Spring 2006 Newsletter

### Texas State University-San Marcos

### Hello!

We hope you have had a good Spring Break, and that you've enjoyed the semester so far. Our staff has been working hard on making your semester here a good one, and we hope that you are enjoying it! This year, we have some new resources in our library that you are able to come and review any time during our office hours, and also some new and interesting courses. We invite you to come to the center, at your conveneience, to review the resources, get questions answered, or even just to say hello. Good luck with the rest of this semester, and we hope to see you soon!

Sincerely,

MCGS Staff

### Featured Student Gail Russell



Gail is a senior with an English major and a minor in Ethnic Studies, here at Texas State University. Prior to returning to college several years ago, she worked as the Program Administrator for an agency in Champaign, Illinois, providing services to persons with developmental disabilities. After nine years with the agency and fifteen years in the field, she decided she needed a change.

Before her father passed away shortly after his retirement, he gave her some sage advice: retire in the middle of your life. Taking the advice to heart, after traveling for a few weeks in Europe, she decided to move to Austin, Texas. Eventually, she made her way back to college, and is very thankful she did. She says, "Through my Ethnic Studies minor at Texas State, I have gained a wealth of knowledge about multicultural studies. I have really enjoyed the various educational disciplines I have been exposed to as a result of the Ethnic Studies program". After a few more years of study, Gail hopes to teach English at a liberal arts college somewhere. "I am certain my Ethnic Studies background will be of great help in designing my course content in a culture-rich manner."

Index:

Page 1: Hello!

Featured Student & Women's History Month

Page 2 & 3: List of 2006 Summer & Fall Courses for Ethnic Studies

Page 4: List of 2006 Fall and Summer Courses for Women's Studies Upcoming Events

### March: Women's History Month

March is Women's History month, so here are some amazing facts that you might find interesting about women and history!

Before the 1970's, women's history had never been celebrated or even thought of as important. The actual celebration of Women's History Month originally began in Sonoma County, California, as "Women's History Week" in the year 1978. As the years went by, the celebraion grew and progressed, people learned more about it, and soon more events and people were celebrating women and their history. In the year 1987, Congress decided lengthen the celebration, and that is why today the month of March celebrates Women's History Month.

- \* There were *149.1 million* females in the United States as of July 1, 2004. That exceeds the number of males (144.5 million). Males outnumber females in every five-year-age group through the 35 to 39 age group. Starting with the 40 to 44 age group, women outnumber men. At 85 and over, there are more than twice as many women as men.
- \* The estimated work-life earnings of women with a professional degree (i.e., medical, law, dental or veterinarian) who work full time, year-round is \$2.9 million. For women, like men, more education means higher career earnings. It is estimated that women without a high school diploma would earn \$700,000 during their work lives, increasing to \$1 million if they had a high school diploma and \$1.6 million if they had a bachelor's degree.
- \* Twenty-six percent of women ages 25 and over attained a bachelor's degree or higher in 2004, this is up nearly 7 percentage points from a decade earlier. Eighty-five percent of young women and eighty-five percent of young men 25 and older had completed high school in 2004. The last year young women and men had equal rates of high school and college attainment was 1995.
- \* There were **212,000** active duty women in the military in 2004. Of that total, **35,000** women are officers, 177,000 are enlisted.

# New and Interesting Resources

As you all know, our resource center, here at the office of Multicultural and Gender Studies has been growing. We now have over 300 books, all of which are interesting and insightful, and we would love for you to come in and have a look. We have books written by or regarding the subjects of African Americans, Native Americans, Hispanics, women in history, and books on different types of religion, ethnicity, and multiculturalism. Here is a short list of books you might find interesting:

#### **African American**

- •Susan Altman- The Encyclopedia of African American Heritage
- •Henry Louis Gates, Jr.- The Classic Slave Narratives.
- •August Wilson (collection)-Fences; King Hedley II; Ma Rainey's Black Bottom; The Piano Lesson.

### **Native American**

- Wa-Na-Nee-Che & Bird Fitzpatrick- *Great Grandfather* Spirit.
- •Gloria Jahoda- The Trail of Tears.
- •Christopher Cordozo- Edward Curtis: The Great Warriors.

#### Women

- •Eric Levin (People Weekly)-*Unforgettable Women of the* Century.
- •Guida M. Jackson- Women Who
- •Annette Madden- In Her Footsteps: 101 Remarkable Black Women from the Queen of Sheba to Queen Latifah.

### Religion

- •Juan Williams & Quinton Dixie-This Far by Faith: Stories from the African American Religious Experience.
- •Melvin Konner- *Unsettled: An* Anthology of the Jews.

### Ethnic

- •Frank D. Bean & Gillian Stevens- *America's Newcomers* and the Dynamics of Diversity.
- •Farai Chideya- The Color of Our Future.
- •Allan G. Johnson- *Privilege*, Power, and Difference.

#### Others

- •Sandra Cisneros- The House on Mango Street.
- •Lisa See- On Gold Mountain.
- •Marianne Williamson- The Healing of America.

These are only a small selection of the books we have in our office. There are many others, and we would love for you to come look at our resources. If you become especially interested in one of our books, we do allow you to check them out. So feel free to come by and have a look!

### List of Courses available for Ethnic Studies in Summer 2006

Here is a list of courses that will be available for those in Ethnic Studies

#### Summer I Courses

Anthropology 1312- Cultural Anthropology- Course examines the nature of culture and its various aspects as these are manifest in contemporary and traditional societies.

Mass Communications 4308- Women and Minorities in the Media-

An analysis of the images of women and minorities in the media and their status as media professionals. Includes study of the alternative media.

Spanish 3371- Spanish-American Civilization- A survey of civilizations and cultures of Latin America and the Hispanic U.S. designed to provide a background for the better understanding of both groups. (Prerequisite: SPAN 3308)

#### Summer II Courses

Anthropology 3331A- North American Indians- A study of several of the many societies of North American Indians. This course will examine the prehistoric development of Native American culture with special emphasis on art and religion as well as the cultural mechanisms through which Native Americans deal with non-Native American contemporary social and political developments.

#### Summer II Courses Continued

English 3344- Chicano/a Narrative and Social History- A survey of narratives written by U.S. citizens of Mexican descent.

Sociology 3327- Multicultural Relations- Course will examine the nature and the problems inherent in racial and other minority groups, with special reference to the American scene.

Spanish 3371- Spanish-American Civilization- A survey of civilizations and cultures of Latin America and the Hispanic U.S. designed to provide a background for the better understanding of both groups. (Prerequisite: SPAN 3308)

### List of Courses available for Ethnic Studies in Fall 2006

### Here is a list of courses that will be available for those in Ethnic Studies

Anthropology 3314- Latin American Cultures- An examination of Latin American cultures with an emphasis on pre-Columbian and contemporary indigenous peoples of Mexico.

Anthropology 3315- Archeology of the Southwest- An examination of the prehistory and early cultures of the Greater Southwest from the first arrival of humans as early as 20,000 years ago to the coming of the Spaniards in the 16h century. The course covers several mammoth kill sites at the end of the Pleistocene; the emergence of Archaic hunters and gatherers and the appearance of agriculture about two thousand years ago, leading to the three major cultures in the southwest- the Mogollon, the Hohokam, and the Anasazi, the last in the multistoried pueblos and cliff dwellings.

Anthropology 3331A- North American Indians- A study of several of the many societies of North American Indians. This course will examine the prehistoric development of Native American culture with special emphasis on art and religion as well as the cultural mechanisms through which Native Americans deal with non-Native American contemporary social and political developments.

Anthropology 3331C- Indians of the Southwest- A survey of the life of the cultural patterns of Indian groups in the greater Southwest before and after the Spanish and American contact.

Anthropology 1312- Cultural Anthropology- Course examines the nature of culture and its various aspects as these are manifest in contemporary and traditional societies.

#### Fall 2006 Courses Continued

English 3331- African American Literature- African-American poetry, drama, and fiction.

English 3344- Chicano/a Narrative and Social History- A survey of narratives written by U.S. citizens of Mexican descent.

English 3345- Southwestern Studies I: Defining the Region-The first of two courses in a broad interdisciplinary survey of geophysical, cultural, social, literary and political history of the Southwest, emphasizing regional and ethnic expressions of culture in architecture, art, economics, law, literature, philosophy, and politics.

History 3372- Texas History: A Survey- A one-semester survey of Texas History which will emphasize political, economic, and social development from prehistory to the twentieth century.

History 4372- Mexican American History- A survey of the political, economic, ad social-cultural role of the Mexican-American in the United States from the era of Spanish colonization to the present.

**Political Science 3319- Metropolitan Politics-** An examination of the political institutions and processes of urban and suburban America, including such topics as urban sprawl, reform movements, ethnic politics, and city-county consolidation.

Psychology 3334- Psychology of Human Diversity- The diverse way in which individuals think, learn, solve problems, and behave creates a rich human experience of interpersonal communication, creativity, achievement, conflict and war. Explanations about how the environment, genetics, and culture shape human differences, and how these differences are linked to world progress and understanding are addressed.

Sociology 3327- Multicultural Relations- Course will examine the nature and the problems inherent in racial and other minority groups, with special reference to the American scene.

Sociology 3366- Folkways and Folklore: An Introduction- A study of the folkways of the cultures of Texas through selected examples of traditional beliefs, customs, folktales, songs, arts, games, artifacts, and techniques for the collection and preservation of folk materials.

Spanish 3305- Survey of Spanish-American Literature- A study of Spanish-American literature from the colonial period to 1800 and its antecedents in Spain. (Prerequisite: SPAN 3308)

Spanish 3371- Spanish-American Civilization- A survey of civilizations and cultures of Latin America and the Hispanic U.S. designed to provide a background for the better understanding of both groups. (Prerequisite: SPAN 3308)

### List of Courses available for Women's Studies in Summer 2006

### Here is a list of courses available for those students in Women's Studies

#### Summer I Courses

History 3373- American Women's History- Topics course that focuses on women as a force in American history from colonial to modern times, with emphasis on religious, social, and political movements. Women's activities are analyzed within the context of a multicultural, patriarchal society, and the roots of American feminism and the implications from women's future roles in society are explored.

Mass Communication 4308- Women and Minorities in the Media-An analysis of the images of women and minorities in the media and their status as media professionals. Includes study of the alternative media.

#### Summer II Courses

Psychology 3332- Psychology of Women- The special problems and demands made on the woman within modern western culture. Topics studied include status, roles, values, opportunities, expectations, stress, and self-realization of the modern woman.

### Upcoming Events March is Women's History Month

### March is Women's History Month

### March 30

National Multicultural Job Expo. Open to any and all students/job seekers. Strahan Coliseum.

The Courage to Run: Escaping Genocide

Austin runner and trainer, Gilbert Tuhabonye, will speak about his most dramatic run- 57 Centennial Hall, 7:00 pm.

### April 5

Japanese Cultural Expo- LBJSC Ballroom

### April 20

Philosophy Dialogue Series: *Justice as a Personal Virtue*- Dr. Tara Smith, University of Texas- Austin PSY 132, 11:00 a.m.

### List of Courses available for Women's Studies in Fall 2006

### Here is a list of courses available for those students in Women's Studies

Philosophy 3333- Feminist Theory- This course will examine major feminist theories including liberal feminism, Marxist feminism, racial feminism, and post-modernist feminism, with an eye especially to revealing the complexity and diversity of contemporary feminist thought. (Prerequisite: Three hours of lower lever philosophy, (PHIL 3301, WS 3376) or permission of the instructor.)

Psychology 3332- Psychology of Women- The special problems and demands made on the woman within modern western culture. Topics studied include status, roles, values, opportunities, expectations, stress, and self-realization of the modern woman.

Sociology 3350- Men, Women and Societies- This course examines the relations between male and female roles throughout the world, including the United States, Europe, and third world countries. Special attention is given to changes in these roles and the consequences of such changes for societies, including familial, martial, and sexual relationships.

Speech Communications 3328- Communication and Gender-Course will investigate the interactive nature of communication and gender, the creation of gender identities, and the role of gender and communication in a variety of settings. (Prerequisite: Comm. 2315)

### Contact Us At:

## Center for Multicultural and Gender Studies

Dr. Sandra Mayo, Dírector

Flowers Hall, Room 336

601 University Drive San Marcos, Texas 78666-4616

Phone Number:
(512)245-2361
Office Fax Number:
(512)245-1414
Email:
mcgs@txstate.edu