

GWS 100AC: Settler Colonialism + American West

Q: What is wilderness?

- We will learn this is defined through a law
- We will be reading about this

Famous feminist theorist: every story we tell is based
on previous stories

"Wilderness" is an idea that depends on human culture.

Q: Who are the protagonists in the wilderness?

The antagonists/foils? — white men ♀

Watch The Revenant (?) - story of white man surviving
in wilderness - everyone else is a "helper"/accessory

The idea of wilderness was central to settler colonialism

- if land was "wilderness", it could be taken
- this would produce ideas about gender + values
- frontier = wilderness

Syllabus notes:

15% Attendance is mandatory (4 excuses, -1pt)

20% Random 1-week quizzes (9, 1 is dropped)

50% Take Home Midterm (due 03/09)

35% Final Paper (book review) (03/19 choose book, 05/11 paper due)

Course Reader available @ Zee Zee copy after 01/28