



An Introduction to Women's Studies: Gender in a Transnational World

By Inderpal Grewal, Caren Kaplan

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This anthology for first and second year students introduces them to the history of key ideas in the modern period related to sexual difference, gender, race, class, and sexuality. While most introductory Women's Studies textbooks focus on the United States, even if they add multiculturalism to the discussion, this book looks at the history of important differences between women in diverse locations around the world and continually challenges students to think through the issues that are raised.

This transnational approach to understanding gender brings Women's Studies into an era of globalization and connects women's issues in the United States to women's issues elsewhere. The book shows how colonialism and imperialism, as they spread across the world, shaped ideas about gender as much as other modern phenomena. It addresses issues of power and inequalities and focuses on links and connections rather than commonalities. The readings are truly interdisciplinary, drawing upon scholarly work in many disciplines and interdisciplinary fields as well as non-scholarly sources.

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Editorial Review

About the Author

is currently Director and Professor of Women Studies at University of California-Irvine. She received her Ph.D. in English from the University of California at Berkeley. A founder of Narika, an agency that addresses the needs of South Asian women in the U.S., she works with activist groups that focus on Asian women and immigration issues. She has authored a monograph and co-edited several books and journal issues, often with her long time collaborator Caren Kaplan. Her special interests include the history of British imperialism, non-western women travelers, consumer culture and globalization, South Asian women in diaspora, and the new transnational feminist activism

Caren Kaplan is currently Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Women's Studies at the University of California at Davis. After receiving her Ph.D. in the History of Consciousness Program at the University of California at Santa Cruz, she served on the faculty in the Department of English at Georgetown University from 1986 to 1992. The author of a monograph as well as the co-editor of several books, she has collaborated with Inderpal Grewal for many years on essays and edited collections. Her special interests are the history of Western and international feminism, feminist theory, and aspects of imperialism and globalization such as travel, tourism, and information technologies.

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