



# how to be a feminist superhero

24 hour master class

February 15-16, 2013  
12:00 - 12:00

## Course Overview: how to be a feminist superhero

The Centre for Feminist Pedagogy's 2013 semester is starting off with a BAM! POW! WHAM! with our first Master Class on 'how to be feminist superhero.' Typically a superhero is defined as someone who fights for social justice and public safety. Doesn't this, in part, also describe what most feminists do? During this 24-hour period of collaborative study, we will look at, discuss, and debate dominant and oppositional representations of real and fictional female, queer, and trans 'superheroes' in art and popular culture from Wollstonecraft to Wonder Woman and beyond.

New students are welcome to stop by for an hour or stay for the entire program. The event is B.Y.O.B. (if you so desire) but there will be lots of popcorn and coffee on hand!

## Reading List

Master Classes are a collaborative effort and participants are encouraged to help us develop our bibliographies. If there is something you would like to watch or a text that you think is missing from our list (see pages 2 and 3), please email us at **contact@feministpedagogy.org** or simply bring a copy to the Master Class.

All readings will be available at the Centre. It is not necessary to do the readings to participate in the class.

## Schedule

### Friday, February 15

- 12:00 Welcome to Session 1: Afternoon
- 13:00 Reading and Discussion: Theoretical Framework
- 15:00 Screening and Discussion
- 17:00 Dinner Break
- 18:00 Welcome to Session 2: Evening
- 19:00 Short Reading and Discussion
- 20:00 Screening and Discussion
- 23:00 Cocktail Hour / Welcome to Session 3: Overnight

### Saturday, February 16

- 00:00 Short Reading and Discussion
- 01:00 Screening
- 04:00 Snooze Break
- 05:00 Feminist Wake-Up Activity
- 06:00 Breakfast / Welcome to Session 4: Morning
- 08:00 Short Reading and Discussion
- 09:00 Screening and Discussion
- 11:00 Wrap-Up
- 12:00 Congratulations Feminist Superhero Masters!



# how to be a feminist superhero

film + bibliography

## Video / Film / Television

- Andrews, Mark, and Brenda Chapman**, dir. *Brave*, 2012, 93 min.  
**Birnbaum, Dara**. *Technology/Transformation, Wonder Woman*, 1978, 6 min.  
**Burton, Tim**, dir. *Alice in Wonderland*, 2010, 108 min.  
**Chytilová, Věra**, dir. *Daisies*, 1966, 74 min.  
**Dempsey, Shawna, and Lorri Millan**. *Unruly*, 2008-ongoing, 40 min.  
**Dempsey, Shawna, and Lorri Millan**. *Superfeminist*, 2008-ongoing, 2 min.  
**Despentes, Virginie**, dir. *Baise-moi*, 2000, 77 min.  
**Filmation Associates**. *She-Ra: Princess of Power*, 1985-1986, 24 min.  
**Fix, Kerthy**, dir. *Who Took the Bomp? Le Tigre on Tour*, 2011, 67 min.  
**Hegge, Kevin**, dir. *She Said Boom: The Story of Fifth Column*, 2012, 64 min.  
**Kaplan, Nelly**, dir. *La fiancée du pirate*, 1969, 25 min.  
**Kusama, Yayoi**, dir. *Self-Obliteration*, 1967, 24 min.  
**Lynch, Shola**, dir. *Free Angela and All Political Prisoners*, 2012, 101 min.  
**Marston, William M.**, dir. *The New Adventures of Wonder Woman*, 1975-1979, 60 min.  
**Mir, Aleksandra**, *First Woman on the Moon*, 1999, 13 min.  
**Scott, Ridley**, dir. *G.I. Jane*, 1997, 125 min.  
**Scott, Ridley**, dir. *Thelma and Louise*, 1991, 130 min.  
**Steiner, A.L., and A.K. Burns**. *Community Action Centre*, 2010, 69 min.  
**Steyerl, Hito**, *November*, 2004, 25 min.  
**Talalay, Rachel**, dir. *Tank Girl*, 1995, 104 min.  
**Tapert, Robert**, dir. *Xena: Warrior Princess*, 1995-2001, 45-48 min.  
**Teyssier, Agathe**, dir. *La femme invisible*, 2009, 90 min.  
**Varda, Agnès**, dir. *Lions Love*, 1969, 110 min.  
**Vaughn, Matthew**, dir. *Kick Ass*, 2010, 117 min.  
**Vorlíček, Václav**, dir. *Who Wants to Kill Jessie?*, 1966, 80 min.  
**Whedon, Joss**, prod. *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, 1997-2003, 43 min.

## Text

- Baker, Cindy**. "Personal Performance," <http://www.populust.ca/cinde/wp/category/performance/>
- Beauvoir, Simone de**. *Le deuxième sexe*, Paris: Gallimard, 1949.
- Bilat, Loïse et Gianni Haver**, eds. *Le héros était une femme... : Le genre de l'aventure*, Lausanne: Antipodes, 2011.
- Burdock, Maureen**. "The F Word Project: Five Feminist Fables for the Twenty-First Century," [http://www.maureenburdock.com/Burdock\\_Fine\\_Art\\_Current.html](http://www.maureenburdock.com/Burdock_Fine_Art_Current.html)
- Cahun, Claude**. *Héroïnes*, établissement de l'édition, notes et postface par François Leperlier. Paris: Éditions des Mille et une nuits, 2006.
- Cassagnes-Brouquet, Sophie et Mathilde Dubesset**, eds. *Héroïnes*, Toulouse: Presses universitaires du Miral, 2009.
- Chalet, Georges**. *Fantômette (série de romans pour la jeunesse)*, Paris: Hachette, Bibliothèque Rose, 1961-2011.
- Davis, Angela**. *If They Come in the Morning: Voices of Resistance*, New York: Third Press, 1971.
- . *Women, Culture, and Politics*, New York: Vintage, 1990.
- . *The Meaning of Freedom*, San Francisco: City Lights, 2012.

bibliography continues...

- DiPaolo, Marc Edward**, "Wonder Woman as World War II Veteran, Camp Feminist Icon, and Male Sex Fantasy," *The Amazing Transforming Superhero: Essays on the Revision of Characters in Comic Books, Film and Television*, ed. Terrence R. Wandtke (North Carolina: McFraland and Company, 2007), pp. 151-173.
- Despentes, Virginie**. *King Kong Théorie*, Paris: Éditions Grasset & Fasquelle, 2006.
- Dragu, Margaret**, "Lady Justice," <http://ladraguasladyjustice.blogspot.ca/>
- Duras, Marguerite et Xavière Gauthier**, *Les parleuses*, Paris: Les Éditions de Minuit, 1974.
- Eden, Martin**. *Spandex* (Comics)
- Federici, Silvia**. *Revolution at Point Zero: Housework, Reproduction, and Feminist Struggle*, Brooklyn/Oakland: Common Notions, 2012.
- Firestone, Shylamith**, *The Dialectic of Sex: The Case for Feminist Revolution*, London: Paladin, 1970.
- Gilbert, Paula Ruth**. *Violence and the Female Imagination: Quebec's Women Writers Re-Frame Gender in North American Cultures*, Montréal: McGill-Queen's University Press, 2003.
- Helford, Elyce Rae**. "Feminism, Queer Studies, and the Sexual Politics of Xena: Warrior Princess," *Fantasy Girls: Gender in the New Universe of Science Fiction and Fantasy Television*, ed. Elyce Rae Helford (Boston: Rowman and Littlefield Publishers, 2000), pp. 135-162.
- Journal of Graphic Novels and Comics* 2, no. 1, Special Issue: Superheroes and Gender, Summer 2011.
- Justice, Morgan C.**, "Citizen Justice," <http://justifiedjustice.blogspot.ca/>
- Krichane, Selim**. "Lara Croft: simulation d'un héros féminin," *Le héros était une femme... : Le genre de l'aventure*, sous la direction de Loïse Bilat et Gianni Haver, Lausanne, Antipodes, 2011.
- Levine, Elana and Lisa Parks**, eds. *Undead TV: Essays on Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, Durham: Duke University Press, 2007.
- Lonzi, Carla**. "Let's Spit on Hegel," trans. Giovanna Bellesia and Elaine Maclachlan, *Feminist Interpretations of G.W.F. Hegel*, ed. Patricia Jagentowicz Mills, State College, PA: The Pennsylvania State University Press, 1996, pp. 275-298.
- Madrid, Mike**. *The Supergirls: Fashion, Feminism, Fantasy, and the History of Comic Book Heroines*, Minneapolis: Exterminating Angel Press, 2009.
- Magoullick, Mary**, "Frustrating Female Heroism: Mixed Messages in Xena, Nikita, and Buffy," *The Journal of Popular Culture* 39, no. 5 (October 2006), pp. 729-755.
- Marcus, Sara**. *Girls to the Front: The True Story of the Riot Grrrl Revolution*, New York: Harper/Perennial, 2010.
- Marinella, Lucrezia** (1600), *The Nobility and Excellence of Women and the Defects and Vices of Men*, trans. A. Dunhill, Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1999.
- Moine, Raphaëlle**. *Les femmes d'action au cinéma*, Paris: Armand Colin, 2010.
- Pender, Patricia**. "'Kicking Ass is Comfort Food': Buffy as Third Wave Feminist Icon," *Third Wave Feminism: A Critical Exploration*, ed. Stacy Gillis, Gillian Howie and Rebecca Munford (New York: Palgrave MacMillan, 2004), pp. 154-164.
- Perrin, Céline**, Patricia Roux et Catherine Gaillard. "'Les Amazones' Entretien avec Catherine Gaillard, conteuse," *Nouvelles Questions Féministes*, 24, no. 3 (2005), pp. 122-137.
- Pohl-Weary, Emily**, ed. *Girls Who Bite Back: Witches, Mutants, Slayers, and Freaks*, Toronto: Sumac Press, 2004.
- Power, Nina**. *One Dimensional Woman*. Washington: Zero Books, 2009. Robinson, Lilian S. *Wonder Women: Feminisms and Superheroes*, London and New York: Routledge, 2004.
- Smith, Jen**. "Doin' It for the Ladies - Youth Feminism: Cultural Productions/Cultural Activism," *Third Wave Agenda: Being Feminist, Doing Feminism*, ed. Leslie Heywood and Jennifer Drake, Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1997, pp. 226-238.
- Stabile, Carol A.**, "Sweetheart. This Ain't Gender Studies": Sexism and Superheroes," *Communication and Critical/Cultural Studies* 6, no. 1 (2009), pp. 86-92
- Stasia, Cristina Lucia**. "'Wham! Bam! Thank You Ma'am!': The New Public/Private Female Action Hero," *Third Wave Feminism: A Critical Exploration*, ed. Stacy Gillis, Gillian Howie and Rebecca Munford (New York: Palgrave MacMillan, 2004), pp. 175-184.
- Voisset-Veysseye, Cécile**. *Les amazones font la guerre*, Paris : Harmattan, 2009.
- Weil, Simone**. *La pesanteur et la grâce*, Paris: Plon, 1948.
- Wollstonecraft, Mary** (1792). *A Vindication for the Rights of Women: With Strictures on Political and Moral Subjects*, London: Fisher T Erwin, 1891.
- Zambreno, Kate**. *Heroines*, Los Angeles: Semiotext(e), 2012.