

ENG 878

Seminar in Feminist Critical Theory: **Feminist Media Studies**

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### **Course Description**

This graduate-level seminar examines the field of feminist media studies and will interrogate the labels of “feminist” and “media” as well as exploring the approaches and methods of such work. Across the course, we will study the intellectual roots of feminist media studies within the “second wave” feminist movement and the fields of film studies, literary studies, and cultural studies; and we will attend to the field’s evolving concerns in relation to intersectional identities and media change. As such, questions of the intersections of race, class, and sexuality with gender will be central foci. Readings and topics will focus largely on the US/western context and combine attention to the field’s intellectual history with its contemporary concerns. We will define media broadly, although most of our coursework will focus on film, television, and digital media cultures. Students will write original research papers and are welcome to select topics that fit with their broader research interests.

### **Course Objectives**

By the end of this course, you will:

- 1) understand the intellectual history of feminist media studies;
- 2) comprehend the theories and methods of feminist media studies;
- 3) develop your knowledge about a number of media and cultural forms;
- 4) improve your research, writing, and analysis skills through class discussions and course assignments; and
- 5) deepen your understandings of gender and of media as cultural forces and as objects of scholarly inquiry