GSWS 399-4: GENDER, SEX AND NUMBERS (Quantitative)

Professor: Dr. Tiffany Muller Myrdahl
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Office hours: TBA
Lecture: Mondays and Wednesdays 9:30 – 13:20; May 11 to June 22, 2020; WMC 2220

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

In an era when “Big Data” rules, a critical engagement with the production, collection, and analysis of data (of all kinds) is ever important. This course examines the how and why of quantitative data from a feminist perspective. Students will be introduced to quantitative measurements and their uses, especially within social justice movements and policy circles. Students will learn to interpret and evaluate quantitative data through topics like smart cities, economic justice, and tools used to address urban liveability (safety, housing, transit).

The course focuses on critical quantitative methods, practiced independently and collaboratively, through three components: census data (how to gather and analyze it), survey data (how to design, conduct, and analyze it), and statistical concepts and methods.

Students will become conversant in a feminist analysis of quantitative datasets and measurement. Students will understand how to use and explain basic statistical concepts and methods. Students will learn how to gather and analyze census and survey data. Students will use an intersectional feminist lens to interpret and analyze the role that quantitative data may play in transformative justice.

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

COURSE TEXTS AND COURSEWARE:
Various content (handouts, journal articles, videos, etc.) available on Canvas and/or via SFU library databases.
Exercises handed out in class.

COURSE EVALUATION AND ASSIGNMENTS:
Independent and collaborative data analysis (in the lab) exercises (15%)
Survey research exercise (20%)
Discussion paper (15%)
Research reflection paper (15%)
Datawalk activity and analysis (35%)

PREREQUISITE: 30 units