

DEPARTMENT of *WOMEN & GENDER STUDIES*

WINTER SESSION—January 2021



Gender, Violence and Theater Activism

WGSA 29002 section W01 code number: 53327 3 credits

January 4 through January 25, 2021 ----M, T, W and Th from 9am to 12:08pm

ON-LINE (synchronous & asynchronous activities)

Instructor: Carmelina Cartei email: ccartei@hunter.cuny.edu

THE COURSE

This course is open to all students interested in researching and learning about **theater initiatives** that raise awareness and challenge gender-based violence and systems of oppression (racism, sexism, etc). The terms “gender-based” include sex discrimination, homophobia, transphobia, sexual/street harassment, human trafficking, sex slavery, mass incarcerations, rape, and other oppressive practices that systemically dehumanize individuals and entire communities. Some of the initiatives and projects discussed in this course include: One Billion Rising/V-DAY initiative, The Medea Project with incarcerated women, the Theater of the Oppressed Lab/TOPLAB, Girl Be Heard, Honest Accomplice Theater (HAT), and Slut: the Play.

In addition, we read and analyze dramatic works/monologues by Kimberle Crenshaw, Edwidge Danticat, Rhodessa Jones, Sarah Jones, Anna Deavere Smith, Lynn Nottage, Carmen Rivera, Tobias Davis, Promo Afro Homos, and Eve Ensler who use theater and performance as a tool for social activism. We also study a number of theoretical lenses--such as the intersection of gender with race, class and sexuality--through which we can analyze and begin to make sense of the systemic manifestations of violence.

WGSA 29002 fulfills I&S Social Science in the Hunter Core Requirement (HCR); and pluralism and Diversity Requirement (P&D) group C.