GSWS 308-4: Women in the Economy: Paid and Unpaid Labour

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Office hours: TBA

Lecture: Tuesdays 8:30 – 12:20; AQ 4120 (Southside of the AQ)

Course Description:
This course deals with (i) various frameworks for studying labour market in Canada; (ii) the phenomena of precarious employment and its manifestations at multi-levels; and (iii) workers’ experiences--all genders--in both public and private sectors in Canada. Using an interdisciplinary framework and critical literature, this course also examines the interdependence of women’s labour—both paid and unpaid—and family life. The course evaluates the quality of work and jobs women do in Canada, and looks at inequalities and differences which intersect with differences in wages and the quality of employment. The course assesses the role and significance of the labour union and its challenges in attempting to organize workers irrespective of gender, class, sexuality, age, dis/ability, race, and citizenship.

Learning Outcomes:
The goal of this course is to learn what constitutes labour—paid, unpaid, and volunteer—in relation to the production and reproduction processes and how to achieve family and all forms of care-work integration.

Course Texts and Courseware:
ISBN 0-7735-2962-4 (paperback)


Recommended
A number of texts will be placed on reserve in the library.

Course Evaluation and Assignments:
One short paper and presentation (1200 words; 4-5 pages) 25%  
Research paper/written part and presentation 30%  
(250 words per page; 7-8 pages)  
Take-home final exam 30%  
(2 short essays out of 3)  
Class attendance & participation 15%

Prerequisite: 30 including three units in GSWS. Students who have completed SA 335 or WS 310 under the title Women and Work may not complete this course for further credit.

THE DEPARTMENT OF GENDER, SEXUALITY, AND WOMEN’S STUDIES ENCOURAGES CLARITY OF THOUGHT AND EXPRESSION AND GOOD WRITING. STUDENTS WILL BE EVALUATED ON THESE SKILLS IN ALL COURSES GIVEN BY THE DEPARTMENT. IN ADDITION, THE DEPARTMENT WILL FOLLOW POLICY T10.02 WITH RESPECT TO “INTELLECTUAL HONESTY,” AND “ACADEMIC DISCIPLINE” (WWW.SFU.CA/POLICIES/TEACHING)