



THE UNIVERSITY OF
ALABAMA IN HUNTSVILLE

WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES **NEWS**

Spring, 2019

Volume 29, Number 2

You may like to know that...

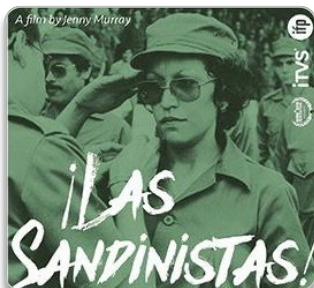
- *The Trojan Women*, in a modern adaptation by feminist Ellen McLaughlin, will be presented in April. For information go to www.uah.edu/theatre.
- WGS 200 will be offered in the fall semester, Monday and Wednesday, 1-2:20 p.m., taught by Dr. Julie Naviaux.
- EXPO will return in Spring 2020! Get "Charged up for Change!"

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FEATURED SPRING EVENTS

¡Las Sandanistas! Film Screening, March 4



The Women's and Gender Studies Program (WGS), Departments of History and Political Science, and Latin American Studies Program present a campus screening of *¡Las Sandinistas!*, a film by Jenny Murray, on **Monday, March 4, at 6 p.m.**, in Wilson Theater.

¡Las Sandinistas! uncovers the untold stories of women who shattered barriers to lead combat and social reform during Nicaragua's 1979 Sandinista Revolution, and the ensuing US-backed Contra War. Now, 35 years later, amidst staggering levels of gender violence in Nicaragua, these same women brave the streets once again to lead popular movements for equality and democracy.

Offered as part of Women's History Month and International Women's Day, this event is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served. For more information, contact nicole.pacino@uah.edu.

Nassar Lecture on *Brothers Apart*, March 7



Dr. Maha Nassar (Associate Professor in the School of Middle Eastern and North African Studies at The University of Arizona) will give a public talk on **Thursday, March 7, at 6 p.m.**, in the Charger Union Theater.

Nassar is the winner of the 2018 Palestine Book award for *Brothers Apart: Palestinian Citizens of Israel and the Arab World*. Her talk examines how Palestinian intellectuals in Israel have connected to global decolonization movements through literary and journalistic writings. A pre-event meet-and-greet will take place at **4:30-5:30 p.m.** in Union Grove Gallery.

Nassar's visit is co-sponsored by the Department of History, WGS Program, Distinguished Speaker Series in the Office of the Provost, Humanities Center, and Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact dylan.baun@uah.edu.

Huntsville Feminist Chorus Spring Concert, April 13



The Huntsville Feminist Chorus (HFC) will offer its annual spring concert at UAH on **Saturday, April 13, at 7:30 p.m.**, in Roberts Recital Hall. The concert's theme, "What Comes Around," explores the many ways life makes a circle—the cycles of age and time, the patterns of social change, and the way our actions and intentions come back around in unexpected ways. The concert brings together an eclectic array of inspiring songs from spiritual, folk, and social justice traditions.

This will be the 24th HFC spring concert at UAH, honoring women's history. HFC was formed in 1993. Its mission is to "open hearts and minds through song."

The concert is sponsored by the WGS Program and is free and open to the public. A reception will follow the program. For more information, contact wgs@uah.edu.

Message from the Director



Dr. Chad Thomas
Women's and Gender
Studies Director

Greetings from the Women's and Gender Studies Program at UAH! In this newsletter, you can read about our recent and upcoming events and meet Dr. Julie Naviaux (English Department), who will teach WGS 200 in fall 2019.

It has been a busy spring! WGS hosted a screening of the film *Deep Run*, a powerful verité portrait of trans life in rural North Carolina on January 15.



WGS also supported Art, Art History, and Design in hosting Dr. Stephanie L. Budin, co-editor of *Women in Antiquity: Real Women Across the Ancient World*, who presented two talks on

January 24: "Maternity in Antiquity" and "Harimtu, the Not-Daughter-or-Wife-of-Man of Mesopotamia." Budin's co-editor, J.M. Turfa will be at UAH on March 28 for her own set of talks!



February 4-8, we co-sponsored with English a week-long residency by Dr. Kristin Jacobson (Professor of American Literature, American Studies, and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at Stockton University). Jacobson facilitated a

brownbag discussion among faculty about trigger warnings, made guest appearances in classes (including WGS 200), and hosted a lunch-and-learn with students. The highlight of her visit was a public lecture, "Risky Natures: Gender and Race in the American Adrenaline Narrative."

We assisted UAH Residence Halls with "Take Back the Night" at UAH on February 7. Events included an information fair in the Charger Union at lunchtime and a march across campus that evening.

We were delighted to continue our partnership with Theatre, supporting UAH senior Rachel Bagley's production of *Revolt! She Said! Revolt Again!* a play by Alice Birch. The dates were February 20-24. The show was so powerful it was held over for additional performances **March 7-9**.

In addition to items featured on page one of this newsletter, WGS has several other upcoming events to promote. Printmaker Tyanna Buie will be in residence at UAH, including a public lecture on **Thursday, March 7, at 5 p.m.**, in Wilson Hall 168. Sponsored by Art, Art History, and Design, her talk is "The Narrative Image: Tyanna Buie's Family History Retold Through Screenprint."



hour class. If you are interested, email wgs@uah.edu.

Amy Guerin (Theatre) continues her New Voices Playreading Series, which brings plays by women, playwrights of color, and LGBTQ+ playwrights to the attention of the campus community. These plays frequently

address challenging topics on gender, race, and violence, making them ideal for the staged reading format. On **Tuesday, April 23, at 7:30 p.m.**, in the Annex Studio Theatre at the Early Learning Center (ELC), Guerin will present *Dry Land* by Ruby Rae Spiegel, a provocative exploration of the bonds and limits of friendship between two girls in high school. The event is free and open to the public.

Special thanks to those of you who made contributions to the Women's and Gender Studies Program and to the Rose Norman Women's Studies Award for Scholarship in Action this past year. Your contributions help us support diverse and creative events that bring greater understanding of women's and gender issues to our community.

Please check out our website (www.uah.edu/wgs) and "like us" on Facebook (@uahwgs) to keep up to date with us before the next newsletter goes out in the fall! You can also sign up for our online newsletter at www.uah.edu/la/departments/womens-studies/news/subscribe.



WGS will join with North Alabama Crisis Services to bring QPR, a suicide prevention program, to UAH. WGS is seeking partners and a coalition of interested parties to

participate. We are looking at tentative dates in April with Ian Krueger, who will teach the two-

(From top) Students gathered for the "Take Back the Night" march on February 7; Printmaker Tyanna Buie will give a public lecture on March 7 at 5 p.m. in Wilson Hall 168.

Women's and Gender Studies Featured Faculty: Julie Naviaux

Dr. Julie Naviaux, a Lecturer in the Department of English, completed her PhD in English Literature from the University of Kentucky (UK) in 2016 and joined UAH in August 2016. While at UK she completed a graduate certificate in Gender and Women's Studies. At UAH she primarily teaches writing and introductory literature courses. She serves as the Undergraduate Job Placement Advisor for English majors and is the Faculty Advisor for the Rowing Team. In addition, this fall Naviaux will teach the WGS 200 Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies course.

Naviaux's research examines the influence of performance in African American literature during the first half of the twentieth century. Drawing from American studies,

African American theater history, and black performance studies, she studies how the literature demonstrates significance of black artistic public performances and how these performances highlight the problematic nature of being both American and African American. Her work connects literary texts from multiple time periods of African American literature. She investigates how these texts work within the performative nature of black culture to argue for an ongoing questioning of black America's cultural situating within—and yet apart from—American culture.

In Naviaux's classes, students develop an understanding of how historical debates and issues continue to influence their lives today and how learning about such debates will benefit them as citizens.

For example, previous courses have covered historical and cultural information on Haiti and Haitian immigrants to understand Edwidge Danticat and how her stories demonstrate bell hooks' "talking back" to claim authorial space for black Haitian women's voices.

As a teacher, Naviaux works to provide a safe space for students to explore their own preconceptions (and misconceptions), help them to develop ways of discussing sometimes difficult topics, and show them how the concepts from her classes allow students to understand their own social history—and how that history continues informing the world today.



Dr. Julie Naviaux joined the UAH Department of English in 2016; she will teach WGS 200 this fall.

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UPCOMING COURSES

Summer 2019

SOC 105 01	INTRO CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY (1ST FIVE-WEEK TERM)
SOC 340 01	ST: SOCIOLOGY OF SEXUALITY (1ST FIVE WEEK-TERM)
EH 242 01	MYTHOLOGY (10-WEEK TERM)
EH 415 01	CREATIVE NONFICTION (10-WEEK TERM)

Fall 2019

ARH 309 01	CONTEMPORARY ART & ISSUES
CM 333 01	INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION
CM 433 01	DARK SIDE INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION
HY 370 01	TECHNOLOGY IN AMERICAN HISTORY
HY 433 01	NAZI GERMANY AND THE HOLOCAUST
PHL 102 01-03	INTRODUCTION TO ETHICS
SOC 206-01	MARRIAGE AND FAMILY
WLC 204 01	INTERNATIONAL CINEMA
WGS 200 01	INTRO WOMEN'S & GENDER STUDIES

For more course information, visit www.uah.edu/wgs

For course time changes, see the official UAH schedule of classes: www.uah.edu/cgi-bin/schedule.pl





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Support WGS at UAH!

The Women's and Gender Studies Program provides valuable public programming and promotes community engagement. Your support allows us to:

- › Maintain community involvement in WGS events
- › Acknowledge women's participation in, contribution to, and transformation of society
- › Sponsor cultural activities and events that honor, engage, and empower women
- › Analyze how gender is embedded within social institutions and culture
- › Articulate how different academic disciplines investigate women and gender
- › Nurture scholars, artists, and performers who interrogate gender
- › Foster discussion of how gender construction impacts individual lives

Thank you for your contribution.

- ☐ I want to support WGS events, programs, and students. \$
- ☐ I want to support the "Rose Norman Women's Studies Award for Scholarship in Action." \$

GIVE ONLINE! Go to www.uah.edu/giving. Select "Give Online" and designate your gift to "UAH Women's and Gender Studies."

GIVE VIA MAIL! Complete your contact information and mail your check along with this form to the address listed below.

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Gifts are entirely tax-deductible. Make checks payable to "UAH Foundation" and note "For Women's and Gender Studies."

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