GSWS 320-4: SPECIAL TOPICS IN GSWS:
GENDER IN INDIGENOUS LITERATURE AND FILM

Professor: Dr. June Scudeler
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Office hours: Tuesdays 11am-12:00pm
Lecture: Tuesdays 13:30 - 17:20; SH 9095

Course Description:
Cree poet and scholar Billy-Ray Belcourt asks, “what are the objects of queer and trans Indigenous or two-spirit critique? . . .
queer Indigenous theory is also in a state of flux; it is at the end of one object world and at the door of another.” Similarly,
are feminism or masculinity useful or appropriate concepts for Indigenous studies? Are different ideas or ways of thinking
needed to open new theoretical doors? We will be analyzing a variety of genres—film, short stories, young adult fiction,
novels, critical essays, and poetry —by Indigenous creators from across Turtle Island to understand Indigenous ideas of
gender.

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

Course Texts and Courseware:
Benaway, Gwen. Passage 9781928120087
Chryostos, Not Vanishing (out of print, available on Canvas)
McKegney, Sam. Masculindians: Conversations About Indigenous Manhood 9780887557620
Power, Susan. Roofwalker 978-1571310415
Roanhorse, Rebecca. Trail of Lightning 9781534413498
Whitehead, Joshua. Jonny Appleseed 9781551527253

Course Evaluation and Assignments:
15% Regular Attendance and Participation
20% 1 Response paper (4 pages)
20% Presentation (4 pages)
15% Paper Proposal (3 pages)
30% Final Paper (10 pages)

A Note on Difficult Discussion and Emotional Subjects
This course deals with a number of challenging and emotionally-charged issues, and some students may find the content
unexpectedly stressful, especially around the discussion of ongoing colonization. Readings and films may include violence,
including sexual violence. Please contact me if you have concerns about course content.

Prerequisite: 15 units