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

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Office hours: TBD
Lecture: Mondays 9:30 – 13:20; AQ 4120

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.

Educational Goals:
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:
Required

Recommended
- A number of texts will be available in the library.

Course Evaluation and Assignments:
Short paper and presentation (1200 words; 4-5 pages) 25%
Mid-term in-class Exam 30%
(Two short essays out of 3 pre-selected questions)
Final Paper 30%
(250 words per page; 2500 words)
Class attendance & participation 15%

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