

Preliminary Web Course Description

*Please note: This is a preliminary web course description only. The department reserves the right to change without notice any information in this description. The final, binding course outline will be distributed in the first class of the semester.

School of English and Theatre Studies

Course Code: ENGL 4420	Course Title: Women's Writings	Date of Offering: WINTER 2017
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Course Instructor: Christine Bold	
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Brief Course Synopsis: Women's Narratives of the U.S. West
The U.S. West is one of the world's most masculinized cultural and symbolic geographies. As represented in writing and film, it has served a national mythology—dubbed “regeneration through violence” by Richard Slotkin—whose consequences still reverberate today. This course asks: what did women writers and film-makers make of this landscape, actual and symbolic, and what might their work tell us about larger questions of gender, region, nation, history, and genre? We will discuss a diversity of women's western voices—Indigenous, Black, Latina, Chinese, and Euro American—as we read them in fiction, non-fiction, and film.

Course Format: seminar	Methods of Evaluation and Weights: Essays (c.5,000 words): 60% Oral and poster presentations: 30% Seminar participation: 10%
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Texts and/or Resources Required (e.g. Internet access, specific textbook title, lab kit, etc.)
The Ballad of Little Joe, dir. Maggie Greenwald (1993)
Sarah Winnemucca (Northern Paiute), *Life among the Piutes: Their Wrongs and Claims* (1883)
Pauline Hopkins, *Winona: A Tale of Negro Life in the South and Southwest* (1902)
B. M. Bower, *Chip of the Flying U* (1906)
Mary Austin, “The Walking Woman” (1907)
Mourning Dove (Humishuma) (Okanogan), *Cogewea, The Half Blood* (1927)
Maxine Hong Kingston, *The Woman Warrior: Memoirs of a Girlhood Among Ghosts* (1976)
Gloria Anzaldúa, *Borderlands/La Frontera: The New Mestiza* (1987)
Annie Proulx, *Close Range: Wyoming Stories* (1999)
Brokeback Mountain, dir. Ang Lee (2005)
Judy Blunt, *Breaking Clean* (2002)
Critical writings by Patricia Limerick, Krista Comer, Victoria Lamont, and others.

Other information that you wish share about the course (optional):
This is a double-weighted course (for one credit), and the workload reflects that weighting.

List the distribution requirements that this course fulfills: 20th/21st century

