Welcome!

In spite of our current political moment, I would like to send love to all SWG students, faculty, and alumnae, as we keep fighting for a more just society.

This newsletter brings you a lot of what's going on in and out of the SWG classroom, including the amazing work that many members of our community are conducting.

I welcome you to read the next pages and cheer our program, as we keep fighting for an oppression-free and borderless future.

In community,

Marcela Rodrigues '20J
Quigley Research Fellow '18-19
Study of Women and Gender Liaison
What is going on in SWG classrooms?
First-year perspectives

"The Introduction to the Study of Women and Gender course has allowed me to explore topics that I have never been exposed to before. From indigenous feminism to reproductive justice - this class is a space where a rich discourse has been maintained as we engage with difficult topics and theory. This course has given me a space where I can reflect upon the ideas that have shaped feminism and intersectionality and I am very grateful for that."
Kesi Jackson '22

"Learning about the intersections in queer, women, and poc histories and movements is important and I knew it was something I wanted to explore in an academic setting. Overall, SWG has been an informative and eye opening course, at the same time some of the content has been challenging to work with. A lot of what we've read and discussed is related to the importance of understanding feminism through an intersectional lens, which I'm excited to apply to courses I take in the future and any work I find myself doing outside of my Smith career."
Rosario Bonilla Monroy '22
I chose to study SWG primarily because of how expansive it is, as a field -- it's a multiplicity of ways of looking at the world, a project of exploration that will never be done.

Claire Haug '20
How is your semester going?
My semester is going well! Most of the classes I'm taking are SWG focused, and it's been fascinating to see the ways in which the topics I'm studying and the readings I'm doing connect throughout the different disciplines. I'm also in the process of resuming a project I started with my friend last spring, on documenting the lives of LGBT+ identified Asian/Asian American students at Smith through a series of oral histories (if you're interested in being a participant, please send me an email! chaug@smith.edu). And I've been writing some things for the NYT's The Edit newsletter -- in the latest one, a few of us discuss what being 18 meant to us, in conjunction with the NYT's #thisis18 project (you can read it here https://www.nytimes.com/2018/10/16/smarter-living/the-edit-becoming-an-adult.html).

What does SWG mean to you in one word?
Exploration. I chose to study SWG primarily because of how expansive it is, as a field -- it's a multiplicity of ways of looking at the world, a project of exploration that will never be done. It's overwhelming, and that's why I love it.

Advice for intended SWG majors?
Take cross listed classes! Some of the best SWG classes I've taken have been cross lists from English or History or other departments. For me, what makes SWG so engaging is its interdisciplinary, so take advantage of that!
Denisse Velázquez '19 is a Quigley Research Fellow at Meridians. They are particularly excited to be planning collaborative projects with the Mwangi Cultural Center at Smith College. These would include installing a Meridians library in the Cultural Center open to all Smith students and organizing a release event for the publication of 17.2 which is dedicated to the center's namesake, Dr. Ng'endo Mwangi '61. Interning at Meridians has not only been influential in shaping their career path but it has been transformative as a personal experience. It has influenced the way they engage with academia, because it is through the work of Meridians that they have been able to witness firsthand the (re)centering of womxn of color's scholarship and narratives. They are thankful for the Quigley Research Fellowship and honored to be a part of the Meridians team!
# SWG Director Carrie N. Baker has published her new book, *Fighting the US Youth Sex Trade: Gender, Race and Politics* (Cambridge University Press, 2018). In addition, she has published an article on youth sex trafficking in *Gender and Politics*.

# SWG Advisory Committee Member Darcy Buerkle published the article "The Nun's Story: True in Its Essentials" in *Gender & History* (October 2018).

# Marcela Rodrigues ’20J has published two blogs about the Brazilian elections on the *Ms. Magazine* Blog.

Check out our new website www.smith.edu/swg for links and more news!
PHOTO GALLERY

SWG students Priya Swyden and Dani Kimbro with Ms. blog editor Carmen Rios and SWG director Carrie Baker at the National Women's Studies Association annual conference in Atlanta! Priya presented an AMAZING paper about Anita Hill.

SWG Faculty Yearbook Photo!
Elisabeth Armstrong, Ginetta Candelario, Jennifer DeClue, Darcy Buerkle, Elizabeth Pryor, Jina B. Kim, and Carrie Baker.
SWG 100: Issues in Queer Studies
This course introduces students to issues raised by and in the emerging interdisciplinary field of queer studies.
Kelly Anderson

SWG 150 Introduction to the Study of Women and Gender
An introduction to the interdisciplinary field of the study of women and gender through a critical examination of feminist histories, issues and practices.
Elisabeth Armstrong
Jina Kim

SWG 238 International Feminist Political Economy and Activism
Flickers of global finance capital across computer screens cannot compare to the travel preparations of women migrating from rural homes to work at computer chip factories. Yet both movements, of capital and people, constitute vital facets of globalization in our current era. This course centers on the political linkages and economic theories that address the politics of women, gender relations and capitalism.
Elisabeth Armstrong

SWG 270 Colloquium: Oral History and Lesbian Subjects
Grounding our work in the current scholarship in lesbian history, this course explores lesbian, queer and bisexual communities, cultures and activism. While becoming familiar with the existing narratives about lesbian/queer lives, students are introduced to the method of oral history as a key documentation strategy in the production of lesbian history. Students conduct, transcribe, edit and interpret their own interviews for their final project. The oral histories from this course are archived with the Documenting Lesbian Lives collection in the SSC.
Kelly Anderson
SWG 271: Colloquium: Reproductive Justice
This course is an interdisciplinary exploration of reproductive health, rights and justice in the United States, examining history, activism, law, policy, and public discourses related to reproduction. A central framework for analysis is how gender, race, ethnicity, class, sexuality, disability and nationality intersect to shape people’s experiences of reproductive oppression and their resistance strategies.
Carrie Baker

SWG 290 Gender, Sexuality and Popular Culture
In this course we will consider the manner in which norms of gender and sexuality are reflected, reinforced, and challenged in popular culture. We use theories of knowledge production, representation, and meaning-making to support our analysis of the relationship between discourse and power; our engagement with these theoretical texts helps us track this dynamic as it emerges in popular culture. Key queer theoretical concepts provide a framework for examining how the production of gender and sexuality impacts cultural production.
Jennifer DeClue

SWG 314: Seminar: Documenting Queer Lives
This course examines visual and literary documentations of queer life by reading memoirs and screening short and feature length documentaries films. We consider the power and value of documenting queer lives while examining the politics of visibility as impacted by race, class and gender. We will attend to the expansiveness of the term “queer” and consider the performativity of gender and the fluidity of sexuality in our analysis of each text. Students will produce a short film, write a short biography or propose another mode of documenting experiences of queer life as members of, or in solidarity with, the LGBT community.
Jennifer DeClue
WE HOPE YOU HAVE A GREAT REST OF THE SEMESTER!

And we are excited to see you back in the Spring!

CONTACT US

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