Topics in European Women’s History: 
Gender and Politics in the Era of the French Revolution

This colloquium will explore the changing relationships between gender & politics in Europe, with a focus on France, from the mid-18th century to the early 19th century. Topics include: representations of gender and the body as related to political questions; the role of print culture as a source of changing gender norms; theories & practices related to gender roles (in works by male & female authors); the politics of women's work; women in Revolutionary movements; & finally, an on-going inquiry into justifications used by emerging Republics to incorporate or exclude women and/or men from the new body politic.

Readings: These readings are available for purchase at the university bookstore and are also on reserve at Geisel Library. Some of the readings are articles that can be accessed through the library’s JSTOR data base or in the original journal. There will also be a short course reader, available through University Readers:
Directions for ordering the course reader (which costs $19.88) reader are as follow:

Step 1: Log on to www.universityreaders.com.
Step 2: Click on the white "STUDENTS BUY HERE" button located in the "Student Store" section (upper right-hand corner of the page).
Step 3: Create an account or log in if you have an existing account to purchase.
Step 4: Easy-to-follow instructions will guide you through the rest of the ordering process. Payment can be made by all major credit cards or with an electronic check.

Orders are typically processed within 24 hours and the shipping time will depend on the selected shipping method and day it is shipped (orders are not shipped on Sundays or holidays). If you experience any difficulties, please email orders@universityreaders.com or call 800.200.3908.

Other readings (articles listed in schedule of readings below):
Landes, Joan. Women and the Public Sphere in the Age of the French Revolution
Marso, Lori Jo. (Un) Manly Citizens: Jean-Jacques Rousseau’s and Germaine de Staël’s Subversive Women
Trouille, Mary Seidman. Sexual Politics in the Enlightenment: Women Writers Read Rousseau
Godineau, Dominique. The Women of Paris and their French Revolution
Hunt, Lynn. The Family Romance of the French Revolution
Landes, Joan. Visualizing the Nation: Gender, Representation, & Revolution in 18th Century France

Recommended for those with little background in gender studies or on the French Revolution:
--Smith, Bonnie G. Changing Lives: Women in European History Since 1700
--Popkin, Jeremy. A Short History of the French Revolution
Assignments:
The Essay.

The main assignment will be a 10-15 page essay (using some of the course books and/or research of your own, done in consultation with me). This will be worth 50% of the grade. I will provide a more extensive bibliography by week two. I am happy to provide further information for those working on topics requiring other sources.

Due dates:
I will pass out a separate sheet indicating deadlines for the various stages of your essay—e.g., thesis paragraph, outline, rough draft, final draft. I wish to have the rough drafts by Thursday of week 9, in order to return them to you with comment by Thursday of week 10. I will expect the final draft by

Formal Presentations:
Undergraduates will be asked to do one formal oral presentation based on either assigned or optional reading and write up a short account (1-2 double spaced pages) of their oral presentation that I may hand out to the rest of the class (in the week following the oral presentation).

Graduates students will be asked to do two formal oral presentations and write them up in 2 double spaced pages (to be passed out in the following week).

The oral presentations should be no more than 15-20 minutes in length, provide a clear (but brief) summary of the author(s) main claims, and provide claims of one’s own regarding the viability of the work(s) in question. Finally, each presenter should provide 3-4 discussion questions to engage more general class discussion. At times these questions will be discussed after each presentation (e.g., for very specialized readings); at other points we will wait until all the presentations have been made before beginning our general class discussion.

General Participation:
Active oral participation and knowledge of the assigned readings is required. This work (including your written précis) will comprise the other 50% of your grade.

Weekly Readings:
Week I. April 2: Introduction and Discussion
This week will be a discussion of goal of colloquium, discussion of students’ particular interests, readings and assignments. Then, we will proceed to discuss the key issues raised in the selections of the Landes book on Women and the Public Sphere in the Age of the French Revolution. In the Landes book, read the introduction & conclusion, chs. 1-3, pp. 93-94, 106-151, and 158-168.

Week II. April 9: Some Responses to Landes; Thoughts on Rousseau
■ Goodman, Dena, “Public Sphere and Public Life: Toward a Synthesis of Current Historiographical Approaches to the Old Regime,” In History and Theory: Studies in the Philosophy of History, Vo. 31, No. 1, 1992, pp. 1-20. NOTE: This article can be accessed on JSTOR—to do this from home, you need to have your browser configured with a proxy server; you can find instructions on the UCSD library web page. [ALL STUDENTS SHOULD READ AS MUCH OF THIS ARTICLE AS POSSIBLE]

OR

Week III. April 16: Rousseau’ Views on the Theatre and Responses
♦Course Reader, Selection #1, parts A-C

Week IV. April 23. Servants and Actresses in the Old Regime to the Revolution
♦Course Reader, Selections 2 & 3 (Maza and Berlanstein)
[Begin reading Godineau assignment]

Week V. April 30. The Start of the Revolution.
Godineau, Dominique. The Women of Paris and their French Revolution, Preface, Sections 1, 2, 4 (ch.13)

Week VI. May 6. New Ways of Thinking about the Revolution
Hunt, Lynn, The Family Romance of the French Revolution (entire). Two students will be asked to do presentations on chs. 3 and/or 4.

Week VII. May 14. Visualizing the Revolution
Landes, Joan, Visualizing the Nation (entire) This work is recommended for a student particularly interested the role of images in helping to create Revolutionary culture.

Week VIII. May 21. Reason and Revolution: Male and Female.
Trouille. Sexual Politics, ch. 4

Week IX. May 28. The Rights and Wrongs of Revolution.
Trouille, Sexual Politics. Further responses to Rousseau, ch. 6
➢ Rough drafts of essays due.

Trouille, Sexual Politics, ch. 5, Stael & Wollstonecraft—new visions of womanhood
Marso, (Un) Manly Women, 4-6
Godineau, The Women of Paris, Part 4, ch. 16 and Conclusion
Landes, Women and the Public Sphere, ch. 6, Gendered Bodies
General Discussion and return of rough drafts of the essays.
➢ Final essay due Thursday 11 June.

A handout will be provided about issues related to UCSD’s policy of Academic Integrity