Course Description

This seminar will examine the various ways that power, as it is structured and enacted in everyday activities, shapes human reproductive behavior. Drawing on case materials from a variety of cultures, we will study how competing interests within households, communities, states and institutions influence reproductive arrangements in society.

Requirements

1. The seminar's texts are:


The books are on reserve at the Research Library and may be purchased from the Health Sciences Bookstore, 13-126 CHS (tel 5-7721). Additional readings have been compiled into a reading packet available at Westwood Copies, 1001 Gayley, Suite 104., tel. 310/208-3233.

2. Class sessions will consist of a group discussion based on a book, book chapters, or articles. You are required to attend each class having read the assigned readings and being ready to discuss them. Please also come to class with a one to two paragraph abstract of each selection. Although individual abstracts will not be graded, they are to be handed in at the end of each class and will count toward your final grade.

Each abstract should be a succinct statement of the content of the reading, the questions it raised for you, and issues you would like discussed; you may comment critically on the reading if you wish. You may want to include in the abstract your thoughts on how the reading relates to research you've done, other interests you have, or other readings for the course. The length of each abstract will undoubtedly vary according to how engaging you found the selection.
Please also rate each reading on a scale of A - F on two criteria: how much you learned from the selection; how much you enjoyed reading it.

3. You are also required to prepare a research paper of approximately 20 pages. Topics should be drawn from the broad issues that orient the seminar. The paper may be based on field research, bibliographic work, or both. I prefer that the paper to be part of one of your ongoing research interests, if possible. Your paper should be typed, double spaced, and have left and right margins no less than 1”. It should be proofread and corrected prior to submission. Use the style of the *American Anthropologist* or the *Medical Anthropology Quarterly* for footnotes and references.

Please submit a one-paragraph description of your paper topic by **April 19**. Papers are due in class **June 7**. I would be happy to review and comment upon your paper=s first draft. If you have it to me by May 24 I will return it by May 31.

4. Grading

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abstracts and class discussion</th>
<th>40%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term paper</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I will give an Incomplete (I) only under truly exceptional circumstances. Late papers will be downgraded.

My office hours are Wednesdays, 12-2 and by appointment. Because I live far from campus, I am typically there only two or three days each week. I urge you not to hesitate to call me at home (949/494-5756) or email me (browner@ucla.edu) if I may be of assistance. Email tends to be the better way to contact me.
Syllabus

April 5

Introduction: overview of basic concepts and issues. Theoretical perspectives on the politics of reproduction. Discussion of course requirements and instructor’s and students’ expectations.

Recommended

Ginsburg, Faye and Rayna Rapp

Greenhalgh, Susan

Rothman, Barbara Katz

April 12

The Politics of Birth/Control and Stratified Reproduction

Required

Chapters by Anagnost, Fraser, O’Neill and Kaufert, Colen, Mullings, and Ward in Ginsburg and Rapp.

Recommended

Anagnost, Ann

Daniels, Cynthia R.
Ginsburg, Faye D.

Greenhalgh, Susan and Jiali Li

Georges, Eugenia

Hartmann, Betsy

Pillsbury, Barbara

Rylko-Bauer, Barbara and Patricia Antoniello, eds.

Sargent, Carolyn and Michael Harris

Simonelli, Jeanne M.

April 19 Rethinking Demography, Biology, and Social Policy

Required

Chapters by Morsy, Schneider and Schneider, Pearce, Das, Kligman, Stephens in Ginsburg and Rapp
Recommended

Cain, Mead

Bledsoe, Caroline


Greenhalgh, Susan, ed.

Kligman, Gail

Silliman, Jael and Ynestra King, eds.

April 26 Constructing and Interpreting Infertility. Melissa Pashigian, Dept. of Anthropology, UCLA. Guest speaker

Required

Cussins, Charis M.

Feldman-Savelsberg, Pamela
Handwerker, Lisa

Pashigian, Melissa J.

Recommended

Franklin, Sarah

Gerson, Deborah

Inhorn, Marcia


Neff, Deborah L.

Sandelowski, Margarete
May 3  Dead Mothers and Injured Wives: Maternal Mortality and Childbirth Injury in the Developing World. Lewis Wall, Dept. of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Guest speaker

Required

Thaddeus S. and Maine Deborah

Wall, Lewis L.

Arrowsmith S, Hamlin EC, and Wall LL.

May 10  Abortion Politics in the U.S. and their Consequences for U. S. Abortion Providers

Required

Simonds, Wendy

Recommended

Joffe, Carole

Lazarus, Ellen S.
May 17 Maternal Ideologies and Power

Required

Chapters by Collins, Wong, Christian, Kaplan, Rothman in Glenn, et al.

Recommended

Barker, K. K.

Clarke, Adele

Conklin, Beth and Lynn Morgan

Davis-Floyd, Robbie

Franklin, Sarah and Helena Ragon, eds.

Guy, Donna J.

Layne, Linda

Modell, J.

Ram, Kalpana and Margaret Jolly, eds.

Strathern, Marilyn

May 24 The Politics of Mothering

Required

Chapters by Boris, Nelson, Segura, Shaw, Solinger, Lewin in Glenn et al. and Lewin in Ginsburg and Rapp

Recommended

Davis-Floyd, Robbie and Carolyn Sargent, eds.


Edwards, Diana S.

Edwards, Jeanette, Sarah Franklin, et al.

Franklin, Sarah

Petechsky, Rosalind P.

Ragon[], Helena

Solinger, Rickie
Tsing, Anna Lowenhaupt

May 31 The Politics of Non-Motherhood

Required

Morell, Carolyn M.

Recommended

Peck, Ellen and Judith Senderowitz, eds.

May, Elaine Tyler

Reti, Irene, eds.

June 7 Situating Women=s Reproductive Activities. C. H. Browner, lecture and discussion

Required

Browner, C. H.

Browner, C. H. and Sandra T. Perdue

Browner, C. H. and Nancy Press
1995 The Normalization of Prenatal Diagnostic Screening in Ginsburg and Rapp