

Sexism | Cinema Film Series: Spring 2015

Fifty years ago, the term “sexism” was coined. In light of this historical marker, this film series seeks to consider ways in which sexism is embedded, endorsed, and/or challenged in the cinema. Looking back at the past five decades, we selected films featuring women as central protagonists in order to review changing (and/or stagnant?) attitudes toward sex/gender. Together, these films offer an intriguing site for the analysis of diverse representations of race/ethnicity, femininities, and sexualities. All movies begin at 7:00pm and will be followed by 20-30 minutes discussion.

2/11: Foxy Brown

3/11: Fast Times at Ridgemont High

3/25: Fargo

4/23: Girlfight

4/29: Blue is the Warmest Color

Film Fact: Did you know that only 4 women directors have ever been nominated for the Oscar for best director by the Academy Awards?

Foxy Brown: Some Potential Questions for Discussion

- 1) How do gender politics intersect with race throughout the movie?
- 2) What strategies does the movie use to link sexuality and violence? How does that reflect the relationship between sexuality and violence in the real world (both in the 70's and now)?
- 3) How are traditional gendered norms/racial stereotypes subverted and/or promoted in the film?
- 4) How gratuitous and/or exploitative is the use of women's bodies throughout the film?
- 5) The New Slavery of illegal drugs is a key theme of Foxy Brown. How does this theme intersect with representations of Foxy's sexuality, like for example in the Ranch scene?
- 6) In what way is the Foxy Brown character linked to Angela Davis?

Go to <https://fearlessttu.wordpress.com/> for more resources and discussion!

Sponsored by Alamo Drafthouse, International Film Series, and TTU Women's Studies.

