1. Course information
   College: College of Liberal Arts
   Department: Sociology
   Course Title: Approaches to Women’s Studies
   Course Designation/No: WMS 200
   GE Area(s): III Human Behavior: Sociology
               VI College Component
   Writing Intensive: Yes
   For WI Courses: All sections
   Method(s) of Instruction: Lecture
                            Discussion
   Includes Lab: No
   Prerequisites: None

2. Objectives
   GE Program Objectives:
   …learn about the aesthetic, ethical, moral, social, and cultural dimensions
   of human experience needed for participation in the human community.

   GE Area III Objective:
   a. use multiple approaches/perspectives to systematically analyze complex
      individual and institutional behavior culturally, sub culturally, and/or
      cross-culturally.

   GE Area VI Objective:
   a. communicate with individuals who are in the student’s major, in allied
      fields, and non-specialists.

   Course Objectives and GE Learning Outcomes:
   Women’s Studies will introduce students to feminist thought, advocacy,
   and activism to acquaint students with the diversity of the subject area. It
   will emphasize gender as a social construction, which varies over time and
   across cultures, race, class ethnicity, nationality, and sexuality.
**Learning Outcomes Addressed:**

- Gain a portrait of women’s integration into our social system.
- Build and enlarge a blended picture of our social world.
- Develop strong writing skills to relay ideas and insights from the past into the present and future.

**Area III**

- b. recognize appropriate ethical uses of social scientific knowledge.

**Area VI**

- b. understand important relationships and interdependencies between the student’s major and other academic disciplines, world events or life endeavors.

**For WI Courses:**

- To improve students’ writing proficiency—their ability to develop and transmit information for an appropriate audience in an organized, coherent fashion while writing with appropriate style and correct grammar, usage, punctuation, and spelling.

- To encourage students to use writing as a learning tool to explore and structure ideas, to articulate thoughts and questions, and to discover what they know and do not know, thereby empowering students to use writing as a tool of discovery, self-discipline, and thought.

- To demonstrate for students the ways in which writing is integral to all disciplines, essential to the learning and conveying of knowledge in all fields.

Students will be required to complete three writing assignments and a final descriptive project. Writing assignments will be evaluated for content, form, style, and overall writing proficiency, and grades will be calculated as a percentage of the course grade. Students must receive the letter grade of “C” to pass the writing section. The words “No Entry” on Final Grade Reports indicate you have not passed this portion of the class.

- Using class readings, suggested readings and library resources, develop a continuum of women’s social locations within the U.S., making sure to label each important aspect of their social integration within society. This may be accomplished by examining social, institutional, and political issues for women in the U.S., using social change and social movements in sociological perspectives.
3. **Suggested Course Materials**
   Text: *Women in 1900: Gateway to the Political Economy of the 20th Century*, by Christine E. Bose.

4. **Suggested Methods of Evaluation**
   Students will be required to complete three in-class essay exams answering each of the questions listed on the first page of the syllabus (sequentially) in relation to first, second, and third wave feminism in conjunction with class assigned reading.

5. **Grading Policy**
   All GE courses are graded A-F.
   WI component is graded Pass/Unsatisfactory. (Include only for WI courses.)

6. **Suggested Weekly Course Outline Including Typical Assignments**

   **Week 1**  
   *First Wave Feminist Thought: Lay the Foundation*

   **Week 2**  
   *Class Reading: Bose Chapter 1 Introduction: “Understanding the Past to Interpret the Present”*

   **Week 3**  
   *The Second Wave of Feminism Emerges*

   **Week 4**  
   Bose – Chapter 2

   **Week 5**  
   *With and Against Marx*  
   Bose – Chapter 3  
   *Short Essay Exam I*

   **Week 6**  
   *Gynocentrism*

   **Week 7**  
   *Patricia Hill Collins – “Defining Black Feminist Thought”*  
   Bose – Chapters 4, 5, 6

   **Week 8**  
   *Theorizing Difference and Deconstructing Identity*  
   *Short Essay Exam II*

   **Week 9**  
   *The Question of Essentialism*

   **Week 10**  
   *Uma Narayan – Contesting Cultures “Westernization, Respect for Cultures and Third World Feminists”*  
   Women and Social Integrations Papers Due  
   *Short Essay Exam III*
7. **Other**
   Syllabus distributed to students should employ the format approved by UCAP and must include:
   - Instructor name, office hours, and contact information
   - Office of Disability Services information
   - Information on how grades will be determined
   - Attendance policy