In this reading seminar, we will be studying the history of rural women, examining histories from the United States, as well as Taiwan, China, Australia, New Zealand and the United Kingdom. The works span the period from the late 18th century to the present. We will read and discuss a number of important books on the subject, and will study the subject from a number of geographic and social perspectives. Students will further develop their understanding of the topic through researching and writing a substantial historiographic paper on a particular aspect of rural women=s history.

**Required Texts:**

Jellison, Katherine, *Entitled to Power*
Jensen, Joan, *Calling This Place Home*
Johnson, Kay Ann, *Women, the Family, and Peasant Revolution in China.*
Neth, Mary, *Preserving the Family Farm.*
Osterud, Nancy Grey, *Bonds of Community.*
Ulrich, Laurel Thatcher. *A Midwife’s Tale.*
Walker, Melissa, *All We Knew Was to Farm.*
White, Deborah Gray, *Arn=t I a Woman.*
Wolf, Margery, *Women and the Family in Rural Taiwan* [out of print, must be acquired online].

Selections from the following, will be provided through WebCT:
Hunter, Kathryn, *Father’s Right Hand.*
Toynbee, Claire, *Her Work and His.*


Readings will be assigned to specific weeks. Generally, we will be reading and discussing a book a week. Since participation will account for a substantial part of your grade, being prepared with each week=s readings is essential to your grade -- not to mention the success of the class.

**Assignments:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Critical reviews (10 X 10 points)</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project Proposal</td>
<td>50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Historiographic Paper</td>
<td>250</td>
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<td>Total</td>
<td>500</td>
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**Late policy:** All assignments, unless otherwise noted, are due at 1:10 PM on the day to which they are assigned. If you require an extension, you will be required to notify me **before** missing the assignment, and will have to present a good excuse (meaning a **verifiable** family emergency or illness). If I ask for verification, you must provide it. If you do not contact me ahead of time or your excuse is unacceptable, your written assignment will lose 10 points for every week day that it is overdue, beginning on the day it was due. **Plan ahead. Last minute computer glitches are not acceptable excuses for lateness.**

**Office Hours:** My office hours are from 11:00-12:00 T-Th, and by appointment. My office number is 653 Ross Hall, and my phone number is 294-1451. My e-mail address is prinkeh@iastate.edu. Please note: I do not generally check my e-mail during the evening or on weekends.

**Course Schedule**

Aug. 29    Introductions
Sept. 5    Discuss Ulrich. Present potential ideas for papers.
Sept. 12   Discuss White.
Sept. 19   Discuss Osterud
Sept. 26   Present project proposals. Proposals due at 1:10.
Oct. 3     Discuss Jensen.
Oct. 10    Discuss Walker.
Oct. 17    Discuss Neth.
Oct. 24    Discuss Jellison.
Oct. 31    Discuss Verdon/Hunter/Toynbee/Hunter and Riney-Kehrberg/.
Nov. 7     Discuss Wolf
Nov. 14    Discuss Johnson.
Nov. 21    Thanksgiving Week. No Classes.