

Early Winter 2012 EWU Women's Studies Center Programs

For more information, contact Carol Vines at 509.359.2898

All programs are free and open to the public unless otherwise stated.

Contemporary Issues in Feminist Research: Learning to See the Invisible Other

Wednesday, Jan. 18, 2012, noon-12:50 pm

207 Monroe Hall

Feminist studies and disability studies share many common themes, theoretical approaches, and goals. For example, scholars in both areas are concerned with issues of representation, identity, politics of the body, medicalization of women's lives, activism, and more. In this presentation, **Elizabeth A. Kissling**, PhD, communication studies and women's and gender studies will elaborate on some of these ideas and explain how an integrated feminist disability studies perspective can benefit pedagogy and research in both disciplines.

Rural American Scholarship Fund—Is This Scholarship for You?

Tuesday, Jan. 24, 2012, noon-12:30 pm

207 Monroe Hall

Come and learn more about this unique and generous scholarship. RASF was established for individuals from rural communities who have spent time in the work force, who now realize they need a college education for advancement, and who are pursuing coursework toward an undergraduate degree. In the 2011-12 academic year, 23 EWU students were awarded a generous scholarship from the Rural American Scholarship Foundation. In the past, 40 percent of all applications were rejected because the applicant did not follow directions. To help you ensure that you meet the specific guidelines of RASF, **Deb Blake**, director, college advancement and development, and **Carol Vines**, manager, EWU Women's Studies Center, will review the guidelines and answer questions. This scholarship is unique in that if RASF receives 50 qualified applicants, 50 scholarships will be awarded. Filling out the application correctly is essential and this presentation will guide you.

Contemporary Issues in Feminist Research: Girlhood, Science Fiction and Fantasy: The Undoing of Gender in Early 21st Century Western Culture

Wednesday, Jan. 25, 2012, noon-12:50 pm

207 Monroe Hall

In 1949 Simone De Beauvoir provoked social controversy with the statement, "One is not born a woman, but rather becomes a woman." Following Beauvoir's thinking, is it possible that one is not born a girl—but rather becomes a girl? In this presentation **Jessica Willis**, PhD, women's and gender studies, focuses on intersections between popular cultural narratives characterizing "girlhood" and girls' agentive negotiation of these gendered discourses.

Contemporary Issues in Feminist Research: It's Not How Big You Are; It's How Big You Play!

Thursday, Jan. 26, 2012, noon-12:50 pm

207 Monroe Hall

In several sports athletes attain the label of 'elite' or even 'Olympian' while still in adolescence. Many young girls spend most of their childhood in a male-dominated coaching environment, and these adults play a significant role in her development. **Jeni McNeal**, PhD, exercise science, discusses her personal experiences as an athlete, coach, and scientist, and the barriers, influences, and successes associated with being female in the world of male-dominated elite sport.

What Kind of Job Can I Get With a Women's and Gender Studies Degree?

Monday, Jan. 30, 2012, 11 am-noon

201 Hargreaves—Reading Room

Students considering a women's and gender studies degree oftentimes ask: "What can I do with this degree?" Will this degree differentiate me from individuals majoring in humanities, communications, English, sociology or history? WGS majors are in more places than you would expect—including non-profit and nongovernmental organizations, higher education, politics, human resources, medical and legal fields, businesses and corporations. Join women's and gender studies faculty, **Jessica Willis**, PhD; women's and gender studies graduates, **Jamie Hollis** and **Amanda Benson**; and career services manager, **Krista Benson**; who will talk about opportunities and advantages of a women's and gender studies degree.

The Declining Sex Ratio in India; Where are the "Missing Girls"?

Tuesday, Jan. 31, 2012, noon-12:50 pm

201 Hargreaves—Reading Room

Bina Walker did her McNair summer research project on the sex ratio in India. She will discuss the gender bias, why there are more boys than girls being born and factors that influence this issue. Even though laws prohibit ultra sound for gender determination, it still

occurs and influences the sex ratio. Walker will also discuss current problems women face and factors influencing their conditions in India.

Monroe Hall Open House

Wednesday, Feb. 1, 2012, 2-3:30 pm

Monroe Hall 2nd Floor

Please join us as we celebrate the intersections of Women's and Gender Studies, the Africana Education and Chicano Education Programs.

Marching With Aunt Susan: Susan B. Anthony and the Fight for Women's Suffrage

Tuesday, Feb. 7, 2012, noon-12:50 pm

JFK Library Lobby

Join author **Claire Rudolf Murphy** for a presentation on history of women's suffrage in America, with special focus on women winning the vote in Western states. Claire will read from her new picture book *Marching With Aunt Susan: Susan B. Anthony and the Fight for Women's Suffrage*, featuring a real girl in California in 1896 who just wanted to go hiking with her brothers. She meets Susan B. Anthony and learns that women can't vote either. It will include activities and audience participation to help bring alive the fight for suffrage for readers today, young and old.

Contemporary Issues in Feminist Research: Compassion-Focused Therapy 101: Difficult Emotions, Tricky Brains, and Why We Should Treat Ourselves (and each other) with Compassion

Wednesday, Feb. 8, 2012, noon-12:50 pm

207 Monroe Hall

Life can be difficult, and often it is made more difficult by emotions like anxiety, fear, and anger. If that wasn't bad enough, our self-critical responses to these emotions can make things even worse! In compassion-focused therapy, we understand these experiences as the product of very powerful evolved emotion-regulation systems and brains that can operate in very tricky ways. In this presentation, **Russell Kolts**, PhD, psychology explores a basic model of emotions that will help audience members understand emotional reactions and why emotions can seem so difficult to manage. Kolts will briefly introduce some basic ideas and strategies for working with them. When we consider the human dilemma from the perspective of evolution and the various factors that combine to make us who we are, we may find that having compassion for others and ourselves isn't just beneficial; we may find that it's the only response that makes sense.