

# Intersectionality, Revisited: For and Against a Methodology for Feminist Studies



**Dr. Amy Brandzel**

Depts. of American Studies  
and Women Studies

Thursday, September 25

12:30-1:30 PM

SUB Luminaria

In this talk, Professor Brandzel enters into the ongoing debate as to the usefulness of “intersectionality” for feminist projects. As a framework and analytic, “intersectionality” has become the measure for successful projects within the discipline of Feminist Studies. It is not only the measure of scholarship within the field, but has also become one of the quintessential learning objectives throughout Women’s Studies undergraduate and graduate programs. Increasingly, however, it has also become the target of critique, as some scholars condemn the framework for offering narrow conceptions of identity formations, as flattening differences within and across racial, gender, sexual, and class structures, and for being a tool that can be misused as a means to re-center the field of Women’s Studies around white women. In this talk, Professor Brandzel examines these critiques, while also offering a “defense” of the analytic and description of the ways in which intersectionality must be understood as a provisional concept that will never be fully understood, encapsulated, or resolved, but is an ongoing and active production that must be arduously and continuously traced in diverse and multiple locales, spaces, discourses, and periods.

Amy L. Brandzel is an Assistant Professor of American Studies and Women Studies at UNM. Professor Brandzel received their PhD in Feminist Studies, with a minor in History, at the University of Minnesota. Brandzel’s work examines queer, feminist, critical race and postcolonial theories of history, law, citizenship, and knowledge production. Their first manuscript, *Against Citizenship: Queer Intersections and the Violence of the Normative*, is in process at the University of Illinois Press.



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