

Course Description:

This course aims at exploring the materiality of the female body and its foundational explanatory role through the detailed study of intersectional culturalism in young adult novels. It will also be an introduction to the specialised field of fat studies which started emerging during the 1960s and ever since then, it has studied and analysed the ways fat people are oppressed, the reasons why, who benefits from that oppression and how to liberate fat people from oppression. Fat studies conceptualize this paradigmatic resistance to the tangible or visible form of identity tied to the body. The objectification theory and critical fat studies provide a theoretical framework that aids in constructing and guiding students to navigate the complex theoretical maze of Feminist Fat studies.

Syllabus:**Unit I**

Key concepts - “Fat feminist studies”, “Radical feminism”, “Intersectional feminism”, “Liberal feminism”, “Post modern feminism”

Unit II

"Psychoanalysis and Literature: A Practical Guide" : Merav Roth

"Representation and Resistance: The Role of Body Image in Contemporary Young Adult Literature" : Sarah L. Hale:

Unit III

"Unbearable Weight: Feminism, Western Culture, and the Body" : Susan Bordo

"Gender Trouble: Feminism and the Subversion of Identity" : Judith Butler

"Revolting Bodies? The Struggle to Redefine Fat Identity" : Kathleen LeBesco

Unit IV

"The Beauty Myth: How Images of Beauty Are Used Against Women" : Naomi Wolf

"Feminist Theory: From Margin to Center" : Bell hooks

“Introduction.” *The Fat Studies Reader*, edited by Sondra Solovay

References:

Bordo, Susan. *Unbearable Weight: Feminism, Western Culture, and the Body*. University of California Press, 1993.

Butler, Judith. *Gender Trouble: Feminism and the Subversion of Identity*. Routledge, 1990.

hooks, bell. *Feminist Theory: From Margin to Center*. South End Press, 1984.

LeBesco, Kathleen. *Revolting Bodies? The Struggle to Redefine Fat Identity*. University of Massachusetts Press, 2004.

Wolf, Naomi. *The Beauty Myth: How Images of Beauty Are Used Against Women*. Harper Perennial, 1991.

Roth, Merav. *Psychoanalysis and Literature: A Practical Guide*. Routledge, 2005.

Wann, Marilyn. “Introduction.” *The Fat Studies Reader*, edited by Sondra Solovay, NYU Press, 2009

Hale, Sarah L. *Representation and Resistance: The Role of Body Image in Contemporary Young Adult Literature*. Routledge, 2021.

Course outcomes:

CO1: Recall a base in feminist Fat Studies, Politics of Critical Race Theory, Feminist Theory and Cyber culturalism to the students

CO2: Demonstrate Pluralistic principles of the female experiences

CO3: Develop an insight into the links between language, history and culture.

CO4: Analyze the essays which will pour light on the student's understanding of the struggles of creating an alternate identity where femininity becomes an entity

Evaluation Pattern:

Internal

Seminar 1 : 25 marks

Seminar 2: 25 marks

External

Final Project 25 pages : 50 marks

Total 100 marks

Employability

For further research and teaching purposes