

Paper #3 5-6 pages

- Must be typed, double-spaced, 1 or less margins
- Must be proofread for grammatical, typographic and spelling errors.

DUE: Wednesday March 16th by 4pm. Please drop your papers at the FDM front office (note that the office is open from 9-12 and 1-4). Late papers will not be accepted

In this class we have studied several analytical methods to define and/or explore "gender." For example [this is by no means an exhaustive list]:

- as "process and product of representation" [de Lauretis]
- as "performative" [Butler]
- as "read" or "received" [Mercer]; "marked" or "unmarked" [Garber]
- as "narrative structuring device" [rape/revenge- Clover]
- as "assignment" and "identification" [Bornstein]
- as "transvestite effect" [Garber]
- as a series of identifications and dis-identifications [Munoz]
- as a site of "subversion"? [Fusco, Butler, Hooks]
- as a site of shifting and contested "borders" [Hale, Halberstam]

In an attempt to examine or represent a key course concept, your final paper will investigate some "text" that holds personal meaning for you— a family snapshot, a high school yearbook photo, a cherished article of clothing, a doll, a home movie, a favorite celebrity, a letter.....

Find a quote from one of the course readings that will help you analyze your "text." Then, "read" your text through an explication of the quote, or the concept contained within the quote. To do this, you will need to contextualize the chosen quote within the author's larger argument.

Please describe your "text" as clearly as possible (what it looks like, sounds like, the context in which you are "reading" it), but REMEMBER that description should always be in the service of analysis. The point of this assignment is to re-experience something familiar and personal through an analytical lens. Or, to put it another way, the point is to analyze a personal experience through the lens of larger structures of culture.

You may not use Teresa DeLauretis, "The Technology of Gender" or Richard Dyer, "The White Men's Muscles" for this paper