**Critical Interdisciplinary Approaches to**

**Doing Research in Gender Studies**

Department of Gender Studies, CEU

Winter 2016/17

# MA course, 2 credits

Fridays, 3.30pm, Room Z 412

# Professor: Jasmina Lukić

Office: Zrinyi u. 14/V, room 509A

Office telephone: 327 3000/2161

Office hours: Tuesday and Thursday 13 – 15, and by appointment

lukicj@ceu.edu

**Course description**

The aim of the course is to investigate theoretical and methodological problems related to the knowledge production in post-disciplinary age.

The first part of the course is dealing with the concept of interdisciplinarity and its different interpretations. The conceptual differences between inter-, multi- and transdisciplinarity will be addressed. Particular attention will be given to interdisciplinary perspective in women’s studies and gender studies, disciplinization processes and specific problems related with interdisciplinary research and its evaluation.

The second part of the course focuses on theoretical and methodological problems of intersectionality as an interdisciplinary method and an approach based upon feminist and gender theories. The course investigates its origin and development of intersectional research in gender studies, and discusses several representative research cases. Some focus is put on the transitions and tensions between intersectionality, new materialism and assemblage theory. Students are invited to discuss their own research projects as well.

**Course Goals and Learning Outcomes**

Objectives of the course:

* To familiarize students with the interdisciplinary perspective in women’s studies/gender studies.
* To discuss critically the logic of disciplinization processes in academia and their implications for knowledge production.
* To analyze theoretical and conceptual problems concerning interdisciplinary research using examples from women’s studies/gender studies.
* To familiarize students with main problems of intersectional analysis in gender studies.
* To discuss specific problems of evaluation of interdisciplinary and intersectional research through exercises in writing peer reviews and research proposals.

**Course Requirements and Assignments:**

Regular participation and discussions in the class: 35 %

Proposal for interdisciplinary/intersectional research: 15 %

Peer review: 10 %

Sit in exam: 40 %

1. **What are Disciplines? And How Is Interdisciplinarity Different?**

Peter Wingart, “A Short History of Knowledge Formations”, in *The Oxford Handbook of Interdisciplinarity*, ed. by Robert Frodeman at al., Oxford University Press, 2010, pp. 3-14.

Stephen Turner, “What are Disciplines? And How Is Interdisciplinarity Different?”, in *Practicing Interdisciplinarity,* ed. by Peter Weingart and Nico Stehl, Toronto University of Toronto Press, 2000, pp. 46-65.

Charlotte Witt, “Feminist Interpretations of the Philosophical Canon,” in *Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society*, Vol. 31, No. 2, 2006, 20 pages.

1. **Woman’s Studies and Interdisciplinarity**

Judith Stacey, “Disloyal to Disciplines: A Feminist Trajectory in the Borderlands”, in *Feminisms in the Academy*, ed, by Donna Stanton and Abigail J. Stewart, Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 1995, pp. 311-329.

Marjorie Pryse, “Critical Interdisciplinarity, Women’s Studies, and Cross-Cultural Insight”, in *NWSA Journal*, Vol. 10, No 1, Spring 1998, pp. 1-28.

Susan Stanford Friedman, “Academic Feminism and Interdisciplinarity”, in *Feminist Studies* 27, No. 2, Summer 2001, pp. 504-509.

1. **(Inter-)disciplinarity Reframed**

Nina Lykke, “This Discipline Which Is Not One: Feminist Studies as Postdiscipline,” in Rosemarie Buikema, Gabriele Griffin and Nina Lykke (eds.), *Theories and Methodologies in Postgraduate Feminist Research: Researching Differently*, London: Routledge, 2011, pp. 137-150.

Helga Novotny, “The Potential of Transdiciplinarity” in: *Interdisciplines*, http://www.interdisciplines.org, May 2006.

Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak, “Chapter 1: Crossing Borders,” in *Death of a Discipline*, New York: Columbia University Press, 2003, 1-25.

1. **Interdisciplinary Research in Practice: Evaluation and Peer Reviews**

Katri Huutioniemi, “Evaluating Interdisciplinary Research”, in *The Oxford Handbook of Interdisciplinarity*, ed. by Robert Frodeman et al., Oxford University Press, 2010, pp. 309-320.

Michele Lamont, “Considering Interdisciplinarity and Diversity”, in *How Professors Think: Inside the Curious World of Academic Judgement*, Cambridge, Massachusetts and London, England: Harvard University Press, 2009, pp. 202-238.

J. Britt Holbrook, “Peer Review”, in *The Oxford Handbook of Interdisciplinarity*, ed. by Robert Frodeman et al., Oxford University Press, 2010, pp. 321-332.

1. **Changing Paradigms 1**

Donna Haraway, “Situated knowledges: The Science Question in Feminism and the Privilege of Partial Perspective”, in *Feminist Studies* Vol. 14, No 3, Fall 1988, pp. 575-599.

Sabrine Hark, “Magical Sign. On the Politics of Inter-and Transdisciplinarity”, in *Graduate Journal of Social Sciences*,Vol. 4, No. 2, 2007, pp. 11-33.

Nina Lykke, “Response to Sabrine Hark”, in *Graduate Journal of Social Sciences*,Vol. 4, No. 2, 2007, pp. 34-39.

1. **Intersectionality: Looking Back**

“A Conversation with Founding Scholars of Intersectionality: Kimberlé Crenshaw, Nira Yuval-Davis, and Michelle Fine”, in *Intersectional Approach: Transforming the Academy Through Race, Class and Gender*, ed. by Michele Tracy Berger & Kathleen Guidroz, Chapel Hill: The University of North Caroline Press, 2009, pp. 61-78.

Kathy Davis, “Intersectionality as Buzzword: A Sociology of Science Perspective on What Makes a Feminist Theory Successful”, in *Feminist Theory* Vol. 9, No. 1, 2008, pp. 67–85.

1. **Intersectionality in Gender Research**

Patricia Hill Collins, “It’s All In the Family: Intersections of Gender, Race, and Nation”, in *Hypatia: A Journal of Feminist* *Philosophy*, Vol. 13, No. 3, Summer 1998, pp.63-82.

Leslie McCall, “Complexity of Intersectionality”, in *Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society*, Vol. 30, No. 3, Spring 2005, pp. 1771-1800.

1. **Intersectionality and Sexuality**

Kath Weston, “Me, Myself and I”, in *Theorizing Intersectionality and Sexuality*, ed. by Yvette Taylor et al., London: Palgrave, 2011, pp. 15-36.

Yvette Taylor, “Complexities and Complications: Intersections of Class and Sexuality”, in *Theorizing Intersectionality and Sexuality*, ed. by Yvette Taylor et al., London: Palgrave, 2011, pp. 37-55.

1. **Intersectionality in Transnational Perspective**

Shu-Mei Shih, “Toward an Ethics of Transnational Encounters, or 'When' Does a 'Chinese' Woman Become a 'Feminist'”, in *Minor Transnationalism*, ed. by Francoise Lionnet and Shu-mei Shih, Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 2005, pp. 73-109.

Gloria Wekker, “Into the Promised Land? The Feminization and Ethnicization of Poverty in the Netherlands”, in *Teaching Intersectionality: Putting Gender at the Center*, ed. by Martha Franken et al., Amsterdam: ATHENA Book Series, 2009, pp. 65-77.

1. **Changing Paradigms 2**

Rick Dolphijn and Iris van der Tuin, “Introduction: What May I Hope For?”, in *﻿New Materialism: Interviews and Cartographies*, University of Michigan Library, Ann Arbor, Open Humanities Press, 2012, pp. 13-19 + “Introduction: A ‘New Tradition’ in Thought” in: ibid., pp. 85-93.

Stacy Alaimo, “New Materialisms, Old Humanisms, or, Following the Submersible,” in *NORA - Nordic Journal of Feminist and Gender Research*, Vol. 19, No. 4, 2011, pp. 280-284.

1. **Instead of a Conclusion**

Jasbir K. Puar. 2012. “I would rather be a cyborg than a goddess”:Becoming-Intersectional in Assemblage Theory. *PhiloSOPHIA* Access Provided by Rutgers University at 02/23/13 11:51PM GMT .

Brittney Cooper, “Intersectionality”, in *Oxford Handbook to Feminist Theory*, ed. by Lisa Disch and Mary Hawkesworth, Oxford University Press, 2016 (forthcoming).

1. **Sit in exam**