Women’s and Gender Studies

presents...

Gender Out Of Bounds

Cross-disciplinary conversations about the unexpected, surprising ways that gender matters in our diverse fields

Faculty Seminar

Xhercis Méndez, Department of Women’s & Gender Studies

Wednesday, November 6, 2013
Alden Room, Milne Library
4:00

Check Your Secularism at the Door!: Re-thinking Feminism and Religion

Notably, feminist analyses of religion as it relates to questions of “gender,” sexuality, and power have primarily been concentrated on an examination of monotheistic religious forms. This has resulted in an understanding of all religiosities as innately restrictive and disciplining of women's bodies and queer subjectivities. In bringing to the forefront the important, yet little-discussed, polytheistic Afro-Cuban Santería and its rematerialization of the “body” and the “human,” we will consider the ways in which these ritual practices contribute to culturally-specific forms of contestation and empowerment, as well as explore the decolonial feminist ingredients provocatively made available through this Afro-Latino/a religiosity.