

POLS 492Q: Women's Suffrage and Gender Politics
24 February 2003

Take Home Midterm Questions

DUE: 2 P.M., THURSDAY, 6 MARCH 2003 (O'SHAUGHNESSY217 / DECIO 442)

Your assignment is to answer *one* of the following two questions. Essays should be approximately 6 pages, typed, and double-spaced. Formatting *must* be consistent with the Style Guide. Please, no cover page. Be sure to identify the question you are answering. Your answer should incorporate information from in-class lectures and discussion and from the assigned reading (including student presentations/handouts); no outside material is necessary. When you use information from the reading, please cite the author and page, if applicable. A good answer will not simply report back information provided in class and in the reading, but will show careful thought and an ability to apply and integrate the material to answer the particular question. To repeat: This assignment necessitates *thinking* and *analysis* on your part; it is not enough to simply regurgitate. If you have any questions or need assistance, please arrange to meet with me *prior to the due date*. I do not accept e-mail submissions. Tardy policy: subtract one half grade for every day paper is late.

1. The women's suffrage movement adopted varying justifications and employed differing strategies over the course of its long history (circa 1848 to 1920). How did the political and social culture, events, and context of the 19th century influence the development and evolution of the arguments and tactics used by the women's suffrage movement?
2. By the time the 19th Amendment was ratified in 1920, thousands of women had participated in the women's suffrage movement. What concerns and interests motivated women to favor and fight for women's suffrage? How did these differing motivations shape the evolution of the suffrage movement's rationale and strategies?