GSWS 312-4 Immigrants, Women and Transnational Migration

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Lecture: Tuesdays 13:30 – 17:20; AQ 4130

Course Description:
This course explores socio-economic-political conditions that are considered necessary for immigrant and migrant women’s basic security for their development and full participation in the Canadian society. The concept of immigrant is used in a broad and comprehensive way – beyond the legal framework and “standard” societal perception. By exploring the role of the state, this course also examines the history and restructuring of immigration and settlement policies in Canada and how immigrants irrespective of gender, class, race, sexual orientation, age, nationality, ethnicity, and dis/ability have been affected by these policies. Key objectives of the course are to:

- Examine immigration policies and practices in an era of neo-liberalism;
- Examine the growth and role of institutions in facilitating transnational migration and different forms of migrant workers including refugees;
- Analyse various layers of commodification and erosion of skills related to immigrants and migrants;
- Explore the federal and provincial governments’ efforts to recognize immigrants’ credentials from countries of origin;
- Analyse the role of multiculturalism, citizenship, and social policies in immigrants’ and migrants’ lives;
- Explore effective strategies for facilitating full participation of immigrant women and their families in Canada.

Learning Outcomes:
The course intends to provide information about immigrants’ conditions and struggles in Canada that will hopefully prepare students to work in a diverse workplace.

Course Texts and Courseware:
- GSWS 312 Custom Courseware 2013 Fall
- Recommended Texts
  - A number of books will be placed on reserve in the library.

Course Evaluation and Assignments:
- One short paper and presentation (1500 words; 5-6 pages) 25%
- Mid-term in-class exam (Open Book) 30%
- Final paper and presentation (300 words per page; 9-10 pages) 30%
- Class attendance and participation 15%

Prerequisite: 15 units. Students with credit for WS 320 Special Topics: Immigrant Women and Economic Security 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)