 8:  NO CLASS


Sept. 20-22: From Abolitionism to Separatism to Suffragism: Intersections


Sept. 22:  *Seneca Falls, "Declaration of Sentiments and Resolutions” (1848)*
*Speeches: Frederic Douglass, William Lloyd Garrison, Soujourner Truth, Lucy Stone, and Susan B. Anthony (1840-1870)*
**”The ‘Expediency’ Argument: Racism and Xenophobia Enlisted in the Cause of Woman Suffrage” (1867)**
**”The Great Indignation Meeting of the Ladies of Salt Lake City”**

Sept. 27-29: Gender, Class and Sexuality at the Turn of the Century
         *Havelock Ellis, “The Love Rights of Women”

Sept. 29:  *Christina Simmons, “Companionate Marriage and the Lesbian Threat”

Elizabeth Cady Stanton, *Solitude of the Self*

Oct. 4-6:  Urban Landscapes: Gender, Immigration and The American Dream

Sept. 4:  Malkiel, Diary of a Shirtwaist Striker, p. 1-46

Sept. 6:  Malkiel, Diary of a Shirtwaist Striker, p. 46-96
         *Annelise Orleck, “Rose Schneiderman and Working-Class Women,”

PAPER 1 DUE FRIDAY, OCT. 7, 5:00 P.M., HISTORY DEPARTMENT OFFICE.
DO NOT EMAIL

Oct. 11-13: Women, Work and Industrialization

Oct. 11:  *Elizabeth Clark-Lewis, “This Work Had an End”: African American Domestic Workers in Washington, D.C., 1910-1940”
         *Muller Vs. Oregon

Oct. 13:  MIDTERM

Oct. 18-20: Consuming Desires: Sexuality and Commercial Culture and the Decline of Feminism in the 1920s

         *Bruce Blinn, “Flapper Jane” (1925)
         *Mary P. Ryan, "The Projection of a New Womanhood: The Movie Moderns in the 1920s"
Oct. 20:  Movie: *It* (1927)

Oct. 25-27 Gender and Political Conservatism in the 1920s


Nov. 1-3: Gendered Occupations: Singing the Blues at Work and at Home in the Twentieth Century


Nov. 3: *Ruth Schwartz Cowan, "The 'Industrial Revolution' in the Home: Household Technology and Social Change in the 20th Century"

*Jacqueline Jones, "Harder Times: The Great Depression"

*Meridel LeSueur, “The Despair of Unemployed Women”* (1932)

Nov. 8-10: Stoking the Home Fires: World War II and the Postwar Period

Nov. 8: *Barbara Ehrenreich, "Breadwinners and Losers," "Playboy Joins the Battle of the Sexes," from, Barbara Ehrenreich, *The Hearts of Men*


*Betty Friedan, "The Problem that has No Name" from *The Feminine Mystique* (1963)

*“Click!” from *Ms. Magazine*
Nov. 15-17: Women's Liberation and the Media

        *Valerie Solanus, “The S.C.U.M. Manifesto” (selection)
        *Ellen Willis, “Letter to the Left” (1969)

        *Gloria Steinam, “I Was a Playboy Bunny” (1969)

Nov. 22-24: Feminist Media in the 1960s?

Nov. 22:  *Susan J. Douglas, “Why the Shirelles Mattered” and “Genies and Witches” from Where The Girls Are: Growing Up Female With the National Media

Nov. 24:  THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

Nov. 29-Dec. 1: Feminism and Fiction

Dec. 1:  Alix-Kates Shulman, Memoires of an Ex-Prom Queen

PAPER DUE FRIDAY, DEC. 2, 5:00 PM, HISTORY DEPARTMENT OFFICE

Dec. 6-8: Backlash and Postfeminism

Dec. 6:  Susan Faludi, Backlash (selected chapters)

Dec. 8:  *Sylvia Ann Hewlett, "Voices From the Post-Feminist Generation," from A Lesser Life
        *Ann Bolotin, “Postfeminism,” from the New York Times
