

## WGS. 101 SESSION #2 OUTLINE

1. Women's and Gender Studies: Identifying, Analyzing and Critiquing Gendered Systems of Power and Performance; Influence of Women's/Gender Rights Movements
2. Writing Exercise/Discussion: Factors Leading to the Emergence of Gender Rights/Equality Movements
3. The American Revolution, Enlightenment Ideals and The Seeds of Change
  - "The Declaration of Independence" -- a manifesto of rights and liberty with limits and potential- the rhetoric of democracy
  - Enslaved women: double erasure
  - "Free" women: call to patriotism without promise of rights
  - Traditional Roles for Women in Colonial and Revolutionary America: e.g., Jane Franklin Mecom (sister of Benjamin Franklin)
  - Crossing the Gender Boundary/"Passing": Deborah Sampson (1760-1827)
  - After the Revolution: The Idea of Republican Motherhood
4. Nineteenth Century America: "The Cult of True Womanhood" ("Cult of Domesticity"), the Centrality of Religion and Female Reform Movements
  - Piety, Purity, Domesticity and Obedience: Four Cornerstones of the "Cult of True Womanhood"; Race, Class and The Cult of Domesticity: e.g., Harriet Jacobs, Sojourner Truth
  - Contradictions Within this Ideology, Enlightenment Ideas and the Birth of Women's Reform Movements: Secular and Religious Influences
5. 1830s-1850s: Abolitionism and Women's Rights Activism: The "School of Anti-Slavery"; Sequential and Parallel Movements; From Gender-Conscious to Women's Rights Activism
  - Social Movement Theories: Resource Mobilization, Relative Deprivation
  - Roles within Movements: Beneficiary Constituents, Conscience Constituents
6. The Grimke Sisters: Sarah Grimke (1792-1873) and Angelina Grimke Weld (1805-1879): Beginning to Set a Women's Rights Agenda
  - Unique Role as exiles: Southern white ex-plantation women
  - Defending Women's Political Roles as Writers/Speakers
  - Prefigurative Politics: the personal as political
7. Discussion: Angelina Grimke- "Human Rights Not Founded on Sex" (1837)

### **Women's and Gender Studies/Social Movements Terminology:**

Gender-conscious social movement/gender-conscious activity

Resource mobilization

Absolute and relative deprivation

Conscience constituent

Beneficiary constituent

Women's rights activism

Feminism/womanism/humanism

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