Course Number: HM46 – Sexism in the Humanities
Section Number: E1353
Semester: Fall 2004
Time: Tues/Thurs 3:30-4:45pm
Room: M101

Instructor: Bill Pike
Messages: 548-2575 (Humanities Office Eastern Campus)
Email: bpike@wfsd.k12.ny.us

Objectives

- To develop the student’s knowledge and understanding of the biological, historical, philosophical and religious roots of gender bias
- To understand the wide-ranging effects gender bias has had on men and women in our present culture
- To discover and explore personal attitudes toward the opposite sex through reading, writing and discussion
- To demonstrate personal beliefs about gender and gender bias through discussion and writing about literary and cinematic “artifacts” which were chosen specifically for their ability to provoke reactions and encourage personal reflection
- To identify and write about what it is that men and women want and expect from society and from each other

Procedures

- Class lectures and discussions
- Journal writing
- In-class writing (individual and collaborative)
- Text readings
- Mid-term and Final Exam
- Oral Presentation
- Submission of assigned writings on time

Attendance

- 1-2 absences: no penalty
- 3-4 absences: possible grade penalty after consultation with instructor
- 5 or more absences: withdrawn from class after consultation with instructor

Note: Please make sure that you can make the time commitment to this class. Please review the class calendar and your personal schedule. I will occasionally make exceptions to the attendance policy if there is a personal emergency – but don’t count on it. (Vacations are not personal emergencies!)

Grading

- Final grades will be determined by an average of the following:
  1. Mid-Term Exam (double grade)
  2. Final Exam (double grade)
  3. Oral Presentation (double grade)
  4. An average of assigned papers, class work, journals
  5. Class participation

Required Texts

The Handmaid’s Tale, Margaret Atwood – Anchor Books, 1998 (ISBN 038549081X)