Do you ever find yourself engaging your friends in theoretical conversations involving sexuality as it pertains to popular culture? Do discussions about gender roles make you warm and tingly in your soul?ing? Do you love queer theory, or studying the ways in which other cultures conceive of gender and sexuality? Is your heart palpitating already from having read those first three sentences?? If so, The Women’s and Ethnic Studies Department has just the new thing for you. We are excited to announce that beginning Spring 2014 we now offer a certificate in Gender and Sexuality Studies! The 12-credit certificate will offer students an opportunity to hone their research interests in the burgeoning fields of gender and sexuality. As we move away from medicalized and biologically deterministic understandings of gender and sexuality, dynamic, intersectional and social constructionist approaches become increasingly necessary and important. The certificate program allows students who are interested to contribute to this growing body of research by equipping them with the intellectual and methodological tools to play a leadership role in gender and sexuality research, policy, and practice at a broad range of public and private organizations.

Here are the logistics: In true WEST fashion, the Gender and Sexuality certificate is interdisciplinary, including a range of courses from Sociology, Women’s and Ethnic Studies, Anthropology, Philosophy and others, with more to be added as they become available. All courses take an intersectional approach to gender and sexuality that considers how they interact with race, class, age, disability and other salient social categorizations to shape peoples’ experiences. Students wishing to earn the certificate will complete four courses from the list of those offered (on the WEST website), and earn at least a C in each course. Nine of the 12 required credits must be from upper-division courses. Interested students are encouraged to contact the certificate Coordinator, Kimberly Holcomb, at kholcomb@uccs.edu or 719-255-4117.

New Certificate in Gender and Sexuality Studies
**Military Creative Expressions** (WEST 2900-001) is a collaborative partnership initiated by Dr. Andrea Herrera (Women’s & Ethnic Studies Program, UCCS) with Tara Thomas (Bemis School of Art at the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center) and Kim Nguyen (AspenPointe Behavioral Health Services, Colorado Springs). Developed as a 3-credit course, **Military Creative Expressions** is an interdisciplinary initiative that will be piloted for the first time during the spring 2014 semester. The course specifically aims to serve veterans and active duty military personnel suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and/or Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI). It is designed to introduce military students to a range of techniques that help inspire artistic and creative writing skills in order to gain greater self-awareness in an environment of mutual trust and respect. **Military Creative Expressions** will assist participants in increasing their personal management of life stressors through artistic and written self-expression. Creativity is often overlooked as a tool that promotes healing and trauma resolution, and self-expression ignites self-motivated behavioral changes while simultaneously helping veterans and active military to gain the skills necessary for coping with stress and loss. Through therapeutic processes, this course aims to promote emotional clarity and healing by providing participants with an outlet for expressing grief and traumatic experience in a safe and structured environment. The course is designed to serve our veterans and assist them in transitioning to the college environment.

Students will learn a wide range of writing and art techniques, which help inspire creation and gain a greater self-awareness, and assist students in exploring possibilities, developing their creativity, and gaining personal insight through working with different mediums.

- Students will demonstrate comprehension of new art techniques, as evidenced by utilizing artistic prompts to complete one creative exercise during studio time per session.
- Students will utilize creative exercises to help (him/her) increase self-awareness, such as completing a painting a week outside of class and then sharing with the class what insights (he/she) gained from the process.
- Students will learn how to increase (his/her) management of life stressors, as evidenced by utilizing creative exercises at least once a week outside of class to aid in stress reduction.

The first part of the course will focus on book-art, creative writing, digital storytelling and photography (see descriptions below); the second part of the semester will integrate poetry and testimonial/memoir writing with a variety of mediums including acrylic, watercolor, pen and ink, and pastel.

From January 21-4 March students will be involved in a series of related activities. They will create their own writing and art journals under the guidance of Marcia Sterling; then begin articulating their personal narratives through a variety of writing exercises developed by the social psychologist and trauma theorist James W. Pennebaker and facilitated by creative writer Andrea Herrera. Academic Technologist Katherine Andrus will then introduce students to photography and digital storytelling. Cellphones, cameras, tablets and/or laptops will be used to create visual and oral narratives.

During the remaining portion of the course students will be guided through a variety of writing and art exercises can be utilized in self-expression and healing under the tutelage of creative writers Andrea Herrera and Janice Gould, and art therapist Kim Nguyen.

For more information please contact Dr. Andrea Herrera, aherrera@uccs.edu
Bragging Rights

**WEST Faculty**


Abby Ferber was invited to serve as a founding member of the academic advisory board for the Southern Poverty Law Center’s Intelligence Project, the leading national organization tracking far right extremism.


Woodall, Carole was in Istanbul, Turkey during the Gezi Park protests which took place in the early part of the summer of 2013. She contributed the following eyewitness piece: "The View from Istiklal" in Jadaliyya, 8 June 2013 http://www.jadaliyya.com/pages/contributors/138648 (The photos submitted for her piece along with additional photos submitted for use by the Jadaliyya editors have consequently been used in ten other articles.).

Woodall, Carole has joined the advisory board of a new magazine published in Turkish on jazz, Caz ve Blues Dergi.

**Affiliated Faculty**


The annual White Privilege Conference will be in Madison, WI March 26-29.

This will be the final year that the WPC is institutionally housed within the Matrix Center. Building on the conference’s tremendous growth and success over the past fifteen years (we now attract 2000 people each year), we have decided to form a new non-profit to operate independently from the University. UCCS faculty, staff and students will continue to be instrumentally involved in organizing the conference, and will serve on the new Board of Directors. The WPC is grateful to UCCS for the many years of support and nurturing, and is thrilled to be embarking upon this next stage of growth and independence! Look for the production of educational resources and films, a speakers’ bureau, and more in the future.

This year our conference theme is “Building Relationships. Strengthening Communities. Seeking Justice.” Keynote presenters are Jacqueline Battalora, Professor of Sociology and Criminal Justice at Saint Xavier University; Daniel Beaty, Award-Winning Actor, Singer and Writer; Rosa Clemente, Community organizer, independent journalist, and hip-hop activist; Joe Feagin, Professor of Sociology at Texas A&M; John Powell, Professor of Law and African American Studies and Ethnic Studies at the University of California, Berkeley School of Law; and Howard Stevenson, Professor of Education and Africana Studies at the University of Pennsylvania. Of course, many familiar names will be returning again as presenters this year, including: Peggy McIntosh and Shakti Butler.

Students participating in the conference have the opportunity to register for academic credit; check out Intersections of Privilege, offered by both WEST and Sociology (contact aferber@uccs.edu with questions).

Our annual Knapsack Institute: Transforming Teaching and Learning is scheduled for June 12-14. This three day intensive institute provides an intimate setting for examining methods for creating inclusive learning environments. Participants from around the nation include graduate students, teachers, faculty, non-profit staff, trainer/facilitators and others, from a diverse range of occupations, interested in advancing their skills in dealing with diversity and inclusion from an intersectional perspective. Please help us spread the word and we encourage new faculty to join us.

The Matrix Center publishes the world’s only journal devoted to research on privilege: Understanding and Dismantling Privilege. This online, open access, interdisciplinary journal focuses on the intersectional aspects of privilege, bridging academia and practice, highlighting activism, and offering a forum for creative introspection on issues of inequity, power and privilege. Students are encouraged to submit work to our youth voices section!!

Finally, be on the look-out for various speakers and events on campus sponsored by the Matrix Center this spring. Details about all of our programming can be found on the Matrix and WPC websites.

www.ucs.edu/matrix www.whiteprivilegeconference.com
It is now easier than ever to add WEST as a second major! With a reduced course load of 30 credits, WEST can now complement your work in any other discipline. Check out our major requirements on our website. And look soon for a formal sociology/WEST dual major degree program...Questions? Contact Dr. Abby Ferber aferber@uccs.edu

WEST Scholarships Open to All Undergrad Students

Rosa Parks and Cesar Chavez Scholarship Information

All entries must be submitted by 5:00pm on Thursday, February 13, 2014 to Jane Muller in the WEST office (Columbine Hall 1025F).

Ceremony will be held in the UC Theatre, #304, Thursday, March 20, 2014, 5:00 to 7:30PM

Entry forms are available outside the WEST office (Columbine Hall 1025) or on the WEST website http://www.uccs.edu/~west If you have any questions, please contact Jane Muller: 719.255.4553 / jmuller@uccs.edu

We’re on the web!
http://www.uccs.edu/west
http://www.uccs.edu/matrix

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WEST Certificate in Native American Studies

Students interested in investigating Native American and Indigenous ways of knowing may wish to look into taking classes with Professor Janice Gould, whose tribal ancestry is Koyoonk’auwi (Concow), a California tribe. Professor Gould has developed several classes that help students explore Native American histories and cultures. Included in WEST course listings is a new course, Foundations in Native American Studies (WEST 2950), which provides an overview of this area of Ethnic Studies, looking at the creation of Native American Studies through particular emphases: history, politics, literature, and art. Other courses Dr. Gould has created for the Certificate include Native American Literature (WEST 3550) and Native American and Indigenous Views on Sustainability (WEST 4120) both of which are offered this spring semester. Dr. Gould also teaches courses on Native American Perspectives on Museums (WEST 4100) and Native American Philosophical Thought (WEST 4280). All of these courses survey non-Western epistemologies (ways of knowing) and ontologies (ways of being) that are central to the continuance and cultural survival of Native and Indigenous Peoples. Students in Anthropology, Art History, and Gallery Management may be particularly interested in these courses, but these are courses are open to all students, no matter what discipline they are in. The certificate can be completed, as well, through some courses in Anthropology. For details about the Certificate in Native American Studies, please contact Dr. Gould at igould@uccs.edu, or stop by her office in the WEST Suite, Columbine 1025 E.

WEST offers 5 certificates open to all undergraduate students. Please visit our website for details.

www.uccs.edu/~west
Gacela of Winter

Had I been stronger, we might have gone together, you huddled against me in the cab of my old pick-up. I would drive under the leafless orchards, negotiating the two-lane roads with one hand clutching yours, past cattail ditches, the moody tangle of blackberries.

If it were morning, you’d be shivering in a thin weather, twisting the heater’s knob, our breaths condensing against the windows as thick air parts in front of us.

We might be laughing or talking, or gazing through the season’s freezing gauze, watching a blue heron rise out of the swamp, looking forward to foothills where we would emerge as if out of a discomfiting dream into the clarity of a January day.

Winter fog in the valley settles into pockets of chilly air in the marsh, the reedy places where Arctic Snow Geese wait through the damp months, and feral cats prowl in the black soil of memory.

Had I known how to love or weep or tell the truth, we might have chosen one another, and each night I would have married you, the most beautiful woman I had known-if anger had not blanketed shame and shame not been like fog: dense, cold, untouchable.
**Cuba & Other Considerations: The Art of Carlos Manuel Cárdenes and Esteban Blanco**

Exhibit Dates | Feb. 7 - March 22, 2014  
GOCA1420

The UCCS Galleries of Contemporary Art announce a new exhibit opening in the downtown GOCA121 gallery space: *Cuba & Other Considerations: The Art of Carlos Manuel Cárdenes and Esteban Blanco*. The gallery will host a public reception on Friday, February 7, from 5 to 9 p.m. including public artist lectures at 5 pm in the gallery. The exhibit will be on display through March 22, 2014.

Cuban-born artists Carlos Manuel Cárdenes and Esteban Blanco are Miami and Colorado-based expatriates whose works in photography, bronze and mixed-media sculpture mine the depths of their diasporic experience. Cárdenes’ “FACES” series of photographs of Cuban artists survey this dynamic group and are as a whole incredibly moving. Blanco will exhibit works from two series - bronze works inspired by Italo Calvino’s work of fiction *The Invisible Cities* that wrestle with our wish to idealize our home cities after we have long departed, as well as work from his mixed-media sculpture series “Violent Toys.” The exhibit, lectures and artist residencies are generously sponsored by the CU President’s Fund for the Humanities and the UCCS Chancellor’s Office. A catalog will be published by GOCA to accompany the exhibit.

**Carlos Manuel Cárdenes - Artist Biography**

Carlos Manuel Cárdenes was born in Havana, Cuba and has lived in Miami, Florida since 1961. Cárdenes has been engaged in art photography alongside his 35-year commercial photography career. Early exposure to the film and television industry formed the underpinnings of Cárdenes’ personal style; at once direct and immediate and informed by a sense of the dramatic in lighting and choice of subject. “I credit the influence of my uncle, a TV and cinema director, with priming my curiosity for the beauty in the novel and grand, as well as in the commonplace and even the vulgar… taking pictures may be an art, but seeing is everything.” He provides a compelling case for capturing the essence of the subjects he photographs, always patiently waiting for that decisive moment when the core of his theme drifts up into view.

Cárdenes graduated from the Miami Photography College and also holds an art degree from Miami-Dade College. He attended the Rochester Institute of Technology in New York and the Brooks Institute at Santa Barbara, California. He is a member of ASMP (American Society of Media Photographers.)

Recent exhibits include *Cuba Transnational*, Sandre De Cristo Arts & Conference Center, Pueblo, CO; Freedom Tower, Miami, FL; Rodez Gallery, Coconut Grove, FL; Colby Gallery, Chicago, IL; ARTSoBay at the Deering Estate, Miami, FL; Zulema Rodriguez Galerías, Mexico City and Acapulco, Mexico; and Razor, New York, NY.

**Esteban Blanco - Artist Biography**

Born in Pinar del Rio, Cuba; exiled to the U.S. in 1961 and after living in New York and Mexico City, currently resides in Miami, Florida. Blanco studied art at the Brooklyn Museum School and the School of Visual Arts in New York City. In 1979 had his first one-man show at the Razor Gallery in Soho in New York, and his hyperrealist paintings from the period are in the collection of the E.F Hutton Co. and Pan American Airways among others. He has also exhibited in Mexico City, Steamboat Springs, Denver Colorado and Miami. His work is in the permanent collection of the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center.
PROLOGUE LECTURE:
Mistress Djuna will be at the UCCS Theatre and Dance Program and THEATREWORKS to talk about the play Venus in Fur, an award winning new show about a dominatrix and her unsuspecting "client." Djuna is a compelling and entertaining speaker and expertly contextualizes the world of the sex industry. She will discuss the complex themes in the play and talk about her career as a dominatrix.
March 23th at 2:30pm on the Dusty Loo Bon Vivant Stage in University Hall

VENUS IN FUR is FREE for students
SHOW DATES & TIMES | March 20 - April 6, 2014
Wednesdays - Saturdays at 7:30 p.m.
Saturday matinees (March 22, 29 and April 5) at 2:00 p.m
Sundays at 4:00 p.m.

UCCS STUDENT PRODUCTION: Woyzeck
by Georg Buchner
directed by Kevin Landis
SHOW DATES & TIMES. March 6 - 16, 2014
Thursdays - Saturdays at 7:30 p.m.
Saturday matinees at 2:00 p.m
Sundays at 4:00 p.m.

Woyzeck is a complex reverie on marriage, jealousy and class struggle. A poor young soldier living with his mistress and unblessed child spirals downward into jealousy, apocalyptic visions and murder in a series of astonishing and haunting scenes — a classic of German theatre.

For more information please visit our website:   THEATREWORKS

Additional Campus Events and News

Safe Zone Spring Semester Information and Schedule
Safe Zone training is designed to educate students, faculty, staff and community members about the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community. Safe Zone is an allies training on terminology, the coming out process, gender identity and how to be a supportive ally of the LGBT community. If you would like to request a classroom presentation please contact me at:  vdelgado@uccs.edu

Spring 2014 Schedule
Thursday, January 30th @ 6pm, University Center 122
Monday, February 17th @ 6pm, University Center 124
Tuesday, March 4th @ 6pm, University Center 122
Wednesday, April 2nd @ 6pm, University Center 122
Thursday, May 1st @ 6pm, University Center 122
Visiting Speaker to Focus on Sustainability

Heather Hackman received her doctorate in Social Justice Education from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst in 2000 and taught for 12 years in the Department of Human Relations and Multicultural Education at St. Cloud State University. In 2005 she founded Hackman Consulting Group and now consults full-time on issues of deep diversity, equity and social justice with an emphasis on issues of racism and whiteness, gender oppression, heterosexism / homophobia, classism and their relationship to our understanding and response to global climate change. She received the Professor of the Year Award four times while at St Cloud State.

Faculty Workshop

Dr. Hackman will be facilitating a faculty workshop, Education for a Sustainable Future: Addressing Climate Change, Social Justice and Sustainability Across the Entire University Curricula, Wednesday, February 12, 2014, University Center, Room #124, 4:45—7:20pm. Please RSVP to 255-3089 by February 7, 2014. This workshop is designed to help UCCS faculty integrate sustainability into the curriculum to address the GE goal. ALL FACULTY WELCOME! Refreshments will be provided.

Public Lecture

“Climate—Change—Mind—Set: Developing and Utilizing a Social Justice Framework in Response to Climate Change”, Thursday, February 13th, 2014, Library APSE, 4:30—6:30pm. This session offers participants a critical social justice framework for the use in their climate change work regardless of their academic major or professional area. The session begins with a conversation about our “tap roots” or personal anchors for climate justice work, moves to a discussion of the basics of climate science, proceeds to an analysis of the “mindset” that brought us to this climate moment, and concludes with a presentation of the social justice (race, class, gender justice) framework necessary for the development of sustainable climate solutions now and in the future.

These events are co-sponsored by Women’s and Ethnic Studies (WEST) and The Matrix Center for Social Equity and Inclusion.