Course Overview

In this course, we examine trends, controversies, laws, policies and politics relating both to women’s control over their fertility and to reproductive health in the United States. The areas covered include abortion, contraception, sterilization, sex education, sexually-transmitted disease (STD) prevention, assisted reproductive technologies (ART), the birthing process, and infant-feeding. In doing so, we learn about different feminist theoretical lenses and how to apply them in considering these issues.

Note:
- **Political Science.** This course counts as a specialized course in the American/Policy subfield.
- **Women’s and Gender Studies.** This course counts toward the “Politics, Justice and Policy” concentration in the Women’s and Gender Studies Major.
- **Social Science Distribution.** The course may also count (if you are not using the course for either of the requirements above) toward the CAS Social Science Distribution requirement.
- **University Studies.** This course fulfills the Cluster 4B University Studies Requirement

Course-Specific Learning Outcomes

1. Identify and describe relevant issues, laws, policies, and court cases
2. Identify and describe the relationship between relevant United States Supreme Court decisions and state and local laws and practices
3. Learn and apply feminist perspectives on reproductive rights and health
4. Analyze how patriarchal constructions of gender, racial, ethnic and class biases; and medical knowledge and practice have shaped approaches to fertility and reproduction
5. Locate and interpret data on access to and affordability and quality of reproductive services and healthcare
6. Advance and support arguments about the desired nature and extent of government involvement in the areas of fertility and reproductive health care
7. Conduct research effectively
University Studies Learning Outcomes

This course fulfills the University Studies Requirement — Cluster 4B – The Social World: Humanity and Society: The Nature of US Society. As such, in addition to course specific learning outcomes, upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Analyze social, economic, political, or cultural contexts and the ways they interact in the United States.
2. Analyze the ways in which race and other identities shape social conditions, economic standing, political power, or cultural norms and experiences in the United States.
3. Locate, analyze, summarize, paraphrase and synthesize material from a variety of sources.
4. Evaluate arguments made in support of different perspectives on US society.

Course Readings

- *A large number of required additional readings, links and videos will be posted on the course site.*