

Philosophy of Gender and Race **University of Edinburgh, Fall 2018**

Contact

Dr Katie Monk

mail@katiemonk.net

Office: Room 4.02, Dugald Stewart Building.

Office Hours: Tuesdays 11 – 12

If you have anything you would like to talk about, the best thing to do is come to my office hours. You don't need an appointment.

Classtimes: There are two groups: Tuesday 9 – 11 and Thursday 4 – 6.

Readings and Questions

You are required to do the following before class:

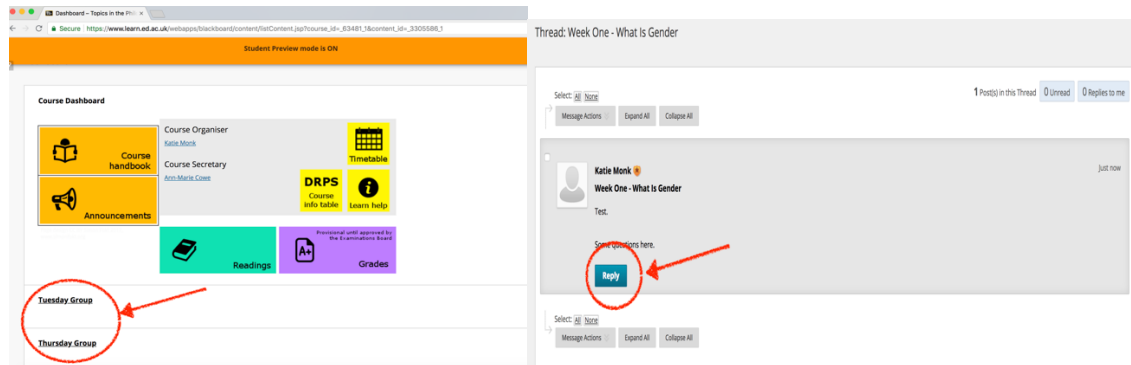
1. **Read the main reading(s)** listed below carefully. The additional readings provide background
2. **Take a look at the questions on the main reading(s)** I post each week on the forum, and have a think about them. You can write down your answers, but you don't have to.
3. **Post (at least) 2 questions of your own**, about the reading that week, in reply. The deadline for posting these questions is 12 hours before your seminar. (So if your seminar is at 9am on Tuesday, you must post these questions by 9pm on Monday, and so on). You can post up to 4 questions, but you must post at least 2.

The questions you post can be of two types: questions about something you didn't understand, or questions you think would be interesting to discuss.

Examples of the kind of questions you might post (these questions span philosophy topics – yours should be about the reading that week):

- I don't quite understand the point made on page 2. How does the first premise connect to the conclusion? (Understanding question)
- The author uses the word 'teleological'. I have looked this up and it means "a reason or explanation for something in function of its end, purpose, or goal". But how does that relate to the ethics of economics? (Understanding question – note if you are asking about the use of a term, you are required to first look up the definition of the term and use it in your question)
- I don't understand the example on page 4. In the example, are water and H₂O not the same things in this example? (Understanding question)
- I was interested in the definition of gender that the author gave. But how would trans women fit into this definition? (Discussion question)
- Premise 2 on page 4 seems false to me. A counter example would be ... (Discussion question)
- The paper is written from a certain perspective. How would it affect black women? (Discussion question)

To access the forum, go to the blackboard dashboard for this course. Scroll down to the bottom and there are two links – one for Tuesdays group and one for Thursdays group. Be careful to choose the group for the class you attend. Once you are in the forum, click on the post to read it, and then click on ‘reply’ (in blue) at the bottom of the post, to write your questions.



Conduct

We'll be covering some difficult and sensitive topics in class. Please remember that people in class might have personal experience of the topics covered, and take that into account in the way that you speak. Be respectful at all times. If you ever feel unsafe in class, please let me know.

Trigger Warnings

There aren't trigger warnings on the readings, because I can't know what might be particularly difficult to talk about for each of you, depending as it does upon your individual experiences. If you have questions or concerns about a particular topic, or if there is something that would be particularly upsetting for you to talk or read about, please let me know and I will do my best to give advance warnings. If there is an issue that would be so upsetting to talk about that you feel you can't attend a particular session please let me know as soon as you can.

Accessibility

I am committed to making class as accessible as possible. If there is a particular accommodation that you need, please let me know.

Assessment

Assessment is via

*Mid-term essay of 1,500 words, worth 40%, due 25th October

*End-of-semester essay of 2,500 words, worth 60%, due 13th December

There will be a peer review session for your first essay in week 5. (Probably the Friday but TBD). Participation is voluntary, but recommended.

Schedule

Week One: Introduction

18th September/20th September

Main Readings:

Sally Haslanger, 'Gender and Race: (What) are they? (What) do we want them to be?', *Noûs*, 2000

and

Extract from bell hooks, 'Shaping Feminist Theory', in Manning Marable (ed) *Let Nobody Turn Us Around*, 2009

(uploaded on LEARN under the green 'readings' tab on the dashboard)

Additional Reading:

Mari Mikkola, 'Gender Sceptics and Feminist Politics', *Res Publica*, 2007

Jennifer Saul, 'Gender and Race', *Aristotelian Society Supplementary Volume*, 2006

Week Two: What Is Gender?

25th September/27th September

Main Reading:

Talia Mae Bettcher, 'Trans Women and the Meaning of "Woman"', in Soble, Power and Halwani (eds), *Philosophy of Sex: Contemporary Readings*, 2013

(Important! The library resource list gives a link to a new edition of Philosophy of Sex, which does not contain this paper. although it does have another paper by Bettcher. Take care to read the version uploaded on LEARN, under the green 'readings' tab on the dashboard)

Additional Reading:

Katharine Jenkins, 'Amelioration and Inclusion: Gender Identity and the Concept of Woman', *Ethics*, 2016

Michelle Goldberg, 'What Is A Woman?' *The New Yorker*, 2014

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2014/08/04/woman-2>

Talia Mae Bettcher, 'Trapped in the Wrong Theory: Re Thinking Trans Oppression and Resistance', *Signs*, 2014

Talia Mae Bettcher, 'Trans Feminism: Recent Philosophical Developments', *Philosophy Compass*, 2017

Matthew Salett Andler, 'Gender Identity and Exclusion: A Reply to Jenkins', *Ethics*, 2017

Week Three: Sex Work

2nd October/4th October

Main Reading:

Martha Nussbaum “Whether From Reason Or Prejudice”: Taking Money For Bodily Services”, *The Journal of Legal Studies*, 1998

Additional Reading:

Hallie Liberto, Normalizing Prostitution Versus Normalizing the Alienability of Sexual Rights: A Response to Scott A. Anderson, *Ethics*, 2009

Julia O’Connell Davidson, The Rights and Wrongs of Prostitution, *Hypatia*, 2002

Juno Mac, TED Talk – ‘The laws that sex workers want’, recording and script available here: https://www.ted.com/talks/juno_mac_the_laws_that_sex_workers_really_want/transcript?language=en

Other Info:

I’m hoping to run a screening of a documentary film (*Very Young Girls*) which is relevant to this weeks topic at some point during week 3, with some time for discussion. This would be in addition to our normal class, and not mandatory. Details TBD.

Week Four: Parenthood and The Family

9th October/11th October

Main Reading:

bell hooks, Chapter Ten: Revolutionary Parenting, in *Feminist Theory from Margin to Centre*, 1984

(Uploaded on LEARN under the green ‘readings’ tab on the dashboard, and also available as an e book via the library)

Additional Reading:

Véronique Munoz-Dardé, ‘Is the family to be abolished then?’ *Proceedings of the Aristotelian Society*, 1999

Anca Gheaus, ‘Care Drain as an Issue of Global Gender Justice’, *Ethical Perspectives*, 2013

Pauline Kleingeld & Joel Anderson, ‘Justice as a Family Value: How a Commitment to Fairness is Compatible with Love’, *Hypatia*, 2014

Week Five: Pornography

16th October/18th October

Main Reading:

Rae Langton, ‘Speech Acts and Unspeakable Acts’, *Philosophy and Public Affairs*, 1993

and

Clarrissa Smith and Feona Attwood, 'Emotional Truths and Thrilling Slide Shows: The Resurgence of Antiporn Feminism' in Tristan Taormino, Celine Parrenas Shimizu, Constance Penly, Mireille Miller – Young (eds), *The Feminist Porn Book*, 2013
(Uploaded on LEARN under the green 'readings' tab on the dashboard)

Additional Reading:

Jennifer Saul, 'Pornography, Speech Acts and Context', *Proceedings of the Aristotelian Society*, 2006

A.W. Eaton, Chapter 12: 'Feminist Pornography', in *Beyond Speech: Pornography and Analytic Feminist Philosophy*, 2017 (available as an e book via the library)

Ingrid Ryberg, 'Every time we fuck, we win: The Public Sphere of Queer, Feminist Porn as a (Safe) Space for Sexual Empowerment' in Tristan Taormino, Celine Parrenas Shimizu, Constance Penly, Mireille Miller – Young (eds), *The Feminist Porn Book*, 2013
(Uploaded on LEARN under the green 'readings' tab on the dashboard)

Other Info:

Peer Review Essay Workshop to run this week.

Week Six: Case Study - Is there anything wrong with racialized sexual fetishes?

24th October/25th October

****Important Note!****

Students who normally have class on a Tuesday – the class is on Wednesday this week.
Thursday's class is unaffected

Main Reading:

Robin Zheng, 'Why Yellow Fever Isn't Flattering: A Case Against Racial Fetishes', *Journal of The American Philosophical Association*, 2016

Additional Reading:

Yuan Ren, 'Yellow fever' fetish: Why do so many white men want to date a Chinese woman?, *The Telegraph*, 2014

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/women/womens-life/10935508/Yellow-fever-fetish-Why-do-so-many-white-men-want-to-date-a-Chinese-woman.html>

Robin Zheng, Chapter 9: 'Race and Pornography' in *Beyond Speech: Pornography and Analytic Feminist Philosophy*, 2017

Celine Parrenas Shimizu, 'Bound by Expectation: The Racialized Sexuality of Porn Star Keni Styles' in Tristan Taormino, Celine Parrenas Shimizu, Constance Penly, Mireille Miller – Young (eds), *The Feminist Porn Book*, 2013
(Uploaded on LEARN under the green 'readings' tab on the dashboard)

Other Info:

First essay is due on 25th October by 12pm.

Week Seven: Is race biological?

30th October/1st November

Main Reading:

Quayshawn Spencer, 'A Radical Solution to the Race Problem', *Philosophy of Science*, 2014

Additional Reading:

Ron Mallon, 'Passing, Traveling and Reality: Social Constructionism and the Metaphysics of Race', *Noûs*, 2004

Jonathon Michael Kaplan & Rasmus Grønfeldt Winther, Realism, Antirealism and Conventionalism About Race, *Philosophy of Science*, 2014

Joshua Glasgow, On the New Biology of Race, *Journal of Philosophy*, 2003

Week Eight: Is race real?

6th November/8th November

Main Reading:

Kwame Anthony Appiah, 'How to decide if races exist', *Proceedings of the Aristotelian Society*, 2006

Additional Reading:

Lisa Gannett 'Questions Asked and Unasked: How by Worrying Less about the 'Really Real' Philosophers of Science Might Better Contribute to Debates about Genetics and Race' *Synthese* 2010

Joshua Glasgow, On the Methodology of the Race Debate: Conceptual Analysis and Racial Discourse, *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, 2008

Week Nine: What is racism?

6th November/8th November

Main Reading:

Tommie Shelby, 'Is Racism In The Heart?', *Journal of Social Philosophy*, 2002

Additional Reading:

Naomi Zack, 'Race and Racial Discrimination', in Hugh LaFollette (ed) *The Oxford Handbook of Practical Ethics*, (Part III) 2003
(uploaded to LEARN, and available as an e book through the library)

Sally Haslanger, 'Racism, Ideology, and Social Movements', *Res Philosophica*, 2017

Tommie Shelby, 'Racism, Moralism and Criticism', *Du Bois Review*, 2014

Lawrence Blum, 'Racism: What It Is and What It Isn't', *Studies in Philosophy and Education*, 2002

Week Ten: Racial Reparations

13th November/15th November

Main Reading:

Sara Amighetti & Alasia Nuti, 'Towards a Shared Redress: Achieving Historical Justice Through Democratic Deliberation', *Journal of Political Philosophy*, 2015

Additional Reading:

Stephen Kershnar, 'Are the Descendants of Slaves Owed Compensation for Slavery?', *Journal of Applied Philosophy*, 1999

Address delivered by Professor Sir Hilary Beckles, Chairman of the CARICOM Reparations Commission, House of Commons, 16 July 2014

Transcript and recording available here

<https://caricom.org/media-center/communications/speeches/address-delivered-by-professor-sir-hilary-beckles-chairman-of-the-caricom-r>

Daniel Butt, 'On Benefiting from Injustice', *Canadian Journal of Philosophy*, 2007

Week Eleven: Intersectionality

27th November OR 29th November

Main Reading:

Jennifer C. Nash, 'Re-thinking Intersectionality', *Feminist Review*, 2008

and

Audre Lorde, 'The Master's Tools Will Never Dismantle the Master's House', in Cherrie Moraga and Gloria Anzaldua (eds) *This Bridge Called My Back: Writings by Radical Women of Colour*, 1983

(Uploaded on LEARN under the green 'readings' tab on the dashboard)

Additional Reading:

Sumi Cho, Kimberlé Crenshaw and Leslie McCall 'Toward a Field of Intersectionality Studies: Theory, Applications, and Praxis', *Signs*, 2013

Anna Carastathis, The Concept of Intersectionality in Feminist Theory, *Philosophy Compass*, 2014

Nora Berenstain, 'Epistemic Exploitation', *Ergo*, 2016