

Unladylike2020 Sessions

UNLADYLIKE2020 is a series of 26 short films and a one-hour documentary profiling diverse and little-known American women from the turn of the 20th century, and contemporary women who follow in their footsteps. Winner of the 2020 Women Transforming Media award, the series premiered on PBS's American Masters in honor of the centennial of women's suffrage and is narrated by acclaimed actors Julianna Margulies and Lorraine Toussaint.

Members gather monthly to watch the video shorts of these amazing women and use the provided lesson plans to guide our discussion. Members frequently interject with stories from their parents/relatives and even additional information they found while researching the women. Conversations typically include references to our work experiences and previous events/books. Links provided below. Page 2 provides an example lesson plan.

- Grace Abbott – Social Worker Pioneer & Champion of Children, Immigrants, and Women's Rights
- Charlotta Spears Bass – Newspaper Editor, Civil Rights Crusader & First African American Woman Vice Presidential Candidate
- Gladys Bentley – Gender-Bending Harlem Renaissance Performer and Musician
- Louise Arner Boyd – First Woman to Lead Arctic Expeditions
- Martha Hughes Cannon – First Woman State Senator & Public Health Pioneer
- Sonora Webster Carver – Daredevil Equestrian & Advocate for the Blind
- Margaret Chung – First American-Born Chinese Female Doctor
- Bessie Coleman – First African American Woman Aviator
- Gertrude Ederle – First Woman to Swim the English Channel
- Williamina Fleming – Trailblazing Astronomer and Discoverer of Stars
- Meta Warrick Fuller – Trailblazing Sculptor & First African American Woman Recipient of Federal Art Commission
- Lillian Gilbreth – Pioneering Inventor & Industrial Engineer
- Jovita Idar – Educator, Journalist, Suffragist & Civil Rights Activist
- Sissieretta Jones – Opera Star & First African American Woman to Headline a Concert at Carnegie Hall
- Queen Lili'uokalani – First Sovereign Queen and Last Monarch of Hawai'i
- Annie Smith Peck – Record-Breaking Mountaineer, Suffragist & Educator
- Susan La Flesche Picotte – First American Indian Physician
- Ynés Mexía – Accomplished Latina Botanist
- Jeannette Rankin – Suffragist, Peace Activist & First Woman Member of Congress
- Rose Schneiderman – Pioneering Labor Organizer & Suffragist
- Tye Leung Schulze – Advocate for Trafficked Women & First Chinese American Woman Federal Government Employee
- Mary Church Terrell – Educator, Suffragist, Civil Rights Activist & Co-Founder of the NAACP
- Maggie Lena Walker – Entrepreneur & First African American Woman Bank President
- Lois Weber – Actor, Screenwriter & First Woman to Direct a Feature-Length Film
- Anna May Wong – Trendsetting Movie Star and Fashion Icon
- Zitkála-Šá (Gertrude Simmons Bonnin) – Composer, Author & Indigenous Rights Activist

<https://unladylike2020.com/lesson-plans/>

<https://www.pbs.org/wnet/americanmasters/masters/unladylike2020/>



Lillian Gilbreth I Unladylike2020

Discussion Questions

Comprehension Questions

- What was the Gilbreth system and who was responsible for it? What sets it apart from other approaches to scientific management?
- What were Gilbreth's parent's expectations for her as a young woman? What did she want for herself?
- Based on information presented in the digital short, what is eugenics? In what ways is Lillian Gilbreth's work and life connected to the eugenics movement?
- What happens to Gilbreth's career after her husband's death? How does she reinvent herself? What areas of science does she decide to focus on and what was the impact?
- Who is Lisa Seacat DeLuca? What statistic does she mention to underscore the imbalance in her profession?
- How does DeLuca think about innovation in the same way Gilbreth did?

Critical Thinking Questions

- How do you reconcile that a forward thinking person like Gilbreth could be so progressive and at the same time believe in something like eugenics?
- In the digital short, Lillian Gilbreth is quoted as saying: "*The shift from materialism to humanitarianism is imperative. Efficiency is best secured by gaining the full and hearty co-operation of the worker.*" What do you think motivates Gilbreth's work? Does she care about the worker or about how to make the worker most productive?
- What do you think made it possible for Lillian Gilbreth to pursue a life as an industrial engineer, inventor, psychologist and professor in a time when it was almost unheard of for a woman to work in these professional sectors?