Submission to ERIC (Educational Resources Information Center), U. S.
Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences

by

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"Women in the Digital Realm"

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Women in the Digital Realm

The following ideas can help women scholar-teachers who want to address feminist issues in computer classrooms, in hybrid classrooms (part traditional classroom and part computer classroom in this case).

I. <u>Confronting misogyny</u>.How can we translate our feminist theories into the computer or hybrid classrooms? In what ways do traditional misogynistic images and words about women transfer to the digital realm? How do we use similar strategies to confront sexist responses?

II. <u>Interrogating software</u>. How can we help to control software packages that replicate standard misogyny? Where can we turn for feminist support?

III. <u>The myth of computer neutrality</u>. How can we work with the ideology of machine neutrality that many writing students have? What are some of the strategies for looking at the gendered nature spaces, including computer spaces?

IV. <u>Historical issues in technology</u>. Are there other eras in writing technology that can help us in the current era of change? E.g., the fifth century BCE in Athens; the fifteenth century in various European locations?

V. <u>How to encourage women students to participate fully in digital cultures</u>. Strategies for women students and instructors to find points of entry for advanced work in the digital realm.

VI. <u>Increasing theorizing of writing, rhetoric, and the digital realm</u>. The building up of graduate courses on feminism, technology, and writing. Locating strong programs that currently exist in graduate writing and rhetoric studies. Ways to increase these offerings.

VI. Selected reading list of women rhetor/writers on digital writing:
- Cynthia Selfe and Gail Hawisher, many volumes
- Laura Gurak, 2 books on the digital realm, including work on women and computers
- Anne Wysocki, many volumes
- Susan Hlligoss, many volumes
- and many others