

Wmst 101, section 227  
Preparation for the Final Exam

The exam will be held Thursday, Dec. 6, from 8:30AM-10:30AM, in Buch A 201. (We have the room for longer than two hours, but the exam itself will be exactly two hours long: 25 minutes for Part 1, 55 minutes for Part 2, and 10 minutes to read over your answers.)

**\*\*Change from midterm exam:** this time Joshua will be marking the short answer questions and Sharalyn will be marking the essay question. So you will be required to put your answers to Part One (short answer) in one test booklet, and your answers to Part Two (essay) in another. Be sure to put your name on both booklets. Test booklets will be provided.

**Part One: Short answer.** You will be given 5 of the terms below and asked to "identify," "describe," "define," "distinguish between," and/or "provide an example of" each. You should take no more than 5 minutes for each answer, 2 or 3 sentences. Each answer will be **worth 2 points**, so **this section will be worth a total of 10 points.** (Total test time for this section: 25 minutes.)

Sex

Gender/gender identity/gender expression

Gender inequality

Intersex

Transsexual

Transgender v. cisgender

Homophobia & transphobia

Gender pluralism v. gender dimorphism

Strategies v. (guerilla) tactics

Internalized racism

Social privilege/discrimination

The Bechdel test

Reading against the grain/queering the text

'Angel in the house'

Commodification, sexual commodification & cultural commodities

Hegemonic v. counterhegemonic

Excorporation

Drag vs. masquerade

**Part Two: Essay.** This time you will have some flexibility about your essay topic. Choose one item from each of the three categories below, and write an essay showing how that **one MEDIUM** can function as a positive intervention OR as a negative influence on social beliefs about gender, sex, sexuality, race, ethnicity, or class. (You don't have to address all of these issues.) Use **one of the**

**TEXTS** below to provide specific examples to back up your argument. And refer explicitly to **at least one of the ARTICLES** below to further bolster your argument. In other words, your essay must include **no more than ONE MEDIUM, no more than ONE TEXT**, and reference to **at least ONE ESSAY**. This section will be worth 15 points. (Total test time for this section: 55 minutes.)

**Media:**

- mass market magazines for adults OR mass market magazines for children/adolescents
- romance novels
- popular novels for adults OR popular novels for children/adolescents
- popular film (live action OR animation)
- TV
- comic books/manga/graphic novels
- videogames

**Texts:**

- (--mass market magazine of your choice, must be well known)
- (--romance novel of your choice)
- (--popular adult or children's/adolescent's novel of your choice, must be well known)
- Harry Potter (novels OR films)
- Twilight (novels OR films)
- Mulan* (animated film)
- (--popular animated or live action film of your choice, must be well known)
- The Simpsons* (TV show)
- Little Mosque on the Prairie* (TV show)
- Big Bang Theory* (TV show)
- (--popular TV show of your choice, must be well known)
- Lynda Barry, *It's So Magic* (graphic novel/comic book)
- the *Princess Knight* manga comic looked at in class
- (--popular comic book/manga/graphic novel of your choice, must be well known)
- (--popular videogame of your choice, must be well known)

**Essays:**

- Gerda Siann* articles
- Louis Gould, "X—A Fabulous Child" (CP 1) (the rigidity of society's concepts of gender and gender dimorphism, the possibility of gender pluralism, the benefits of separating sex and gender, etc.)
- Jean Kilbourne, "Buy This 24-Year-Old and Get All his Friends Absolutely Free" (CP 1) (the persuasive power of advertising, how advertising really works)

- John Fiske, "Understanding Popular Culture" (CP 1) (ideology, expropriation, strategy vs. tactics [De Certeau], etc.)
- Kim Anderson, "Construction of a Negative Identity" (CP 1) (how representations of aboriginal/First Nations people in Canada have evolved historically, how hard it is to overturn negative stereotypes and why)
- Kathleen LeBesco, "Fat and Fabulous" (CP 1) (different ways of conceptualizing fatness and other forms of bodily difference, way of avoiding pathologizing physical difference)
- Tania Modleski, "The Disappearing Act" (CP 1) (why romance novels may not be so bad for women, or are they?)
- Janice Radway, "Reading the Romance" (how patriarchy shapes romance novels, why women read them)
- Hollie Anderson, "Reading Harry Potter with Navajo Eyes" (CP 1) (How HP can transcend its anglo context and speak to someone from a different culture/nation/ethnicity)
- Elizabeth Heilman, "Blue Witches and Pink Wizards" (CP 1) (how HP is relentlessly gender dimorphic, essentialist)
- John Beynon, "What is Masculinity" (masculinities, hegemonic masculinity vs. subordinate variants, socialization vs. biology [social constructionism vs. essentialism], ideology, history of the women's movement and the gay rights movement and their relationship with contemporary masculinity, etc.)
- Snow and Snow, "Simpsonian Sexual Politics" (the gender politics in *The Simpsons*, gender roles)
- Tabassum F. Ruby, "Listening to the Voices of *Hijab*" (what *hijab* is, how Muslim women think variously about *hijab*)
- Scott McCloud, *Making Comics* (excerpts), *Understanding Comics* (excerpts) (how comics/manga/graphic novels work)
- Sherrie Inness, "Tough Girls in Comic Books" (what the title says)
- Henry Jenkins, "Complete Freedom of Movement" (the history of gendered play in north America and the current function of videogames for children)

Example 1: **medium** = TV; **text** = *The Simpsons*; **essay** = "Simpsonian Sexual Politics"

Example 2: **medium** = graphic novels; **text** = *It's So Magic*; **essays** = Will Eisner's *Graphic Storytelling* and Sherrie Inness, "Tough Girls in Comic Books"

Example 3: **medium** = romance novels; **text** = romance novel of your choice; **essays** = Tania Modleski, "The Disappearing Act" and Janice Radway, "Reading the Romance"

Example 4: **medium** = videogames; **text** = *Halo*; **essays** = *Siann articles* and John Beynon, "On Masculinity"

Example 5: **medium** = TV; **text** = *Little Mosque on the Prairie*; **essays** = Kim Anderson, "Construction of a Negative Identity" and Tabassum Ruby, "Listening to the Voices of *Hijab*."