HST 308 is the first part of a two-quarter sequence on the history of women in the United States of America. We will study the diverse experiences and social roles of women from settlement in the 17th century to the era of Reconstruction after the Civil War. The following topics and themes will be discussed as we build on our chronological framework: Native American women; regional variation in the formation of colonial society; the "proper place" of white women; women and reform movements, religion, and sexuality; African-American women; the development of slavery; women as pioneers; women and work. The course will emphasize the diversity and change among the various social classes and races that comprise U.S. women’s history, and as such it satisfies the University's multicultural requirement.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS
Requirements include a midterm exam on February 6 (30%), a paper due February 25 (40%) and a final exam on March 18 (30%). You may earn extra credit by completing weekly summaries of the reading assignments. These weekly summaries (approximately one page in length) should be submitted via Blackboard by Wednesday, 9:00 p.m. of each week. They will not be graded, per se, but you will receive extra credit points as well as immeasurable educational benefits from keeping up with the reading. If you do these successfully each week, you can raise your grade by ½ of a grade (at the most) at the end of the quarter. It really helps! [I don’t give A+ and so if you already have an A, you’ll still have an A, even with the extra credit points. Think of it this way: doing the extra credits probably accounts for the fact that you have an A in the first place.]

REQUIRED TEXTS: BOOKS ARE AT UO BOOKSTORE
Helen Lefkowitz Horowitz, *Attitudes Toward Sex in Antebellum America: A Brief History with Documents* 2006
Octavia Butler, *Kindred* (Beacon, 1988)
Articles on Blackboard

RULES AND REGULATIONS
You are expected to come to class on time and stay until the end. ☺ If you must leave early, please let me know before class that you’re going to do this, and sit near the door, so that you can leave unobtrusively. Please respect your classmates; this means you should be actively listening to the lectures and discussions, as opposed to reading the paper, writing notes to your friends, doing your email, or playing jetman on Facebook. No computers are allowed in class unless you have a documented disability and need a computer to take notes.
Plagiarism: All work completed for this class must be your own. If you cheat (hand in your friend's work or copy directly from somewhere, etc.) you will (at the very least) fail the class and your name will be registered with the University. For guidelines and University rules on this very serious matter, see http://libweb.uoregon.edu/guides/plagiarism/students/

Week 1 – January 7-9
Monday: Colonization, Christianity, and Gender
Wednesday: Slave Trade and the Nature of Early Slavery
**Read For Wednesday:** Sabine Lang introduction to *Men as Women, Women as Men: Changing Gender in Native American Cultures* [http://www.utexas.edu/utpress/excerpts/exlanmen.html#ex1](http://www.utexas.edu/utpress/excerpts/exlanmen.html#ex1)

Week 2 – January 14-16
Monday: Chesapeake v. New England
Wednesday: Women, Law, and the Salem Witchcraft Trials
**Read for Wednesday:** Sharon Block, *Rape and Sexual Power in Early America*, 16-52
Helen Horowitz, *Attitudes toward Sex in Antebellum America*, 35-42
Nichole Cooley, *The Afflicted Girls* poems on Blackboard

Week 3 – January 21-23
Monday: no class (Martin Luther King Jr. Day)
Wednesday: A Colonial Abortion Drama
**Read for Wednesday and print this out to bring to class:**
[http://www.mssu.edu/socsci/cebula/voices/abortion.htm](http://www.mssu.edu/socsci/cebula/voices/abortion.htm)

Week 4 – January 28-30
Monday: Women and the Birthing Room: 18th-Century Changes
Wednesday: Women and the American Revolution
**Read for Wednesday:** Sharon Block, *Rape and Sexual Power in Early America*, 53-125

Week 5 – February 4-6

**Wednesday: Midterm Exam (February 6)**

Week 6 – February 11-13
Monday: Utopian Alternatives
Wednesday: Sexuality and Abortion in the 19th Century
Horowitz, *Attitudes toward Sex in Antebellum America*, 1-31
Week 7 – February 18-20
Monday: Moral Reform and Native American Women
Wednesday: Abolitionism and Sojourner Truth
Read for Wednesday: Theda Perdue, “Race and Culture: Writing the Ethnohistory of the Early South,” *Ethnohistory* 51:4 (Fall 2004), 701-723 (Blackboard)
Start Octavia Butler, *Kindred*

Week 8 – February 25-27  (**Paper due Monday, February 25**)  
Monday: 19th-Century Feminism: Seneca Falls
Wednesday: Slavery and Resistance
Read for Wednesday: Block, *Rape and Sexual Power in Early America*, 163-209
continue Octavia Butler, *Kindred*

Week 9 – March 3-5
Monday: Discussion of Kindred (finish the book by today, in addition to the narratives below)
Read for Monday: Slave Narrative excerpts in Woloch, *Early American Women*, 2nd ed. 223-229 (Blackboard)
Wednesday: The Life and Times of Sara Baartman by Maseko, Zola. 1998  **VIDEOTAPE 04853**  

Week 10 – March 10-12
Monday: Moving West: Gender and Domestic Violence
Read for Monday:
Hendrik Hartog, “Lawyering, Husbands' Rights, and "the Unwritten Law" in Nineteenth-Century America,” *Journal of American History* 84:1 (June 1997), 67-96 (Blackboard)
Wednesday: Civil War: Female Patriotism and Gender Roles

**Final exam: Tuesday, March 18 at 10:15 a.m.**

Have a nice spring break!