

## PROJECT MENU: PROBLEMS IN GENDER STUDIES

You must propose a project by the end of this week (to be handed in with your response paper). Projects are due by the end of eighth week (Friday May 23). The writing component should be six to ten pages in length.

Here are some project ideas. These are just suggestions.

1. NEWS CLIPPINGS: Choose a focus from the news clippings (not necessarily conforming to their grouping in the booklet) and write an analytic essay using some of the theory and methodologies outlined in class. For instance, you could write about pharmaceuticals from the point of view of regulation and pathologization. The clippings should be a jumping-off point in this project but it would be strengthened by seeking other sources as well.
2. PHOTO-ETHNOGRAPHY: Obtain a disposable camera and give it to someone you know. Choose a gender/sexuality-related classifying code (eg, male, femme, bottom, masculine) and ask the shooter to fill the camera with images taken when he/she feels most in line with the description. The pictures should be taken over a short timespan, like one or two days. Your job is to print the photos and write an analysis (consider the photoessay “Man” for a model) which brings the ideas of the course to the photos.
3. some essay ideas (with some suggested sources):
  - (a) THE FRENCH FEMINISTS (Irigaray, Cixous, Wittig, Kristeva)
  - (b) POLITICAL WOMEN (biographies, news media)
  - (c) SPORTS MASCULINITIES (McKay et al, *Masculinities, Gender Relations, and Sport*; Rail, *Sport and Postmodern Times*)
  - (d) FEMINIST ONTOLOGY (Garry and Pearsall, *Women, Knowledge, and Reality*; Haslanger, “Feminism in Metaphysics,” *Feminist perspectives on language, knowledge and reality*)
4. or, read and write on a specific film or novel or memoir:
  - (a) Pumping Iron I, II (bodybuilding documentaries focusing on men, then women)
  - (b) Maxine Hong Kingston, *The Woman Warrior*
  - (c) Andrea Dworkin, *Heartbreak*
  - (d) Leslie Feinberg, *Transgender Warriors*