WGSS MA Theses

Shayla Robinson, “Refusals and Re-Creations: Imagining Utopia through Black Lesbian Affect in Modern Dance,” (2018), directed by Tiffany King


Andreanna Nattiel, “Bringing Sex To Theory: Sensational Affinity, Pleasure, and Sexual Pedagogy” (2018), directed by Susan Talburt

Jennie Lambert, “Women’s Narratives of Their Experiences with the Diagnosis of Borderline Personality Disorder (BPD)” (2018), directed by Susan Talburt

Candice Merritt, “Our Sacrifice Shall Not Be Required: Examining Maternal Ambivalence and Refusal in Black Motherhood” (2018), directed Tiffany King


Sarah Abdelaziz, “Ratcheting a Way Out of the Respectable: Genealogical Interventions Into Atlanta's Respectability Politics” (2017), directed by Tiffany King

Jainey Jung Yeon Kim, “Picturing Queer Death: Alternative Instantiations of Temporality within Process Art” (2017), directed by Susan Talburt

Jordan Forrest Miller, “‘I Wanna Know Where the Rule Book Is:’ YouTube as a Site of Counternarratives to Transnormativity” (2017), directed by Megan Sinnott

Lesia Pagulich, “Queering the Nation?: Analyzing the Politics of the LGBT Movement in Ukraine After the Maidan Protests” (2017), directed by Susan Talburt

Alexa Adamo Valverde, “‘In Black and White, I’m a Piece of Trash:’ Abuse, Depression, and Women’s Pathways to Prison” (2016), directed by Megan Sinnott

Sesali Bowen, “Bitches Be Like…: Memes as Black Girl Counter and Disidentification Tools” (2016), directed by Tiffany King

Sumita Dutta, “Spirits in the Food: A Pedagogy for Cooking and Healing” (2016), directed by Tiffany King

Nathan Frisch, “Alternative Modernization, Indigeneity, and Affective Capture in Contemporary Bolivia” (2016), directed by Susan Talburt

Megan Mabry, “Mapping Transgender Narratives in a Digital Age” (2016), directed by Susan Talburt

Syeda Mahmood, “Planning Obsolescence: Generational Labor, Welcoming Crisis, and Actualizing Immaterial Bonds” (2016), directed by Amira Jarmakani

Schillica Howard, “(De)Tangled: an Exploration of the Hierarchies in the Natural Hair Community” (2015), directed by Tiffany King

Kristyn Johnson, "Sexy Ambiguity and Circulating Sexuality: Assemblage, Desire, and
Representation in Seba al-Herz's The Others” (2015), directed by Amira Jarmakani

Ruby Kett, “Gendered Admission: Transinclusive Admissions Policies at Women’s Colleges” (2015), directed by Susan Talburt

Juliana Ramírez Rodríguez, “From Panic to Pity: Circuits and Circulations of the Contemporary Anti-Trafficking Crusade” (2015), directed by Amira Jarmakani

Cecilia Troiano, “‘Lean In,’ ‘Opt Out,’ and the Journey to Happiness: Brazilian College Women
Imagine Freedom” (2015), directed by Susan Talburt

Kelsey Waninger, “The Veiled Identity: Hajibistas, Instagram and Branding in the Online Islamic Fashion Industry” (2015), directed by Amira Jarmakani
Taryn Jordan, “The Politics of Impossibility: CeCe McDonald and Trayvon Martin – The Bursting of Black Rage” (2014), directed by Amira Jarmakani and Tiffany King

Siobhan Cooke, “Cooking Up Authenticity: Latina Celebrities, Cookbooks, and Consumerism” (2014), directed by Amira Jarmakani


Scott Nesbit, “Paying for the Gift of Education: A Critical Discourse Analysis of The Intown Academy of Atlanta” (2014), directed by Susan Talburt

Valerie Pollock, “Forever Adolescence: Taylor Swift, Eroticized Innocence, and Performing Normativity” (2014), directed by Megan Sinnott

Andrea Miller, “Performing Specters of Imperialism: Affect, Terror, and the Body in Naveed Mir’s The Cinco Sanders Show” (2014), directed by Amira Jarmakani

Sherah Faulkner, “It Makes Atlanta Feel Like a Real City: Biopolitical Urbanism and Public Art on the Atlanta Beltline” (2014), directed by Amira Jarmakani

Lamont Loyd-Sims, “J-Setting in Public: Black Queer Desires and Worldmaking” (2014), directed by Amira Jarmakani

Erin George, “Resisting Tropes, Inserting Selves: An Interpretive Biographical Analysis of the Life Writings of Mixed Race Women Writers” (2013), directed by Amira Jarmakani

Hannah Carswell, “Femininity and Masculinity in Indonesian Popular Music Videos” (2014), directed by Megan Sinnott

Carla Wilson, “Listening from the Heart: The Experience of Compassionate Listening in Teen Talking Circles” (2013), directed by Amira Jarmakani

Mirkena Ozer, “A Story of One’s Own: Creative Narratives about Contemporary Turkish Women” (2013), directed by Amira Jarmakani

Whitney Young, “Monsters in My Bed: Accounting for the Popularity of Young Adult Paranormal Romances” (2013), directed by Amira Jarmakani


Maggie Franz, “Mexican/Migrant Mothers and ‘Anchor Babies’ in Anti-Immigration Discourses: Meanings of Citizenship and Illegality in the United States” (2013), directed by Amira Jarmakani

Sheena Hunter, “Not Simply Women’s Bodybuilding: Gender and the Female Competition Categories” (2013), directed by Megan Sinnott
Mildred Coleman, “Recovering Frances Virginia and the Frances Virginia Tea Room: Transition Era Activism at the Intersections of Womanism, Feminism, and Home Economics, 1920-1962” (2012), directed by Layli Maparyan

Dylan Blackston, “Queer Feelings, Political Potential: Tracing Affect in Performance Spaces” (2012), directed by Susan Talburt


Elena Weiss, “Hooking Up on College Campuses” (2011), directed by Jennifer Patico


Rachel Cook, “You’re Wearing the Orange Shorts: African American Hooters Girls and the All American Girl Next Door” (2011), directed by Layli Maparyan


Crystal Baker, “To Catch Who?: Moral Panics in Contemporary Television Media” (2011), directed by Susan Talburt

Oscar Gittimeier, “Trans(form(ing))” (2010), directed by Susan Talburt

Eszter Szucs, “Space for Girls: Possibilities of Feminist Agency and Political Engagement on the Internet” (2010), directed by Megan Sinnott

Tobias Spears, “Paradise Found?: Black Gay Men in Atlanta: An Exploration of Community” (2010), directed by Layli Maparyan

Chanel Craft, “Where My Girls At?: The Interpellation of Women in Gangsta Hip-Hop” (2010), directed by Amira Jarmakani

Katie Still, “The Mystery of the Body: Embodiment in the Nancy Drew Mystery Series” (2009), directed by Megan Sinnott

Carmela Pattillo, “Searching for the Womanist Within” (2009), directed by Layli Phillips

Mekisha Parks, “Middle School Technology and Media Literacy: An Action Research Case Study” (2009), directed by Amira Jarmakani

Lisa Frazier, “Power and Surrender: African American Sunni Women and Embodied Agency” (2009), directed by Amira Jarmakani
Alysia Gradney, “Mason Jar Project: An Exploratory Look at the Ways in Which the Mammy Figure has Shaped Both Social and Cultural Understandings of the Contemporary Fat Black Female Body in America” (2008), directed by Amira Jarmakani

Mary Larken McCord, “‘So Very’ ‘So Fetch’: Constructing Girls on Film in the Era of Girl Power and Girls in Crisis” (2008), directed by Amira Jarmakani

Charlene Graham, “Coloring: An Investigation of Racial Identity Politics Within the Black Indian Community” (2007), directed by Denise Donnelly

Wesley Chenaught, “Working the Margins: Women in the Comic Book Industry” (2007), directed by Marian Meyers

Jiling Yang, “In Search of Martha Root: An American Baha’I Feminist and Peace Advocate in the Early Twentieth Century” (2007), directed by Ian Fletcher

Melinda Mills, “You Talking to Me?: Considering Black Women’s Racialized and Gendered Experiences with and Responses or Reactions to Street Harassment from Men” (2007), directed by Emanuela Guano

Icydor Mohabier, “Empowering Senior Females by Utilizing Each Female Person’s Voice to Create Desired Lifestyle Options” (2006), directed by Layli Phillips

Julia Peteet, “Andalusia” (2006), directed by Jack Boozer

Julie Goolsby, “A Manifest Cyborg: Laurie Anderson and Technology” (2006), directed by Mary Hocks

Xiumei Pu, “Spirituality: A Womanist Reading of Amy Tan’s The Bonesetter’s Daughter” (2006), directed by Layli Phillips

Erica Kitchen, “The Negotiation of Gender and Athleticism by Women Athletes” (2006), directed by Elisabeth Burgess

Lisa Borello, “Mother May I?: Food, Power, and Control in Mothers and Daughters” (2006), directed by Layli Phillips

Stacey Singer, “I’m Not Loud Enough to be Heard: Rock ‘n Roll Camp for Girls and Feminist Quests for Equity, Community, and Cultural Production” (2006), directed by Susan Talburt

Robin VanNewkirk, “Third Wave Feminist History and the Politics of Being Visible and Being Real” (2006), directed by Peter Lindsay

Oriana Gatta, “I Blog Therefore I Am?: Issues of Identity, Text, and Context in Self-Expressive Media” (2005), directed by Mary Hocks

Ramani Sambhara, “Health Care Management in Personal Care Homes” (2005), directed by Elisabeth Burgess
Lynell Cadray, “Juggling it All: The Coping Mechanisms of Married, Employed Mothers” (2005), directed by Wendy Simonds

Nichole Arnault, “A Sublime Performance: Motherhood and the Symbolic Spectacle in Maternal Protest Organizations” (2004), directed by Allaine Cerwonka

Jere Recob Tesser, “‘Let the Dogs Do the Talkin’: Dogfighting and Marginalized Masculinities” (2004), directed by Allaine Cerwonka

Emily Noonan, “Enacting the Global: Adoptive Parent Discourse on Transnational Adoption” (2004), directed by Allaine Cerwonka

Amy Stalzer Sengupta, “Too Much Understanding: How Freshmen Women’s Feeling of Being Overwhelmed Affect Identity Development” (2004), directed by Allaine Cerwonka

Anisa Hansen, “On the Philosophy of Helene Cixous: The Ecriture Feminine Reflection in Bohdan Chudoba’s Model of Complete Time” (2003), directed by David Weberman

Lailufar Yasmin, “Violence Against Women as a Form of Political Control” (2003), directed by Allaine Cerwonka

Anne Whitlow Stancil, “Liminal Weaving: Television’s Role in Mediating Marginality” (2003), directed by Allaine Cerwonka

Frances Pici, “‘Drawn From Life:’ A Mimi Approach to the Theatre of Angna Enters (1897-1989)” (2002), directed by Gayle Austin

Kristen Abatis, “South Asian Cyber Women: Constructions of Nation, Gender and Culture” (2002), directed by Allaine Cerwonka

Elona Horner Holdhusen, “Hide Your Breast Good Mother: Examining the Breastfeeding Paradox” (2002), directed by Wendy Simonds

Deborah Jene Baclawski, “Ponytails and Booters with Hooters: An Examination of Marketing Themes Used by the Women’s United Soccer Association” (2002), directed by Allaine Cerwonka

Hydi Dickstein, “Revisualizing Body Image: A Focus Group Approach” (2002), directed by Sara Cook

Yvette Upton, “Lasting Impressions: Viewing the Georgia Institute of Technology Through the Lenses of First-Year and Senior Women” (2001), directed by Julia Perilla

Amy Reninger, “Fragments of a Disparate Movement: Exploring Third Wave Feminist Activism and the Potential for Movement Building” (2001), directed by Allaine Cerwonka

Munira Moon Charania, “Interrupting Visons of Empowerment: The Trappings of Liberal and Essentialist Discourse in Girls’ Educational Spaces” (2001), directed by Allaine Cerwonka
Sreevidya Kalaramadam, “Global Economy and Local Politics: Gendered Fields” (2000), directed by Ian Fletcher

Noelle Pearce, “The Riot Grrrl Movement: A New Type of Feminism” (2000), directed by Marian Meyers

M. Venus Gines, “Latina Women May be at Risk for Higher Rates of Undetected Breast Cancer” (1999), directed by Julia Perilla

Kristin Robbins, “Learning from Learners: Gender Dynamics in Two Constructivist EAL Classes for Vietnamese Refugees” (1999), directed by Valerie Fennell

Barbara Waites Morris, “Women’s Occupational and Societal Gender Roles in Firefighting: Cultural Artifacts from England and the United States in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries” (1997), directed by Jacqueline Boles

Carolyn Lea, “A Transgression in Three Acts: Madonna, Califia, and Finley” (1997), directed by Gayle Austin

Fakhri Haghani, “The Notion of ‘Self’ in Iranian Women’s Post-Revolutionary Literature” (1997), directed by Gayle Austin