

# **Transnational Feminisms Concentration**

DRAFT 9/28/09

## **I Mission**

*Transnational Feminisms* will provide students with an understanding of the production and circulation of ideas of violence, justice, feminism, resistance and transformation in global politics. Students will learn about the different configurations and effects of the global and its relationship to various objects, subjects and power relations drawing upon insights of postcolonial, critical race, queer and cultural theory. The concentration will also highlight the tensions and difficult dialogues within the field around gender, violence, justice and the transnational through collective, multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary approaches to reading, writing and pedagogy.

Students who choose this concentration will analyze the structural continuities and discontinuities of global power by locating how power, inequality and justice surfaces in national and local politics and knowledge formations. In particular, students will question what it means to produce, represent and expand the concept of the “transnational” from their own scholarly positioning in relationship to various geopolitical locales as a way to complicate the divides between the local and global within contemporary feminist politics

## **II Rationale**

The inequalities generated by contemporary globalizations require that thirty years of different modes of feminist collaborations and contestations across national and other boundaries lead to a more complicated politics of solidarity that explores deeper and innovative frameworks of critical feminisms within different locations of the transnational. Because of the profound transformations brought about by a focus on religious nationalisms, global capital and labor migrations, “wars on terror,” the global prison industrial complex, and international human rights, transnational feminism is attentive to the ways in which the politics of race, religion, class and sexuality intersect to shape notions of justice within and between different geopolitical sites, including the discipline of Women’s Studies.

## **III Areas of Interest**

global political economies,  
labor and migration  
human rights and security  
political sociology and social movements  
citizenship and immigration  
gender violence  
transnational justice

## **IV Core and Affiliated Faculty**

Marysol Ascencio, Human Development and Family Studies - [marysol.ascencio@uconn.edu](mailto:marysol.ascencio@uconn.edu)

Kerry Bystrom, English and Human Rights Institute - [kerry.bystrom@uconn.edu](mailto:kerry.bystrom@uconn.edu)

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Manisha Desai, Women’s Studies - [manisha.desai@uconn.edu](mailto:manisha.desai@uconn.edu)

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Heather Turcotte, Women's Studies and Political Science - [heather.turcotte@uconn.edu](mailto:heather.turcotte@uconn.edu)  
Richard Wilson, Human Rights Institute and Anthropology - [richard.wilson@uconn.edu](mailto:richard.wilson@uconn.edu)

### **V Non-Comprehensive List of Courses**

Gender in Global Perspectives (WS 1124)  
Feminisms and the Arts (WS 1104)  
Women in Political Development (WS 3216W/POLS 3216W)  
Gender and Sexualities in Modern Europe (WS 3416/HIST 3416)  
Women and Body Art (WS 3251)  
Latina Narratives (WS 3258/PRLS 3230)  
Women and Violence (WS 3263/HRTS 3263)  
Women and Poverty ( WS 3267)  
Transnational Feminisms (WS 3250)  
Women's Movements (WS 3269)  
Global Sexualities  
Fictions of Latino Masculinities (WS 3259/PRLS 3231)  
Latinas and Media (WS 3260/COMM 3321)

### **Courses To be Developed**

Africa in Global Perspectives  
Feminist Theories and International Relations  
Gender and Global Politics  
Gender and Immigration  
Transnational Gender Justice

### **VI Recommended Course Sequence**

1000-level either Gender and Everyday Life (WS 1105) or Gender in Global Perspectives (WS 1124) or Feminism and the Arts (WS 1104)

3000-level WS 3263, WS 3267, WS 3250, WS 3259.