

Siena WGSS NEWSLETTER

March 11th, 2019

What's New with WGSS on Campus

Recently WGSS along with Political Science & International Relations co-hosted Dr. Lilly Goren as a guest speaker. Dr. Goren is a professor at Carroll University who has recently focused on the topic of superhero/heroine narratives and their reflections of a real world dystopia.

Her discussion brought up many important topics on how we as viewers perceive these superheroes as individuals who will save the day because they have some special power. Dr. Goren also mentioned how politics and popular culture are often married. The two go together because politics can be seen and taught in a narrative form.

Dr. Goren mentioned our political world is often viewed as insecure from the Cold War, when these superhero narratives started to become popular, to the present “endless war.”

In the films the superhero is presented with a situation where they must save the day and always persevere and maintain the status quo. The plain ordinary citizens are always silent or in the background throughout the narratives

because they need to be saved from the cruel villain.

The dystopians presented when the villain is trying to take over are used as examples of what could happen to the world if we do not change our actions. Such as in ‘Aquaman’ with the villain Orm wanting to wage war on the land dwellers for the ocean with trash. This is seen as a valuable argument since his world is being destroyed and no one has listened.

Dr. Goren has been studying this topic for about 4 years. The parallels Dr. Goren has seen include the issue of climate change and the demographic trends of nations.



By Kala Lomnicki '19 WGSS Intern

As a WGSS intern I help coordinate events, interview different guest speakers for the program and help in management. Something new I have been taught is how to manage different tasks with a deadline. I was also taught more interpersonal skills on how to better myself as a career driven student. I became a WGSS and Multicultural Studies minor because I wanted to learn more about different groups within the world and how we interact as humans within these different groups.



T-shirt: Gift from a great dad!

In other news, WGSS will have very interesting courses offered in the Fall Semester.

Search “all courses” and add “WGSS/WSTU” from the attribute box to find in the online schedule.

Relationship Violence taught by Dacey Bonney

Deviant Behavior taught by Beverly Thompson

Gender, Power, and Society: TBA

Popular Cultures taught by Beverly Thompson

The Family taught by Beverly Thompson

Psychology of Gender taught by Stefanie Simon

Intern. In Public Service Studies taught by Leonard Cutler

Gods and Goddesses taught by Michael Sham

Sexuality in Literature: TBA



Siena Students attend a conference at Skidmore College (Feb. 2019) and present their own research: Olivia Fleming, Khizra Awan, Rachel Clark, Emily Radigan, Lizzy Vinal



Pictured is Siena senior Emily Radigan presenting her work.

At Academic Showcase catch some WGSS minors presenting their hard work. Emily Radigan will be presenting Assessing the WGSS Program at Siena: Survey Results. Nicole Alex will speak on Social Perceptions of the #MeToo Movement: Examining how social beliefs and gender beliefs predict people’s support. Kala

Lomnicki plans on Bringing out the stories of WGSS Minors: Reflections from the Intern. Gloria Rosario will discuss Learning from Women's Work in India, Mexico, and Guatemala. Conor Graham will present The Value of Solar Lamps; a case study in Guatemala. Lastly Tiany Ocasio will present Gender Research in psychology.

The WGSS/MULT Social and Business Meeting (as minors you are all voting members) will be on Reading Day from 4-5. Seniors will be recognized at this time.

As always, email or stop by the office of Dr. Laurie Naranch, director of WGSS minor, for questions, concerns, suggestions, or a coffee.