This course uses sexual harassment as a lens through which to view the interaction between theory and practice.

- How do we think about gender, sexuality, work, agency, respect?
- How do these ideas inform laws and policies in workplaces and schools?
- How have recent high profile instances of sexual harassment changed the legal outlook on SH?
- How can #MeToo activism change the way people think about SH?

We will explore how it is that sexual harassment came to be seen as wrong, what kinds of arguments have been put forward about the nature and extent of its wrongness, and to what sorts of relations sexual harassment applies.

We will look at sexual harassment theoretically, legally, politically and empirically. You will read court cases, philosophical arguments, legal theories, empirical studies and political analyses all centering around sexual harassment.

Students will be expected to use their class journal to respond to readings, discussion prompts and to brainstorm ideas for a class project. Be sure to bring your journal (any physical notebook set aside for the purpose) to class every day. There are two exams and one short paper in addition to the project. Active participation is expected.

OAKS will be used for some readings and short papers and project progress will be submitted via OAKS. Students will access court cases through Nexis Uni a legal database available through the library’s database site. Court cases are searched through Nexis Uni by clicking Databases on the CofC Library page (under N), input the case number (included on syllabus) at the top of the search page (“All Nexis Uni”).

Course Objectives:

We will be reading legal cases and legal scholarship. We will also be reading scholarship on sexual harassment from sociologists, political scientists and feminist scholars. Likewise we will read philosophical arguments about work, equality and sexuality. Upon successful completion of this course students can:

- **Demonstrate knowledge of the law, theory and primary issues concerned with sexual harassment.**
- Analyze legal cases
- **Apply knowledge of these theories to new situations.**

These learning outcomes will be assessed in exams and papers.
Required Books:

Linda Hirshman     Reckoning
Nancy Levit and Robert R. M. Verchick   Feminist Legal Theory, A Primer (2nd edition)
Catherine MacKinnon   The Sexual Harassment of Working Women

Course requirements:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 exams</td>
<td>15% each</td>
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<tr>
<td>Journal</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Short paper</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long paper/project</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>(includes proposal and annotated bibliography)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lecture/event responses</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
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Schedule of Readings

8/26:  Feminist Legal Theory, Intro and Chs. 1-2
8/28:  Documentary: “Anita: Speaking Truth to Power” – (OAKS) and Chapter 5, Reckoning, “Anita Hill and Clarence Thomas” (questions and journal prompt on OAKS) (no class but reading and responses required)
9/2:  Abigail Saguy “The Making of a Concept” and Angela P. Harris, “Race and Essentialism in Feminist Legal Theory” (OAKS)
       And Title VII of the Civil Rights Act.  (EEOC webpage).
9/9:  “Twentieth Annual Review of Gender and the Law” (OAKS) and Williams v. Saxbe (413 F. Supp. 654), Henson v. City of Dundee (682 F. 2d 897)
9/11:  Feminist Legal Theory, Ch. 3 (Workplace, Wages, and Welfare)
9/16:  Reckoning, Chs 1-4

Paper 1 due

9/18:  Catherine MacKinnon, Sexual Harassment of Working Women Introduction and Women’s Work (Chs 1-2 in SHWW)
9/23:  Catherine MacKinnon, SHWW, Chs.3-4
9/25:  Catherine MacKinnon, SHWW, Ch. 5, 6
9/30:  Catherine MacKinnon, SHWW, Chs. 7 and Appendices

Project proposal due (OAKS)

10/2:  Meritor Savings Bank v. Vinson (477 U.S. 57) and Harris v. Forklift (510 U.S. 17)
10/7:  Review and catch up
10/9: **Exam** (this is Yom Kippur, anyone who needs to take the exam at a different time should tell me)

10/14: **Fall Break**

10/16: *Reckoning*, Chs 6-8

10/21: *Feminist Legal Theory*, Ch. 4

10/23: “Meet the teenagers fighting sexual harassment in their schools” (OAKS) and the sexual harassment policy/training from any school you have attended

10/28: *Davis v. Monroe County Board of Education* (526 U.S. 629)

10/30: “Crossing the Line: Sexual Harassment in Schools” (OAKS) and “SH in schools” (OAKS)

11/4: “School Civil Rights Vacuum” (OAKS)

**Project annotated bibliography due (OAKS)**

11/6 “And even more of us are brave” (OAKS)


11/13: “EEOC v Boh Brothers” (OAKS)

11/18: **Exam**

11/20: TBD

11/25: TBD

11/27: Thanksgiving Break

12/2: TBD

**Final project is due the day of the final exam (and in lieu of that exam) Friday, December 6 by 3pm**

**Journal**

Each student must have a notebook (composition style, spiral bound or paper organized in a three ring binder) to use as a journal. There will be occasional writing prompts in class that will go in your journal and prompts on OAKS for homework. I will keep track of your journal entries. If you are not in class on a day on which I check your entries you are responsible for showing me your work. These journals will be used to track your questions, connections you are making between texts, practice analysis and textual explication. You may also take notes in the same journal – but if you do please separate the note taking from the journal. The journal is a good place to brainstorm potential paper ideas and to track current events and intersections with classroom readings, in addition to thinking about those readings.

**Exams**

There are two midterm exams that will include terms, short answer and a mid-length in class essay.

**Papers**

There are two papers assigned for the class. A short paper (due 9/16) that will analyze one of the cases that we read. And a longer project that will include a proposal and an annotated bibliography (due 11/4). This paper can focus on a recent legal case (in the last 5 years), it can focus on sexual harassment
in a particular setting (military, schools, churches, etc.) or it can focus on contemporary activism around SH. This paper is due on December 6.

**Accommodations:** Any students who have special learning needs or concerns are urged to speak with me during the first week of the semester if accommodations are needed. The Center for Disability Services provides a comprehensive list of accessibility resources available at the College on the following website: [http://disabilityservices.cofc.edu/](http://disabilityservices.cofc.edu/)

**Academic Dishonesty:** Papers and take home exam essays **must** be properly cited. All citations should be made in accordance with the guidelines set out in the Political Science Department’s referencing guide (available online at Political Science Department webpage: [http://polisci.cofc.edu/documents/12policitationguide.pdf](http://polisci.cofc.edu/documents/12policitationguide.pdf)).

Any failure to cite materials used for papers in this class is considered plagiarism. **Plagiarism is pretending as if the words and ideas of another are in fact yours.** This includes a failure to use quotations, a failure to indicate when you are paraphrasing and the failure to give credit to the author whose ideas you are using. **Plagiarism is a violation of the Honor Code and will be treated as such.**

**Further information about the Honor Code and Academic Integrity can be found at:** [http://deanofstudents.cofc.edu/honor-system/studenthandbook/](http://deanofstudents.cofc.edu/honor-system/studenthandbook/)

**Weather:** In the event of class being cancelled on account of the weather, I expect you to use OAKS and to have your books available. Every effort will be made to have discussions online during a weather event.