Brooklyn College

Fall 2020

Sexism in Botany

Professor: Victoria Pope

Course Description-

An informative course analyzing the effects of having sexism within botany. We will study the

reasons as to why the landscaping community only plants all male trees and the health

implications that people suffer from as a result of it. We will also be studying how we would be

able to mitigate the effects of these allergens such as pollen within our landscape.

Week 1-

Reading: An article titled, "Botanical Sexism Cultivates Home-Grown Allergies", by Thomas

Leo Ogren and the book *The Allergy Fighting Garden Stop Asthma with Smart Landscaping* By

Thomas Leo Ogren., we will discuss the impacts of the lack of female trees and discuss

botanical sexism through discussion og Ogren's work. We will discuss the ways Ogrun creates a

system on how to combat allergies.

Week 2-

Reading:"Which is the most hayfever prone city and is 'botanical sexism' to blame?", by Helen

Lock . we will also be reading" How urban planners' preference for male trees has made your

hay fever worse", by Ally Hirschlag. With the combination of these two articles we will be

discussing the effects of the choices landscapers use to keep the area clean. We will discuss the

way botanical sexism has impacted the health of communities. Also, we will be linking botanical

sexism to our own experiences with allergies.

Week 3-

Reading: Allergy- "Free New York" by, Thomas Leo Ogren, with this being our last article we will truth to answer the question her gives light to. Given that this article was written in 2010 we would answer what wayhs if change to the landscaping would have had on us today in 2020. He would also discuss what would happen if these trees would be changed to female trees as well as what would happen if trees would be grafted with a female tree as stated in the article.