

WGST 231: Gender and Popular Culture

Maymester 2024, Virtual Format

1:15 – 2:45 pm, synchronous class meeting

3:00 - 4:30 pm, small group and asynchronous

FC-AESTH

In this course, students examine feminist analyses of popular culture. Course materials and discussions explore how gender, sexual, and racialized identities are constructed and consumed across various popular media (books, films, TV shows, advertisements, comics, web games, etc.). During Maymester, we will become critical consumers of popular culture. In other words, we will explore the “work” that popular culture performs by asking how popular culture shapes our values, identities, politics, and the way we see the world. To do this, we will analyze how representations of femininity and masculinity, race and disability, the state, and economics among other topics are intertwined. Additionally, we will discuss the consumption of popular culture to understand how audiences read, watch, and listen to popular culture texts and find meaning in them.

Units:

- Postfeminism and Postracism
- Advertising
- Media
- Young Adult Fiction
- Music

