Electronic Communications: The University provides all KSU students with an “official” email account with the address “students.kennesaw.edu.” As a result of federal laws protecting educational information and other data, this is the sole email account you should use to communicate with your instructor or other University officials.

Prerequisites: ENGL 1102 or equivalent required.

Catalogue Course Description: The course is a study of the main currents of feminist philosophy, including criticisms of traditional philosophical paradigms and new frameworks for approaching the diversity of human experience.

Instructor’s Course Description: The course will introduce students to central debates in feminist philosophy from the early eighties to the present. We begin by examining feminist arguments against tendencies in modern ethics, epistemology, and public policy to equate a particular class of men’s experiences with universal human experience. Then we turn to interventions within feminism against tendencies to equate a particular class of women’s experiences with universal womanhood, and subsequent efforts, led largely by women of color, to imagine viable politics and practices of solidarity—and therefore viable ethics and epistemologies—without presupposing given and homogenous social identities. Finally, we examine feminist and queer arguments that homogenous identity categories seem naturally or socially given only through practices of exclusion that make some lives unlivable, and efforts by these philosophers to imagine ethical, epistemological, phenomenological, and political practices that resist these violences.
Course Texts:
Select articles and materials uploaded to D2L.

Attendance Policy:
To do well in this course, you cannot afford to miss class. If you miss class, be sure to meet me during my office hours to discuss what you have missed.

Attendance is mandatory. Students are required to provide a reasonable, documentable explanation for class absences. After three unexcused absences, students lose a full letter grade, to be deducted from class participation, with each additional unexcused absence.

Students are solely responsible for managing their enrollment status is a class; nonattendance does not constitute a withdrawal.

Electronic Devices Policy:
The volume on all electronic devices should be turned off in class. Students may use laptops, etc. only to take notes in class and to look up material relevant to class discussions. Texting, chatting, or unrelated web-surfing during class will negatively affect students’ learning, class participation grades, and performance.

Course Assessment/Assignments:

**Grading:**
- Online Quizzes — 14% (2% each)
- Two long answer exams — 16% (8% each)
- Midterm Paper — 20%
- Oral Presentation — 10%
- Final Paper — 25%
- Class participation — 15%

**Grading Scale:**
A — 90-100
B — 80-89
C — 70-79
D — 60-69
F — <60
I—Indicates an incomplete grade for the course, and will be awarded only when a student has done satisfactory work up to the last two weeks of the semester, but for nonacademic reasons beyond their control is unable to meet the full requirements of the course. Incomplete grades are
only valid after submission of the Incomplete Grade form (signed by both the instructor and student) to the Department Chair’s office.

For a grade of **“B” or better**, students must fulfill the following learning outcomes for this course:

- Demonstrate direct, primary text-based knowledge and understanding of course concepts and arguments through two long answer exams (each 8% of your overall grade), one midterm paper (20% of your overall grade), a final paper (25% of your overall grade), online long answer quizzes (totaling 14% of your overall grade), an oral presentation (10% of your final grade) and active classroom participation (15% of your overall grade).
- Write a five to seven page midterm paper on an assigned topic articulating a philosophically relevant thesis, and elaborating and defending this thesis through accurate, detailed, logically coherent, and well-written summaries of supporting and opposing materials from assigned texts. Please visit the following links for guidance on how to write philosophy papers:
  - [http://www.jimpryor.net/teaching/guidelines/writing.html](http://www.jimpryor.net/teaching/guidelines/writing.html)
  - [http://www.claremontmckenna.edu/pages/faculty/AKind/Intro01s/writing.htm](http://www.claremontmckenna.edu/pages/faculty/AKind/Intro01s/writing.htm)
  - [http://www2.gsu.edu/~phltso/paperguide.html](http://www2.gsu.edu/~phltso/paperguide.html)
- Write an eight to 10 page final paper on an assigned topic articulating a philosophically relevant thesis, and elaborating and defending this thesis through accurate, detailed, logically coherent, and well-written summaries of supporting and opposing materials from assigned texts.
- Demonstrate disciplined critical thinking in your papers and in class discussions.
- Work constructively in group exercises and class discussions, treat fellow class participants with respect and courtesy, etc., be attentive, and consistently arrive to class prepared and on time.

**Late assignments will receive a failing grade.** In some cases, the professor may choose to allow students to make up a missed/late assignment. To explore this possibility, students should contact the professor at least **two days before** the missed assignment deadline. The professor is not obliged to allow students to make up missed/late assignments except when absences are excused, or when extenuating circumstances (e.g., inclement weather) affect the entire class.

**The assignments in this course are “scaffolded.”** Online quiz assignments will typically ask you to explain select arguments and concepts from that week’s texts, and to use parenthetical page references to support each of their textual claims. Grading standards for these quizzes are low—to receive full credit (1 point), students need only submit a response through D2L that addresses each element of the quiz prompt and includes at least two parenthetical page references. If either of criteria is not satisfied, the student will receive 0 points on the quiz. Quiz responses will not be graded for grammar or style, accuracy or comprehensive, or degree of textual detail. **However, you can use these quiz responses in your long answer exams and thesis papers. Consequently, the more seriously you take the quizzes and the more work you put into**
them, the more prepared you will be to do well on your long answer exams and thesis papers. Quizzes are posted by 5pm on Fridays, and are due through D2L by 11am on the next day of class (usually Tuesday). Missed credit on online quizzes cannot be made up.

Before your midterm and final papers are due, you will be assigned an online 1,000 word long answer exam. These exams are expository, and are not reflective or evaluative. Each will ask you to identify two theses from two of the course readings, and explain the concepts and arguments that the authors use to support their theses. Each exposition should be accurate, detailed, comprehensive, and textually grounded, and approximately 500 words (2 x 500 = 1,000 words). The exams will be graded according to the following rubric: a) accuracy and comprehensiveness (40%), b) textual detail and support (30%), and c) grammar and clarity of writing (30%).

You are welcome to re-use content from your quizzes in your exams. Further, you are welcome to use content from your first exam in your midterm paper, and from your second exam in your final paper. The exams are meant to provide you with an opportunity to test your level of understanding and to receive feedback on your writing before the higher stake papers. Like the quizzes, they are also meant to reinforce the notion of philosophical writing as an ongoing text-based drafting process.

After the first exam, and after in-class exercises and discussions about philosophical theses and how to develop them, you will complete a 5-7 page (1,250-1,750 word) midterm paper. In this paper, you will be asked to defend a philosophically relevant and clearly stated evaluative thesis about philosophical positions studied in the first half of the class, and to do so through an accurate, detailed, comprehensive, and textually grounded exposition of relevant textual concepts and arguments. Your midterm papers will be graded according the following rubric: a) clarity of thesis / structure of argument (25%), b) comprehensiveness and accuracy (30%), c) textual detail and support (25%), and d) grammar and clarity of writing (20%).

Your final paper will also be 8-10 pages (2,000-2,500 words) and will be graded according to the same rubric as the midterm paper. It will be due through D2L by the end of final exam period designated for our class.

Your exams and papers should be formatted with double-spacing, 12 point Times New Roman font, and 1” margins, and follow Chicago citation guidelines (see http://www.lib.umd.edu/tl-guides/citing-chicago-ad).

Please review KSU’s policies on academic integrity and plagiarism before submission. Time permitting, I will be happy to review paper drafts before assignments are due and to work with students to improve their academic writing. Graded papers are normally returned no more than two weeks after their due date.

Academic Honesty:
Every KSU student is responsible for upholding the provisions of the Student Code of Conduct, as published in the Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs. Section 5. C of the Student Code of Conduct addresses the university’s policy on academic honesty, including provisions regarding
plagiarism and cheating, unauthorized access to university materials, misrepresentation/falsification of university records or academic work, malicious removal, retention, or destruction of library materials, malicious/intentional misuse of computer facilities and/or services, and misuse of student identification cards. Incidents of alleged academic misconduct will be handled through the established procedures of the Department of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity (SCAI), which includes either an “informal” resolution by a faculty member, resulting in a grade adjustment, or a formal hearing procedure, which may subject a student to the Code of Conduct’s minimum one semester suspension requirement. See also https://web.kennesaw.edu/scai/content/ksu-student-code-conduct.

The instructor has a zero-tolerance policy against plagiarism and uses TurnItIn plagiarism detection services when grading written assignments. At a minimum, students who plagiarize any part of an assignment will receive an F for that assignment, in accord with KSU’s academic misconduct procedures.

To avoid plagiarism, including unintentional plagiarism, please visit:
http://plagiarism.org/
http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets/plagiarism.shtml
http://www.library.arizona.edu/help/tutorials/plagiarism/index.html

ADA Compliance:
Students with qualifying disabilities under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and/or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act who require “reasonable accommodation(s)” to complete the course may request those from Department of Student Success Services. Students requiring such accommodations are required to work with the University’s Department of Student Success Services rather than engaging in this discussion with individual faculty members or academic departments. If, after reviewing the course syllabus, a student anticipates or should have anticipated a need for accommodation, he or she must submit documentation requesting an accommodation and permitting time for a determination prior to submitting assignments or taking course quizzes or exams. Students may not request retroactive accommodation for needs that were or should have been foreseeable. Students should contact the office as soon as possible in the term for which they are seeking accommodations. For more information please visit their website, sss.kennesaw.edu/sds.

Contact information is as follows:
SDS Email: sds@kennesaw.edu
Primary number for Kennesaw campus: 470-578-2666
Primary number for Marietta campus: 678-915-7244
Tentative Course Schedule
(reading assignments and activities are subject to revision)

Week 1:

8/16 — Class introductions, welcome, and discussion of syllabus, interest in class, and the meaning, if any, of the concepts, ‘feminine’, ‘feminist’, and ‘patriarchy’. For Wednesday, read Carol Gilligan, “In A Different Voice” (uploaded to D2L).

8/18 — What philosophical and political possibilities are overlooked when human experience is assumed equivalent to men’s experience? Do men and women know and engage the world differently? Online quiz posted on Friday.

Week 2:

8/23 — Reading due: Iris Marion Young, “Throwing Like A Girl” (uploaded to D2L). Quiz due.

8/25 — Re-Reading due: Gilligan and Young. Online quiz posted on Friday.

Week 3:


9/1 — Re-reading due: Benhabib. No online quiz.

Week 4:

9/6 — Reading due, Nell Noddings, “An Ethic of Caring” (uploaded to D2L).

9/8 — Re-reading due: Noddings. Online quiz posted on Friday.

Week 5:

9/13 — Review. Quiz due.

9/15 — FIRST EXAM. No online quiz.

Week 6:

9/20 — Reading due: Claudia Card’s, Sarah Lucia Hoagland’s, and Barbara Houston’s critiques of Noddings’ Feminist Care Ethics (uploaded to D2L).

9/22 — Re-reading due: Card, Hoagland, and Houston. No online quiz.

Week 7:

9/29 — Re-reading due: Tuana. No online quiz.

Week 8:


10/5 — LAST DAY TO WITHDRAW WITHOUT ACADEMIC PENALTY.


Week 9:

10/11 — Reading due: Sandra Harding, “‘Strong Objectivity’: A Response to the New Objectivity Question” (uploaded to D2L). Online quiz due.

10/13 — Re-reading due: Crenshaw, Spelman, and Harding. No online quiz.

Week 10:

10/18 — **MIDTERM PAPER DUE**


Week 11:

10/25 — Re-reading due: Lugones.

10/27 — Reading due: Lugones, “The Coloniality of Gender” (uploaded to D2L). Online quiz posted on Friday.

Week 12:


11/3 — Re-reading due: Lugones (both), Davis, and Kessler. Online quiz posted on Friday.

Week 13:


Week 14:


Week 15:

Fall break — no class
Week 16:

11/29 — First set of oral presentations. Online quiz due.
12/1 — Second set of oral presentations. Last day of class.

FINAL PAPER: DUE ELECTRONICALLY THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8 BY 12:30PM.