GSWS 317-4: BREAD RIOTS TO RIOT GIRLS:
GENDER, RESISTANCE, AND PROTEST IN HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

Professor: Dr. Mary Shearman
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Office: TBD
Office hours: Wednesdays 16:30 – 17:20
Lecture: Wednesdays 17:30 – 21:20; HC 2510

Course Description:
This course examines women and activism in both the historical and contemporary context. We will look closely at examples of women’s resistance and learn about specific women challenging injustice including nuns who lived in the 12th century and the four founders of the contemporary Indigenous rights movement, Idle No More. We will pay particular attention to the intersections of gender, race, and class while looking at the rise and execution of key social justice movements. We will look at the complicated history of reproductive rights as well as forced sterilization as well as women who have participated in pro-choice and pro-life activism.

Goals:
- to develop both a broad and some specific understanding of social justice movements - to critically engage with women’s resistance with an intersectional lens - to communicate effectively about the aims and goals of various movements - to explain and understand the historical or contemporary context in which social movements rise and respond

Educational Goals:
For more detailed information please see the GSWS website: http://www.sfu.ca/gsws/courses/Educational_Goals.html

Course Texts and Courseware:
Available On-Line

Course Evaluation and Assignments:
Attendance and Participation: 10%  
Group Presentation: 15%  
Mid-term Exam: 15%  
Essay Proposal: 10%  
Final Essay: 25%  
Final Exam: 25%

List of Topics Covered/Lecture Schedule
Week 1: Introduction to the Course  
Week 2: Themes in Women’s Activism and Resistance  
Week 3: Religion and Women’s Organizing  
Week 4: Gender, Class, and Resistance  
Week 5: Abolitionism  
Week 6: Suffrage and the First Wave of Feminism  
Week 7: Mid-term  
Week 8: Women and Pacifism  
Week 9: Women’s politicized bodies  
Week 10: Third Wave Feminism  
Week 11: Gender and the Alt-Right  
Week 12: Contemporary Activism  
Week 13: Sex Worker Rights

Prerequisite: 15 units. Students who have previously taken GSWS 301 (or WS 301) with the same title may not take this course for further credit.