Course Description:
This course provides students the opportunity to do supervised community service with a non-profit organization that works on issues concerning women, gender, and/or sexuality. Students select an organization or agency (either from our list, or of your own choosing) and complete an internship throughout the course of the semester. Students also spend time reflecting on their internship experiences, connecting their community service with concepts learned in their women and gender studies classes, and meeting as a group to evaluate and discuss issues such as the gendered politics of volunteer or unpaid labor, activism and the academy, and community service. This class is required for all women and gender studies majors, and it is typically taken in the student’s final year.

Course Goals:
This course has two major goals: to provide a venue for discussing the practical, material and, often, bureaucratic aspects of completing an internship; and to provide an overarching theoretical analysis of the gendered politics of community service work from a local and transnational perspective. We will only scratch the surface of current work on the political economy of volunteer or unpaid labor, and this course does not promise to provide a comprehensive survey. Rather, it seeks to complement both your internship experience as well as your other Women and Gender Studies courses in providing a hands-on experience and analysis of the relationship between activism and academic work in gender studies.

Course Requirements and Grading:

Internship
For three course units, each student will complete 135 hours of non-paid work during the semester. These hours include training at your agency of choice, regular internship hours, time spent completing class assignments (reading and writing), and time needed to attend five class meetings. You should keep a log of your hours and submit a copy each month with your journals. A time-log is attached.

Class attendance and participation
The class will meet as a group five times and attendance is required. If you are unable to rearrange your schedule to attend these meetings you should not enroll in the class. Participation includes contributing significantly to discussion by reading the assigned texts before class and asking or responding to questions in ways that
demonstrate you have grappled with the texts. Participation also includes attending at least one individual meeting with the instructor, and insuring the completion and return of mid-semester and final evaluations from each student’s organization. **30% of grade**

**Response papers**
For each of class session for which there are assigned readings, each student will prepare a 2-3 page response paper that briefly summarizes the key arguments in the readings assigned for that class period. Response papers should also critically reflect on the relevance of readings to students’ internship experiences. **(5% each) 15% of grade**

**Journals**
For three months, students will turn in a collection of their weekly (typed and double-spaced) journal entries. These will be reviewed, graded, and returned. Journals should be written weekly (2-3 pages per week) and address reflections of your internship experience and/or connections you are making between your Women and Gender Studies courses and the workplace. In your journals, you may find it helpful to take the position of an ethnographer engaged in participant observation. Please keep a copy of your journal entries for your own records. Monthly journal packets (10-12 pages) should be turned in with a copy of your time log to my mailbox in HUM 315 on Fri, Feb 26; Mon, Apr 5; Fri May 7. Unless you’ve made special arrangements, I will not accept monthly journals by email. **(10% each) 30% of grade**

**Final paper**
Each student will write a final essay (8-10 typed, double-spaced pages) that addresses in some detail one or more aspects of the gendered politics of community organizations and internships. In other words, please respond to the prompt: How are community organizations and internships gendered? In this paper, each student should critically reflect on her/his experiences and observations using at least three assigned readings for WGS 698. In this paper, it may be helpful to reflect on how theories discussed in this and other Women and Gender Studies courses are applied (or not) at the workplace. Due Fri, May 14. **25% of grade**

**Portfolio**
A portfolio of your work is due Fri, May 14. The portfolio should include (in the following order):

- final essay
- journals with comments
- printed information concerning your agency/organization

**A Few Notes on Grading**
- It is not ok to submit work for this class that has been submitted to another class for academic credit.
- Assignments due in class are due at the beginning of class on the day indicated. Late papers are not accepted without prior consent of the instructor.
- You must complete all assignments listed above in order to pass WGS 698. Failure to complete any one assignment will result in a course grade of F.
**Academic Honesty**
Academic honesty is required, and dishonesty will be penalized. Plagiarism occurs when a student misrepresents the work of another as his or her own. Plagiarism may consist of using the ideas, sentences, paragraphs, or the whole text of another without appropriate acknowledgement, but it also includes employing or allowing another person to write or substantially alter work that a student then submits as his or her own. Any assignment found to be plagiarized will be given an “F” grade. All instances of plagiarism in the College of Humanities will be reported to the Dean of the College, and may be reported to the University Judicial Affairs Officer for further action.

**Accessibility**
I want to make this course as accessible as possible to students with disabilities or medical conditions that may affect any aspect of course assignments or participation. You are invited to communicate with me at the outset of the course or at your discretion about any accommodations that will improve your experience of or access to the course. You can also contact the Disability Resource Center at 415-338-2472 (Voice/TDD).

**Course Readings**
Course readings are available on electronic reserve:  
Password: internship

**Fri, February 5, 10-12 in HUM 316**
At this meeting we will go over general class requirements, guidelines for writing and turning in journals, contracts, the final research paper and portfolio.

**Readings:**
Cynthia Enloe, “Introduction: Being Curious about Our Lack of Feminist Curiosity” and “The Surprised Feminist”

**Fri, February 26, 3-5:00 in HUM 316**
At this meeting we will discuss the concept of “community” in relation to each of your organizations. Each student will make a brief presentation on her/his organization and bring in written materials and information about the agency that can be collectively analyzed in the classroom. Each student should be able to speak briefly about each of the following elements of her/his organization: its specified goals; its target population; its history and origins; its understanding of issues relating to women, gender, and sexuality (however defined); and its understanding of community (in terms of both its target population and its understanding of its work-place “community”).

**Readings:**
George Yúdice, “Community”
Miranda Joseph, “Not for Profit? Voluntary Associations and the Willing Subject”
Bernice Johnson Reagon, “Coalitional Politics: Turning the Century”
Fri, March 19, 10-12 in HUM 316

At this meeting we will discuss each of your organizations in relation to volunteerism and funding. Each student should be able to briefly explain how her/his organization is funded (today and in the past) and the relationship between paid and unpaid staff.

Readings:
- Karen Bojar, “Volunteerism and Women’s Lives: A Lens for Exploring Conflicts in Contemporary Feminist Thought, Historical Importance and Socioeconomic Value of Women’s Contributions as Volunteers”
- Ricke Mananzala and Dean Spade, “The Nonprofit Industrial Complex and Trans Resistance”
- Alisa Bierria, “Pursuing a Radical Antiviolence Agenda Inside/Outside a Non-Profit Structure”

Fri, April 16, 3-5 pm in HUM 316

At this meeting we will discuss and locate each of your organizations in relation to globalization and transnational flows of labor, capital, and ideas. Each student should be able to briefly speak about how her/his organization is located within these global networks and to suggest a transnational analysis of their internships.

Readings:
- Honor Ford-Smith, “Ring Ding in a Tight Corner: Sistren, Collective Democracy, and the Organization of Cultural Production”

Fri, May 14, 10-12 in HUM 316

This is the last class and the final day to turn in portfolios. Each student will briefly report and reflect on their experiences at their organization and in class.
WGS 698

Full Citations for Articles on Electronic Reserve:


Joseph, Miranda, “Not for Profit? Voluntary Associations and the Willing Subject,” in Against the Romance of Community (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2002), 69-118


Yúdice, George, “Community,” in New Keywords: A Revised Vocabulary of Culture and Society, eds. Tony Bennett, Lawrence Grossberg, and Meaghan Morris (Maiden, MA: Blackwell Press, 2005), 51-54
WGS 698
Spring 2010

Review of deadlines and responsibilities:

Feb 5 (Fri): First class.

Feb 5 (Fri): Internship Contract due by 4pm. The contract must be signed by your agency supervisor. Please turn this in to my mailbox. Keep a copy for your own records.

Feb 26 (Fri): Second class. Response paper due in class.

Feb 26 (Fri): First journal packet and time log due in my mailbox by 4pm.

Mar 8-18: Schedule individual meeting with instructor (sign up for office hrs)

Mar 19 (Fri): Midterm evaluation due. The mid-term evaluation must be filled out and signed by your supervisor mailed to me by Friday March 19. Please remember this date and remind your supervisor about the deadline.

Mar 19 (Fri): Third class. Response paper due in class.

Apr 5 (Mon): Second journal packet and time log due in my mailbox by 4pm.

Apr 16 (Fri): Fourth class. Response paper due in class.

May 7 (Fri): Third journal packet and time log due in my mailbox by 4 pm.

May 7 (Fri): Final evaluation due. The final evaluation from your agency must be mailed to me by your supervisor by Friday May 7. Please remind your agency supervisor about this important deadline. If this document is not mailed to me by this date, you will not receive a passing grade.

May 14 (Fri): Final class and portfolios due.