Good Girls Gone Bad

First Year Seminar: WGST 1111-001

Monday and Wednesday 3:30 to 4:45 p.m.

Women historically have been subject to male authority and required to uphold societal standards of “good” behavior. Subsequently, these women had little voice in the communities in which they lived or in the world at large. Some attempted to break out of this “good” girl mold and use their voices in creative ways, but those who did were often judged by society as “bad.” This First Year Seminar (FYS) course examines how women throughout history combated subjugation through their art, literature, music, and dance, in order to speak to the truth of their lived experience, challenge social inequalities, and make contributions in their respective fields. We will use a historical perspective as a comparison to female artists of today who embrace the “bad” girl label and use creative mediums as a forum bringing attention to social justice issues. All gender identities welcome!

How did Josephine Baker’s 1926 Banana Dance inform and inspire “Beyoncé feminism” of today?

Susanna and the Elders
1610, Artemisia Gentileschi

Susanna and the Elders
(after Artemisia Gentileschi)
2001, Joe Linton

First year seminar classes offer a unique academic experience that combines interesting subjects with the academic skills crucial for success in college.