

PHIL 348: FEMINIST PHILOSOPHY

monday & wednesday 8:30-9:45

EUC 132

fall 2026

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OVERVIEW

This course is an introduction to contemporary feminist philosophy with an emphasis on the question “what does feminist philosophy do?” With this approach we engage with feminist philosophy as a multiplicitous practice in the world instead of an abstraction or a narrow institutional field. Five practices organize our attentions— conceptual creation, conceptual critique, historical reclamation, political debate, and meaning-making. Throughout our readings and discussions, students will become familiar with a wide range of feminist philosophical texts and will have the opportunity to forge their own feminist philosophical practice.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

This course meets satisfies a Section F Comparative Cultural Studies and a Section UD Upper Division requirement for CSUN’s General Education Program. It meets SLO #3 and #4 for Section F. It is also a Writing Intensive course. To view the GE program and related SLOs, access the CSUN course catalog online [here](#).

COURSE MATERIALS

All readings will be available to download from our Canvas course page. I encourage you to print the readings and bring them to class.

GRADE DISTRIBUTION

In Class Writing Activities 30% (5x6%)

Class Preparation 25%

Final Paper 25%

Attendance 10%

Participation 10%

GRADING SCALE

In order to calculate final grades, I will round to whole numbers according to basic mathematical rules. For example, if your final course grade is an 89.55, this rounds up to 90, an A-.

A: 93 to 100

A minus (-): 90 to 92

B plus (+): 87 to 89,

B: 83 to 86,

B minus (-): 80 to 82

C plus (+): 77 to 79, C: 73 to 76, C minus (-): 70 to 72
D plus (+): 67 to 69, D: 63 to 67, D minus (-): 60 to 62 F: 0 to 59

IN CLASS WRITING

Most of the writing for this course will take place in class. Six class sessions have been set aside as days where we will spend at least half the class writing (500 words, 2 double spaced pages) on a prompt related to the current unit. The prompts are provided on Canvas so that you can reflect and brainstorm in advance of the writing day.

CLASS PREPARATION

There will be reading assignments to be completed before almost every class session. In addition to the reading, you will also take a reading quiz OR make reading annotations. If you scan through our Canvas modules, you will see that there is a mix of quiz and annotation assignments.

Readings Quizzes: Each quiz will have 3 basic questions about the reading. If you have done the reading, the answers will be straightforward. The quiz does not assume that you will have fully understood every aspect of the reading material. Instead, it aims to assess whether you have read and tried to understand the reading.

Annotations: Annotation assignments ask students to insert 3 comments into the PDF of the reading. These assignments encourage students to do close, active reading. They also help me understand what parts of the text are interesting or confusing to students.

FINAL PAPER

For the final paper assignment, you will be asked to expand one of your in-class writing pieces into a 5-page paper. This assignment constitutes 25% of your final grade. There will be support for this assignment during our in-class writing sessions. You are also encouraged to meet with me for assistance at any stage of the writing process, from brainstorming a thesis to reflecting on your grade/final product. The [CSUN Writing Center](#) may be of help to you in this class.

ATTENDANCE

You are expected to attend class, to arrive on time, and to participate in all class activities. If you miss a session for any reason, I encourage you to speak with one of your classmates about the material covered and any announced assignments or news. You are allowed 2 unexcused absences. Each additional unexcused absence will lower your attendance grade by 5%. Late arrivals to class will also affect your attendance grade. You are allowed 2 late arrivals. Each additional late arrival will lower your attendance grade by 1%. In cases where your absence can be excused (illness or emergency), please email me to let me know. Example absences that are NOT excused: related to bad traffic or parking, studying for another class, student club activities, fraternity or sorority activities. Example absences that ARE excused: life disruptions due to immigration enforcement, court date, illness, family emergency, immigration ceremony, funeral, CSUN team events (soccer, etc). If you are unsure whether an absence qualifies as excused, please ask me.

PARTICIPATION

You are expected to participate in class. This includes being prepared for class, contributing to class discussion, and following the discussion attentively. Participation can also include asking questions after class or over email and attending office hours. Please make sure to silence your phone during class. Avoid all distractions including those on your phone and laptop. Please consult the participation rubric on our Canvas course page.

COVID POLICY

Do not attend in-person class if you have covid, if you are experiencing symptoms consistent with covid, if you have not tested after a close contact, if you need to care for an individual with covid, or have other health concerns related to covid. If you are dealing with any of these issues, please reach out to me to let me know so we can develop alternative arrangements for you to complete coursework.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

All student work should comply with rules of academic honesty outlined in the CSUN 2026-2027 University Catalog. These rules ban cheating, fabrication, and plagiarism and they outline the penalties for violations including grade penalties on the assignment, failure of the course as a whole, and expulsion from the university. Instances of cheating or plagiarism are reported to the Student Affairs office which maintains disciplinary records on the matter. Because I take plagiarism seriously, there will be discussions of the topic to make sure that you understand it. Ultimately, though, it is your responsibility to read and comprehend CSUN's policy as it is described in the university catalog.

Please be aware that, in my classes the use of generative AI tools like Chat GPT and Grammarly constitutes plagiarism as it passes off another's work as one's own. You will submit your final paper via Turnitin, a software that scans for plagiarism and AI. If your paper is flagged for AI, you will be required to meet with me to discuss your writing process. If you do not meet with me, a severe grade penalty will be applied to your paper. If it is determined that AI was used on the paper, a severe grade penalty will be applied to the paper. Students who violate the generative AI policy more than once will be reported to Student Affairs

EMAIL POLICY

Students are expected to check their CSUN email address on a regular basis up until the final day of the semester, 12/24/26. Feel free to email me if you have any questions about readings or assignments. Remember that I am your professor and not your BFF; polite (and professional) emails include a greeting (Dear Sid, Prof. Hansen) and a signature (Sincerely, James). I usually respond within 24 hours during the week; over the weekend, I may take 48 hours to reply to emails.

MODES OF ADDRESS

Please let me know if you prefer to be addressed with a particular name or nickname that differs from my class roll. I encourage you to include your pronouns in SOLAR and CANVAS. Do not hesitate to correct me if I make a mistake with your name or pronouns. You can refer to me as Sid, Prof. Hansen, or Dr. Hansen, whichever is most comfortable for you. Do not refer to me Mrs. Hansen or Ms. Hansen. I use they/them pronouns.

LEARNING NEEDS

I am committed to creating a course that is inclusive in its design. If you encounter any barriers or obstacles in your learning, please let me know immediately so we can discuss whether adjustments can be made. I am happy to consider creative solutions as long as they do not compromise the intent of the assessment or learning activity. In general, if you are a student with a disability, or think you may have a disability, I encourage you to reach out to the Disability Resources and Educational Services Office (DRES) or the National Center on Deafness. These offices work with disabled students and faculty to develop reasonable accommodations.

UNION ACTION

The California Faculty Association—the union that represents all CSU faculty, including lecturer faculty, tenure-line faculty, coaches, counselors, and librarians—is in the midst of a difficult contract negotiation. It is possible that the faculty union will call a strike or other work stoppage during this term. I promise to inform the class as soon as possible of any disruption to our class meeting schedule. For more information about the issues involved in the strike, please see resources at: www.calfac.org

BASIC NEEDS

Pursuing a college education is no easy task. And when there is economic, familial, and political stress, I know that it is so much harder to stay focused and stay on track. Please know that I am here to help in any way that I can. Given the size of our campus, there are also a lot of resources available to you, if you know where to look and reach out. Here is a brief list of resources:

- If you need services related to housing and food insecurity or mental health support, please check out the CSUN With A Heart website.
- There are two food pantries on campus, one is located in the Valera Nest and one located in the Women's Center. Don't hesitate to use them! If you are stressed about grocery bills or are skipping meals to make ends meet, these pantries are for you.
- Consider applying for the Matacare Emergency Grant which helps students with unexpected emergency expenses up to \$700; the grant does not need to be repaid.
- The University Counseling Services offers free individual and group therapy support to students.
- The CSUN Dream Center is here to support undocumented students, staff and faculty.

- Check out the [CSUN Pride Center](#) for LGBTQ+ social support!
- The [Immigration Enforcement Information and Services Resource](#) Hub has a lot of helpful information about escalating ICE raids in our city. I encourage you to visit the page. Take note of the legal services offered to CSUN students and their immediate families. Consider attending one of the workshops or training sessions.

HOW TO SUCCEED

At the beginning of the semester, set your intentions and make a plan for how you will prioritize this course. Review the syllabus and note the many support resources available to you on campus. Take a look at the syllabus and think about how you will meet important deadlines. Give yourself time to read the texts slowly and carefully. Most importantly, if you feel lost or overwhelmed, if you are confused by or disappointed with your quiz or writing grades, reach out to me sooner rather than later.

Practicing Theory

8/24 Introductions

8/26 Ahmed, "Bringing Feminist Theory Home"

8/31 hooks, "Theory as Liberatory Practice"

9/2 Moulton, "A Paradigm of Philosophy: The Adversary Method"

9/7 **No Class (Labor Day Holiday; Campus Closed)**

9/9 **Writing Workshop #1**

Creating Concepts (Misogyny, Intersectionality)

9/14 Manne, "Threatening Women"

9/16 Manne, "Ameliorating Misogyny"

9/21 Crenshaw, "Mapping the Margins"

9/23 Collins, "Getting the History of Intersectionality Straight"

9/28 **Writing Workshop #2**

Critiquing Concepts (Gender)

9/30 Beauvoir, Introduction to Second Sex

10/5 Butler, "Gendering the Body: Beauvoir's Philosophical Contribution"

10/7 Oyewumi, "Visualizing the Body: Western Theory and African Subjects"

10/12 Bell, "Unmotivating Gender Identity"

10/14 Draz, "Retro-Sex, Anti-Trans Legislation and the Colonial/Modern Gender System"

10/19 **Writing Workshop #3**

Finding and Forging Histories

10/21 Tyson, "From the Exclusion of Women to the Transformation of Philosophy"

10/26 Hartman, "A Note on Method" & "A Minor Figure"

10/28 Hartman, "Mistah Beauty"

11/2 Hartman, "The Anarchy of Colored Girls Assembled in a Riotous Manner"

11/4 **Writing Workshop #4**

Changing Ways of Life

11/9 Tessman, "The Damage of Moral Damage"

11/11 **No Class; Veteran's Day**

11/16 Tessman, "Dangerous Loyalties"

11/18 Lugones, "Playfulness, World Travelling and Loving Perception"

11/23 Anzaldúa, "La conciencia de la mestiza / Toward a New Consciousness"

11/25 **No Class**

11/30 **Writing Workshop #5**

Building and Wielding Political Power

12/2 Nussbaum, "The Feminist Critique of Liberalism"

12/ 7 Khader, "Should Feminists Be Individualists?"

12/9 Gago, "We Strike: Toward a Political Theory of the Feminist Strike"

12/11 **Final Paper Due**