Women’s History Month

By Hailey Neal

The Origins

In 1980, President Jimmy Carter took the first step to recognize women’s historical accomplishments by declaring the week of March 8, 1980 to be National Women’s History Week. Campaigns to keep National Women’s History Week year after year succeeded. Schools across the U.S. began designating a week in March and sometimes even the whole month of March to celebrate women’s history. It was in 1987 that March was first recognized as National Women’s History Month by Congress after being petitioned by the National Women’s History Project, a non-profit organization that focuses in honoring and preserving women’s history. Since 1988, Congress has passed resolutions requesting for the president to declare March as National Women’s History month.

Since Then...

In 1988, Congress nullifies President Reagan’s attempt to veto the Civil Rights Restoration Act, which upheld Title IX equal education laws after they were suspended by the 1984 Grove City vs. Bell Supreme Court decision.

In 1991, the National Organization for Women helps pass a new Civil Rights Act, which gave women the right to money damages and jury trials for sex discrimination and sexual harassment.

In 1994, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) is signed into law by President Clinton, providing a $1.6 million budget for violence prevention and services. This act also established the Office on Violence Against Women within the Department of Justice.

In 1998, Congress added sex, sexual orientation, and disability to be considered in federal hate crimes legislation.

In 2009, the Lily Ledbetter Fair Pay Restoration Act is signed into law by President Obama, allowing victims of pay discrimination to file a complaint of their employer with the government within 180 days of their last paycheck.

In 2013, the ban against women in combat positions in the military is removed.

In 2015, the Supreme Court declares that same-sex marriage is legal in all fifty states, citing the Due Process Clause and Equal Protection Clause in the Fourteenth Amendment as justification for its passing.

And lastly, on January 21, 2017, almost three million women across the United States marched in protest of President Donald Trump, advocating for legislation and policies regarding women’s rights, LGBTQIA+ rights, racial equality, immigration reform, healthcare reform, etc. It is the largest single-day demonstration in U.S. History.

Though much has been accomplished in the last 30 years of women’s activism, there is still work to be done. The next four years may prove to be a challenge, but if history shows us anything, it’s that change is possible.
Upcoming WNS Courses

**Spring 2018**

**WNS 210: Introduction to Women’s Studies**
Dr. Conradsen | MWF 10:00-10:50 AM

This introductory course to Women’s and Gender Studies provides an overview of the history and current status of women, paying particular attention to diversity in women’s experiences.

**SOC 430 A: Sex, Gender, and Sexuality in Society**
Dr. Bradfield | M 3:30-6:00 PM

This class will focus on changes and continuities in gender roles within the U.S., the social processes that influence gender and sexual identities, and the connections between gender, sexuality, power, and inequality. Special attention will be paid to how race, class, and sexual orientation intersect with processes of gender relations and social change.

**WI: HIS 375 I A: U.S. Women’s History**
Dr. Snider | MWF 10:00-10:50 AM

A survey of the history of women in the U.S. analyzing the changing images and roles women have held in the family, workplace, politics, and society. Special attention is paid to the impact of race, ethnicity, and class on women’s lives.

**WI: PSY 385 I A: Psychology of Women**
Dr. Conradsen | MWF 12:00-12:50 AM

A writing intensive, discussion-oriented course explores the psychological, emotional, and cognitive aspects of a wide range of issues related to women.

**WNS 323: Social Justice in Action**
Dr. Conradsen | May 7-13 in Atlanta

This class is geared towards people who want to learn more about social injustices and how to become an agent of social change. This is a hands on course in Atlanta and students work directly within the community at local non-profits. This is a Foundations approved course for Intercultural Knowledge.

**Block A**

**ANT 360: Gender, Youth, Economic Development in Tanzania**
Dr. Lewinson | Tanzania from May 15—June 16

This course offers a unique opportunity for students to use this learning process by living in two different regions of Tanzania for a three-week period. The course will focus specifically on youths and how gender intersects with the options for economic livelihoods available to—or made by—them.

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**Fall 2017**

**SHORTFALL**

**ANT 330 A: Anthropology of the Body**
Dr. Knowlton | MWF 12:00-12:50 PM

An exploration of the relationship between body, self, society, and culture through an application of anthropological perspectives to the analysis of medical, mortuary, and body modification ideas and practices in the U.S. and around the world.

**WI: PSY 303 I A: Health Psych Socio-Cultural Context**
Dr. Conradsen | MWF 12:00-12:50 PM

This course is an exploration into the works of Jane Austen, Mary Shelley, and the Bronte sisters, with a special focus on the impact of gender in the works of these renowned female authors.

**SOC 430 A: Sex, Gender, and Sexuality in Society**
Dr. Bradfield | M 3:30-6:00 PM

This class will focus on changes and continuities in gender roles within the U.S., the social processes that influence gender and sexual identities, and the connections between gender, sexuality, power, and inequality. Special attention will be paid to how race, class, and sexual orientation intersect with processes of gender relations and social change.

**WNS 412 A: Women’s Studies Seminar**
Dr. Conradsen | MWF 11:00-11:50 AM

This is the capstone course for the Women’s and Gender Studies minor. Students undertake major projects in which they apply the theories and methodology of women’s studies to their major fields. Should be taken by Juniors and Seniors.

**Spring 2018**

**ANT 30 A: Anthropology of the Body**
Dr. Knowlton | MWF 12:00-12:50 PM

An exploration of the relationship between body, self, society, and culture through an application of anthropological perspectives to the analysis of medical, mortuary, and body modification ideas and practices in the U.S. and around the world.

**ANT 320 A: Gender in Anthropological Perspective**
Dr. Lewinson | TH 9:30-10:45 AM

This class explores the dimension of gender in organizing societies. Students will analyze common patterns and cross-cultural variation in gender roles, sexuality, ideologies, symbolic meanings, hierarchy, and economic development.
In honor of this year’s Women’s History Month theme, “Honoring Trailblazing Women in Labor and Business,” check out these amazing female entrepreneurs who are also Berry Alum.

By Emma Taghon

Founded and CEO of SAI Digital and Makervillage here in Rome, Tricia Steele has honed her creative skill and ingenuity into her businesses. SAI Digital creates beautiful and functional web designs for other businesses. In a world where technology is so essential for small businesses, Steele knows how to create tools for businesses to thrive. Her creative mind has led her to create Makervillage, named one of America’s Most Beautiful Makerspaces by Make Magazine. Makervillage is a community of creative entrepreneurs and a space for the community of other entrepreneurs to collaborate in Rome, Georgia. Entrepreneurs often have a need for resources and Makervillage helps provide those resources through access to physical space, equipment, infrastructure, and financing tools. Most recently, Makervillage hosted a showing of Dream, Girl, a film about women in business, as well as a panel of female entrepreneurs to discuss their experiences in business. A member of the Berry College Class of 2009, she recently received the Distinguished Alumni Entrepreneurial Award for her work in the community as an entrepreneur.

Check out their website!
https://www.makervillage.org/

Berry Alum Brin Enterkin and her business partner Sydney Hulebak are the founders of Lion’s Thread, a clothing company with a purpose to empower women in Uganda. Lion’s Thread employs women in Uganda to create bowties to be sold in the United States. Not only was this company started by two women it advocates for women in Uganda by helping them with career development, financial education and training, and advancement in their communities. The bowties these women create are bold, creative pieces that help create a future for women and their families. Brin Enterkin lives in Uganda, working with the craftswomen firsthand, while Sydney works here in the states as Creative Director. A portion of the profits from each bowtie sold goes to The African SOUP, a nonprofit founded by Enterkin while a student at Berry. The African SOUP helps create school curriculums in Uganda for young children and organizes nutritional outreach programs in the community.

Check out their website!
https://store.lionsthread.com/
March 24th
@ 5:30 PM
Jewel Box

Join us for a fun night of artistic fusion celebrating Women's History Month!

Listen to fellow Berry students, faculty, and staff perform spoken word and live music, read poetry and short stories, and display their visual art to celebrate Women's History Month.

Have some coffee and snacks while exploring artistic creations portraying the complexity and connectedness of women's lives!

Sponsored by the Women’s and Gender Studies Program, MISP, and KCAB

3/23: Guest Speaker: Ms. Sequoia Ayala on Reproductive Justice in Latin America @ 4 PM. Location TBA. CE Credit Pending

This presentation will provide participants with a background on the reproductive justice movement in Latin America as well as the struggles facing Latina women in the United States in the current political climate. Ms. Ayala will highlight specific drivers of health inequities affecting Latin American women focusing on a case study of Chile and Colombia and on her own work in transforming the landscape of Latina women reproductive health and rights in the U.S. at the local, state, and federal, level. Sponsored by the Foreign Language department and the Women's and Gender Studies department.

3/29: Immigration: Facts, Fear, and Faith @ 7 PM in Evans Auditorium. CE Credit Pending

Come join an open discussion about immigration presented from several perspectives: history of immigration in America, current events and legal issues, a Christian response to immigration & refugees, and the personal experience that Selina offers. Sponsored by Canterbury Club

Registration for Row Down The River is THIS WEEK!

Come to Krannert from 11 AM—1 PM any day this week (March 20-25) to sign up. Proceeds from this event benefit the Sexual Assault Center of NWGA and Hospitality House.