GENDER AND WORK IN RURAL AMERICA Community and Environmental Sociology / Sociology / Gender and Women's Studies 215 FALL 2011

PROFESSOR LEANN TIGGES

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SOCIOLOGY

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OFFICE HOURS: Monday 9:30am-10:30am and by appointment

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Office hours: Tuesday 12:30pm-2:30pm and by appointment

LECTURE: 4:35p - 5:25p Tuesday, Thursday ~ 1106 Mechanical Engineering Bldg.

DIS 301 5:50p THURSDAY ~ VAN HISE 355 DIS 302 6:55p THURSDAY ~ VAN HISE 387 DIS 303 9:55a FRIDAY ~ VAN HISE 374 DIS 304 11:00a FRIDAY ~ VAN HISE 375

SUBJECT MATTER AND OBJECTIVES:

This course focuses on gender and work within the spatial context known as "rural America." Mining, forestry, and farming traditionally have been considered rural work, but increasingly other types of economic activity are found in nonmetropolitan places because of the availability of certain resources. Some industries are drawn to rural areas by plentiful water or land; environmental concerns that make metropolitan locations problematic have pushed some industries to rural areas. Some employers have been drawn to rural places by yet another economic resource: rural labor. Sometimes, the hard-working rural labor force attracts industries. In other cases, employers are simply looking to lower their production costs by hiring "cheap labor."

We will study the sociological concepts and theories necessary to understand work, industry, and gender as they operate outside of US cities. In the course of our study and readings, we will look at the character of work, its forms and consequences in a variety of settings and for a variety of peoples. The gender implications of traditional and new forms of work in rural settings and industries will be at the center of these examinations. Issues of class, race, and citizenship are also important in rural divisions of labor and this course is sensitive to these dimensions.

As a result of this course, students should develop an understanding of how both gender and space matter in the organization and outcomes of work. You should develop a sociological view of the problem, an understanding of sociological research and analysis, and an ability to apply sociological concepts and theories to "the real world."

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Available for purchase from local bookstores

Irene Padavic and Barbara Reskin. 2002. Women and Men at Work- Second Edition. (Pine Forge Press)

Deborah Fink. 1998. Cutting into the Meatpacking Line: Workers and Change in the Rural Midwest. (UNC Press)

Daniel Rothenberg. 2000. With These Hands: The Hidden World of Migrant Farmworkers Today. (University of California Press)

Sonia Nazario. 2007. Enrique's Journey - do not purchase; you will receive a free copy from the UW Library with a coupon I will distribute

Additional assigned readings will be available on the web and through LearnUW.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS and GRADING:

We will read the books listed above in their entirety. The schedule for reading is provided in the course outline of this syllabus. From time to time I will assign additional reading of materials that are available on the web. Some but not all of these occasions are noted in the schedule below. Although I do not lecture on the books, per se, I try to make linkages to the assigned reading. Thus, it should be helpful for you to have the assigned reading done before you come to lecture. You will be expected to have all the reading done for the week by time your discussion section meets. Discussion sections provide the opportunity to analyze and discuss the assigned reading, to apply the theories, and to amplify the concepts and theories. You will be well prepared for the exams if you take the reading seriously, start early, keep up, and outline as you go.

There will be three exams composed of multiple-choice and essay-type questions covering assigned reading, films, lecture and discussion section activities. The essay questions will be integrative in nature and will emphasize application of theories and analysis of the books. I anticipate that the exams will be given on the dates indicated in the syllabus but reserve the right to change to a later date with advance notice in class and by e-mail. The last exam will be given on the last day of classes - Dec. 15. Please plan accordingly.

Students with Disabilities: Please contact me early in the semester if you have a documented requirement for accommodation to obtain equal access to this class or any of its requirements. If you have any questions about this I hope you will also feel free to contact me. I am quite willing to work with students to find the best way to achieve this accommodation.

<u>Grading:</u>	Grade cut-off, percent of total points	
Lecture and Readings:		
3 Exams 25% each	Α	93-100
	AB	89-92.99
Section activities and assignments 25%	В	83-88.99
see section syllabus for details	BC	79-82.99
	С	70-78.99
	D	60-69.99
	F	<60

Make-up exams will be allowed only in cases of properly documented personal/family emergency or illness. The format of make-ups may vary from the original at my discretion.

Cheating (including plagiarism) is not tolerated. Students who are caught cheating will automatically receive an F (zero points) for the relevant assignment/exam. In addition, the incident will be reported in writing to the Dean of your school or college as well as the Dean of Students so that they may decide whether further disciplinary action is needed. A clear definition of plagiarism and information about disciplinary sanctions for academic misconduct can be found at the Dean of Students website (http://students.wisc.edu/saja/misconduct/UWS14.html). It is your responsibility as a UW student to be knowledgeable of these rules; lack of familiarity with the rules will not excuse misconduct. Plagiarism detection software will be used in this course.

Religious observances and other anticipated absences: Please let me and Ms. Ipsen know at the beginning of the semester about any dates you will be absent from class for religious or other reasons.

You and You-tube. I like to use a few minutes right before lecture for an audio/visual portrayal of a topic related to lecture. If you have an idea for appropriate song that you would like to contribute to my playlist, send me the Youtube link. Periodically, I will play segments from a dvd of a Broadway musical adaptation of Studs Terkel's book Working, which portrays workers' views of their jobs. I apologize in advance to those with an aversion to musicals.

Email - We will email announcements to the classlist and use email for updates. However, you are responsible for knowing what is announced in lecture and discussion sections.

Learn@UW will be used for this class. Check it for content, announcements, supporting documents, grades, and use it to upload assignments.

Common courtesies are expected. Please remember that the classroom is a place for learning. That means that your CELL PHONE IS TURNED OFF while class is in session and that you do not engage in behaviors that place barriers to your and others' learning. Examples that spring to mind include sleeping, chatting, eating, and other distracting actions.

No laptops or other internet devices including ipads (tablets) or smartphones. While computers are a valuable tool for research and study, they are inimical to participation and collegiality in the classroom, creating a "cone of distraction." The use of laptops for note taking or other purposes in class, therefore, will not be permitted.

Night-time safety. The University has established several transportation and walking escort services to help you stay safe while getting around campus and the nearby areas after dark. To help take responsibility for your own safety and that of your friends, make use of services such as UWMadison SAFEwalk and SAFEride programs: http://www2.fpm.wisc.edu/trans/safeservices.asp

SCHEDULE of ASSIGNED READINGS and EXAMS:

- Part 1. Sex segregation and sex inequality at work

 (Lectures sociological theories of gender and work, importance of place and space)
- 9/6 Welcome and overview
- 9/8 Padavic and Reskin, Women and Men at Work, Chapter 1 "Work and Gender" and Chapter 2 "Gendered work in time and place"
- 9/13 Padavic and Reskin, Chapter 3 "An Overview of Sex Inequality at Work"
- 9/15 Padavic and Reskin, Chapter 4 "Sex Segregation in the Workplace"
- 9/20 Readings to be announced (TBA)
- 9/22 Readings TBA
- 9/27 Padavic and Reskin, Chapter 5 "Moving Up and Taking Charge"
- 9/29 Padavic and Reskin, Chapter 6 "Sex Differences in Earnings"
- 10/4 Padavic and Reskin, Chapter 7 "Paid Work and Family Work"
- 10/6 begin reading Enrique's Journey if you have not already done so

10/11 Exam 1

- Part 2. Class relations and global workers: Farmworkers and farmers (Lectures: theories of social class and social status)
- 10/13 Film; continue reading Enrique's Journey
- 10/18 Rothenberg, With These Hands, Foreword, Preface, Chapters1-2 (farmworkers)
- 10/20 Rothenberg, Chapters 3-4 (growers and contractors)
- 10/25 Rothenberg, Chapters 5-6 (the border; debt-peonage)
- 10/27 ***NOTE Special reading assignment:

Rothenberg, Chapters 10-11 (migrant children, Mexican rancheros)

***NOTE: Special scheduling in effect. I will not be lecturing during the class period. Section 302 will meet during lecture time and in 1106 ME instead of at 6:55 in Van Hise. All other sections will meet at their usual time in their usual classrooms.

All students are required to attend

An Evening with Sonia Nazario

Go Big Read Public Author Presentation

Date Thursday, Oct. 27

Time 7:00 PM

Location Varsity Hall, Union South

If you cannot make it to campus at that time, you will be able to access the author's lecture on-line through the Go Big Read website.

- 11/1 Rothenberg, Chapters 7-8 (US communities; political/legal issues)
- 11/3 Rothenberg, Chapter 9 and epilogue (farmworker unions)

- 11/8 Exam 2 (Includes all material since 10/11)
- Part 3. New workers and employment relations: gender, race, ethnicity, class and community (Lectures: Relations between bosses and workers, relations among workers)
- 11/10 Film
- 11/15 Fink, Cutting into the Meatpacking Line, Introduction, Chapter 1
- 11/17 Fink, Chapter 2 the history and context "Perry and meatpacking"
- 11/22 Fink, Chapter 3 "Working Through Gender"
- 11/24 Thanksgiving break; No lectures or discussion sections
- 11/29 Fink, Chapter 4 "Race/Ethnicity and Rural Iowa Workers"
- 12/1 Fink, Chapter 5 & Epilogue "The Workings of Class"
- 12/6 Additional reading TBA
- 12/8 Additional reading TBA
- 12/13 Review
- 12/15 Exam 3 (Includes all material since 11/8)