**Think Piece 1: DUE JAN 26**

Listen to “[The Edge of Gender](https://www.npr.org/2018/11/19/669192536/nature-nurture-and-our-evolving-debates-about-gender)” *Hidden Brain* episode, then write a 1 page single-spaced (or 2 page double-spaced) response to the following two prompts:

1. In your own words, explain the main points of this podcast about nature, nurture and how we debate/discuss gender.
2. How do you think about your own gender? Do you think some things are biological (i.e. nature) or learned behaviors/attitudes (i.e. nurture) or something else?
3. Bonus: what are some questions you have about gender? What are some topics or issues that you are interested in exploring this semester.

**Think Piece 2: DUE FEB 2**

Read the first four pages of Ellen van Oost’s “Materialized Gender” PDF, then write a 1 page single-spaced (or 2 page double-spaced) response to the following two prompts:

1. In your own words, explain what van Oost means by gender scripts
2. Pick 1 object that you use frequently and analyze it using van Oost’s idea of gender scripts.

**Think Piece 3: DUE FEB 25**

Read “[Judith Butler Explained with Cats](https://binarythis.com/2013/05/23/judith-butler-explained-with-cats/),” then write a 1 page single-spaced (or 2 page double-spaced) response to the following two prompts:

1. In your own words, explain what Butler means by gender performativity.
2. In what ways do you perform gender everyday? Consider clothing choices, personal hygiene, skincare and/or make-up routines, hair style, shoes, etc… Also consider your behavior and/or habits: things you do or do not carry, how you walk, how you talk, what you do during the day, what you eat and drink, how you interact with people, etc…

**Think Piece 4: DUE MAR 3**

Read “[Intersectionality: How Gender Interacts with Other Social Identities to Shape Bias](https://theconversation.com/intersectionality-how-gender-interacts-with-other-social-identities-to-shape-bias-53724)” and “[Bros Before Hoes: The Guy Code](https://terikovacs.files.wordpress.com/2015/02/bros-before-hoes-article.pdf),” then write a 1 page single-spaced (or 2 page double-spaced) response to the following two prompts:

1. In your own words, explain what David Miller (Intersectionality) OR Michael Kimmel (Bros) assert about gender.
2. Make a list of gender rules that people think they have to follow.

Holistic Scoring

An EXCELLENT Thinking Piece:

* Clearly and thoroughly explain the main concepts in the reading so that a reader unfamiliar with the article will have a solid understanding of what the author’s main argument is and what relevant terms mean.
* Clearly and thoroughly answer all questions in the prompt.
* Clearly and thoroughly connect your personal experiences/opinions with the article’s main ideas.
* May include personal experience and insight
* May include appropriate images.

A SATISFACTORY Thinking Piece:

* Explain the main concepts in the reading so that a reader unfamiliar with the article will have some understanding of what the author’s main argument is and what relevant terms mean.
* Fully answer all questions in the prompt.
* Connect your personal experiences/opinions with the article’s main ideas.
* May include personal experience and insight
* May include appropriate images.

A NOT YET Thinking Piece:

* Includes some explanation of the main concepts of the reading, but a reader unfamiliar with the article may not have a full understanding of what the author’s main argument is OR the explanation may not be in the writer’s own words OR the explanation is a misreading of the author’s main argument.
* May not fully answer all questions in prompt.
* Attempts to connect your personal experiences/opinions to the article’s main ideas OR does not attempt to connect the analysis to gender scripts
* May include personal experience and insight
* May include appropriate images