

**UNM Fellowship in Family Planning
Petition for MSCR Program Level 2 Independent Study Credit**

Course Title: Social sciences perspectives on the abortion conflict in the U.S.

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1. **Competencies/objectives of the course:**

Eight week on-line course (webinar) focusing on various aspects of the abortion issue in the United States, drawing mainly on literature from the social sciences and history. The course has been especially developed for those holding Fellowships in Family Planning and Abortion.

Topics:

- The struggle for birth control in the U.S.
- Abortion before legalization in the U.S.
- The Politicization and Stigmatization of abortion in the U.S.
- The demographics of abortion, and the politics of the demographics
- The challenges of abortion training
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- Contemporary Abortion Provision in challenging environments
- Key legal cases

2. **Instructional plan/assignments**

- Andrea Tone, “The Comstock Act of 1873”

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- Ellen Chesler, “Seeds of rebellion” and “Doctors and birth control,” from Margaret Sanger and the birth control movement in America
- Toni Cade, “The pill: genocide or liberation”
- Suggested: Russell Shorto, “Contra-contraception;” New York Times Magazine
- Ellen Chesler, “A woman with a plan: the real story of Margaret Sanger,” (RHRealitycheck, Nov.2011)
- Joffe, *Doctors of Conscience: The Struggle to Provide Abortion before and after Roe v Wade*, chaps 3 and 4
- Kristin Luker, “Medicine and morality in the nineteenth century,” (from *Abortion and the Politics of Motherhood*)
- Suggested: “I have been lucky to be part of this: Jane Hodgson and the unending struggle for legal abortion,” *Doctors of Conscience*, chap one
- Leslie Reagan, “About to meet her maker,” selection from “*When abortion was a crime*”
- Joffe, “U.S. Medicine and the marginalization of abortion,” chap 2 in *Doctors of Conscience*
- Lisa Harris, “Stigma and abortion complications in the United States, *Obstet Gynecol. 2012 Dec;120(6):1472*”
- Michelle McKeegan, “Conservative Coup,” chap.3 from *Abortion Politics* (skim but note esp. section on Planned Parenthood, pp.40-42)
- Lori Freedman, “Practice constraints and the institutionalized buck passing of abortion care,” chap. 5 from *Willing and Unable: Doctors’ constraints in abortion care*
- C. Joffe, “Abortion and Stigma,” chap. one in *Dispatches from the Abortion Wars*.
- Reading: Joffe, “Abortion and the ‘Two Americas’ of Reproductive Health,” chap.6, in *Dispatches*
- Nancy Folbre, “Feminism's Uneven Success” (New York Times, Dec. 20)
- Susan Cohen, “Abortion and women of color: the bigger picture,” (Guttmacher Policy Review)
- R.Jones and L.Finer, “Who has second trimester abortions in the United States?” (*Contraception*)
- Steven Ertelt, “More blacks die from abortion than anything else,”(Life News, July 2011)
- C. Joffe and W. Parker, “Race, Reproductive Health and Reproductive Politics in the Contemporary U.S.,” *Contraception* editorial, July 2012
- Reading: “A statement on abortion by 100 professors of obstetrics”, (AJOG, 1972)”
- National Abortion Federation, “Who will provide abortions?”
- Joffe, “You need a community with you,” chap.2 in *Dispatches from the abortion wars*
- Freedman, Landy and Steiner, “Obstetrician-gynecologist experiences with abortion training: physician insights from a qualitative study.”
- C. Condit, *Decoding abortion rhetoric: communicating social change*, pp.22-42
- M. Isern, et.al., “Vera Drake (2004) and the Cider House Rules (1999): the abortion in the cinema and its use in teaching”
- T Weitz and A. Hunter, “Six feet Under brings abortion to the surface.”

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- Joffe, “The clinics; Ground zero in the abortion wars,” and “Regulating abortions,” chaps 3 and 4, in *Dispatches*
- Joffe, “Working with Dr. Tiller: Staff recollections of Women’s Health Care Services of Wichita” (*Perspectives in Sexual and Reproductive Health*)
- T. Weitz and S. Yanow, “Implications of the federal abortion ban for women’s health in the United States”
- T. Camp; “Partial birth abortion ban: Health care in the shadow of criminality.”

3. **Assessment Methods**

- Participation in class discussion
- Class attendance
- Content will be delivered in the form of a Family Planning small group session, at least once per course participant, to residents from Obstetrics and Gynecology and Family Medicine

4. **Duration of the Course / Meeting Times**

- Duration of Course: 8 Weeks
- Class Times: 4pm-6pm PST on Tuesdays
- Format: On-line course using conference call format and Go To Meeting software which allows a shared computer screen

5. **Expectation of time the fellows should spend in and out of class on course activities**

- In class: 16 hours: 8 weeks, 2 hours per week
- Out of class: 32 hours: 8 weeks, 4 hours per week reading/preparing outside of class

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