

Volume 13, Issue 2

Spring 2010



UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE AT CHATTANOOGA

Women's Studies Newsletter

Edited By: Emily Hurst

## Spring 2010 Women's Studies Lecture Series

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| Feb 1<br>Shela Van Ness<br>Signal Mountain Room  | <b>Women in Correctional Facilities: A Sociologist's Perspective</b>                              |
| Feb 8<br>Vicki Steinberg<br>Ocoee Room           | <b>Cocteau and Queer Theory</b>   |
| Feb 15<br>Ralph Covino<br>Signal Mountain Room   | <b>Criminality and the Liberated Women of the Late Roman Republic</b>                             |
| Feb 22<br>Lorraine Evans<br>Ocoee Room           | <b>Technology, Community, and Sex-Work: An Analysis of Internet Postings By British Escorts</b>   |
| Mar 1<br>Sara Jorgensen<br>Signal Mountain Room  | <b>American Women Missionaries and Social Reform in 19th Century Southern Africa</b>              |
| Mar 22<br>Lisa Cothran<br>Ocoee Room             | <b>The F Word and the B Word: Feminists, Feminist Orientations And the Use of Sexual Epithets</b> |
| Mar 31<br>Michelle White<br>Signal Mountain Room | <b>Catherine Who? The Often Overlooked Queen Consort Of King Charles II</b>                       |

**All lectures will take place in the University Center at 5:30 p.m. Lectures are free and open to the public.**

## Women's Studies Mentoring Program

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In January 2010, the Women's Studies program inaugurated the new mentoring program to help high-ability, under-achieving students at UTC. Started by Drs. Lisa Cothran and Marcia Noe, the program pairs four first-year students with four Women's Studies majors or minors who are taking full advantage of their time at UTC by excelling in their studies. By pairing these students, the hope is that the hard-working students can model scholarship to the other students and help them find resources on UTC's campus as well as in the Chattanooga community.

Along with this, the first-year students will be

helped in finding a balance between academic and social activities, finding ways to be more engaged in the classroom, and they will be given an opportunity to work together on a research project that they will present at the end of the semester. The projects will not be graded; however they will be presented at local and possibly national conferences.

Women's Studies majors Anne Brettell, Megan Coleman, Blake Harris, and Chassey Foster were selected in the fall of 2009 through a competitive application process, and mentees were picked at the end of the fall 2009 semester.

### Women's Studies Major: Anne Brettell

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Anne Brettell is a senior at UTC. After graduating in May with a degree in both English: Writing and Women's Studies, Anne plans to continue her education by studying to receive her Master of Fine Arts in Poetry.

For Anne, Women's Studies was a natural fit. After seeing the catalog of classes in the Women's Studies brochure, Anne realized that she was interested in every single class listed and would want to take them all! At first, since she al-



ready had a major, Anne chose Women's Studies to be her minor at UTC. However, she wanted to take more Women's Studies classes, so she quickly changed Women's Studies to her second major.

In Women's Studies, Anne enjoys classes that involve a lot of theory, so her favorite classes have been Queer Theory and Feminist Theory, though she has to admit every Women's

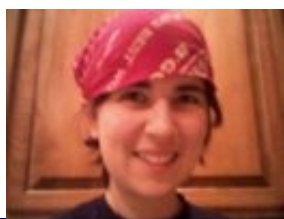
Studies class has been fun and enlightening.

### Women's Studies Major: Megan Coleman

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In May, Women's Studies Major Megan Coleman will graduate from UTC. After focusing her time here on Women's Studies (not choosing to double-major), Coleman feels that continuing with her passion for the subject is the only choice for her.

After taking Dr. Palmer's Introduction to Women's Studies class, Coleman knew that Women's Studies was her true calling, because it was the first class in which she felt truly "liberated and allowed to speak my mind." For Coleman, discussing issues such as race and class relations in our culture is a privilege that the Women's Studies program offers. It is "a free space for expres-



sion of different ideologies." After taking more Women's Studies courses, Coleman changed her major to Women's Studies. She felt that Women's Studies offered a rare situation in which discussion was encouraged and students weren't placed in a large classroom where they could no longer be individuals.

After graduating from UTC, Coleman plans to become a professor and help others to experience Women's Studies in a positive way, just as she did. After becoming a professor dealing with women's issues, Coleman plans to write essays and articles dealing with women's studies and women's issues. Megan is currently participating in a feminist art project at the Hunter Museum as part of her Senior Seminar.

## Dr. Sligh Offers Victorian Women Writers Class

Not only does Dr. Charles Sligh know Victorian literature, but he also knows how to raise chickens at the farmhouse that he lives in with his wife and two sons. The versatile professor came to UTC after getting his undergraduate degree from Belmont University in Nashville and his PhD from the University of Virginia. After finishing his education, Dr. Sligh spent three years as a visiting professor at Wake Forest before coming to UTC a year and a half ago.



Photo Credit: Isaac Sligh

Before UTC, Dr. Sligh had never been directly involved in a Women's Studies program, so he was excited to get the opportunity to teach a class based entirely on Victorian Women Writers. However, this has not been Dr. Sligh's only experience teaching writing from the Victorian period. In fact, he has led classes in Victorian and Edwardian Children's Literature, Haunted Victorians, Victorian Fantasy and Adventure, and Victorian Novels. Dr.

Sligh, though, feels that there is a connection between Women's Studies and Victorian literature, saying, "If there is a period of time that tells us about when women's lives began to change and they began to get attention, it would be the nineteenth century." To Dr. Sligh it seemed obvious to start a class combining the two areas, as they come together quite naturally. The class, which will be offered during Summer I 2010, on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 5:30 p.m., concentrates

on women's lives and books written by women in the nineteenth century. Dr. Sligh will include a variety of authors, including possibly all three of the Bronte sisters. The most important aspect of the class, though, is the students. Reading and discussion will be intensive, as they always are in Dr. Sligh's classes. He expects students to be interested and observant and always curious.

## Dr. Bonnie Morris Presents Her One-Woman Show

On March 4, 2010 at 3 p.m. in Holt 124 on the UTC Campus, Dr. Bonnie J. Morris of George Washington University will be presenting her one-woman show "Revenge of the Women's Studies Professor." The program is free and open to the public, and there is a reception to follow the show.

Dr. Morris, who graduated from American University with a BA and received her PhD from the State University of New York, Binghamton, now teaches Women's Studies at George Washington University. She has written five books, over forty articles and now performs her show "Revenge of the Women's Studies Professor" around the world.

The show offers new perspectives on gender and attempts to look at negative stereotypes that keep people from becoming Women's Studies majors. While the subjects of her presentation are very serious, Dr. Morris takes an "oldskool" ap-

proach as one blogger reviewed the show. Therefore, while the show takes on hard-hitting issues, it is fun and entertaining. One blogger even described Dr. Morris as "having more energy than a sugar-fed fifth grader."

Dr. Morris's presentation is the main event in the UTC Women's program for Women's History Month. Her show, according to Dr. Ralph Covino of the Women's Studies program, is aimed at "exploring the issues surrounding Women's Studies... and, most importantly, empowering them [students] in their endeavors."

Dr. Morris will also be leading a discussion on Friday, March 5, at 11:00 am.

Visitors are invited to purchase lunch from the Palate Café in the Hunter Museum and join Dr. Morris in a discussion of her research at an event titled "The Female Gaze: A Conversation with Bonnie Morris."



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## Fall 2010 Class Schedule

<b>*WSTU 2000</b>	<b>Introduction to Women's Studies</b>	<b>Jones</b>	<b>W 2:00-4:30 p.m.</b>
<b>*WSTU 2950</b>	<b>Violence Against Women</b>	<b>Peters</b>	<b>W 5:30-8:00 p.m.</b>
<b>WSTU 3070</b>	<b>Gender and Society</b>	<b>Evans</b>	<b>MWF 11:00-11:50 a.m.</b>
<b>WSTU 3240</b>	<b>Race, Gender, and the Media</b>	<b>McGhee-Hilt</b>	<b>MW 2:00-3:15 p.m.</b>
<b>**WSTU 3360</b>	<b>Women in Politics</b>	<b>Bellar</b>	<b>W 5:30-8:00 p.m.</b>
<b>WSTU 4250</b>	<b>Gender, Crime, and Criminal Justice</b>	<b>Knox</b>	<b>MWF 10:00-10:50 p.m.</b>
<b>WSTU 4510</b>	<b>Psychology of Women</b>	<b>Cothran</b>	<b>TTH 3:05-4:20 p.m.</b>
<b>WSTU 4550R</b>	<b>American Masculinities</b>	<b>Jaynes</b>	<b>M 5:30-8:00 p.m.</b>
<b>WSTU 4550R</b>	<b>Global Feminism</b>	<b>Van Ness</b>	<b>T 5:30-8:00 p.m.</b>
<b>WSTU 4550R</b>	<b>The Femme Fatale in Literature and Culture</b>	<b>Mauk</b>	<b>W 5:30-8:00 p.m.</b>

\*This course partially fulfills general education requirements for the Behavioral and Social Science Category.

\*\* This is a hybrid course, with an online component and a classroom component.