GSWS 314-4 Race, Class and Gender Relations: Intersectional Influences

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Office: AQ 5104B  
Office hours: TBA

Lecture: Wednesdays 9:30 – 13:20; AQ 5039

Course Description:
This course provides students with an overview of the interlocking nature of race, class and gender at the micro- and macro-levels of society. It explores a number of themes in the analysis of race, class, gender relations, and sexuality in contemporary industrial societies. Using feminist and anti-racist perspectives, the course examines how race is mediated with other forms of social difference such as gender, class, sexuality, dis/ability and age. Through a wide range of readings, this course aims to cover the following:

- Discuss and illustrate the key concepts in the study of race, gender, and class and how they intersect with each other;
- Explain and demonstrate an understanding of how race, class, and gender intersect with other categories of social experience such as sexuality, nationality, transgender, ethnicity, dis/ability, religion, and age;
- Examine social inequality through intersectional theorizing and comprehend the impact of social division and oppression of marginalized groups on multiple level;
- Show an exercise how to break the cycles of oppression of various disadvantaged groups;
- Demonstrate the role of advocacy groups, grassroots organizations, and coalition building.

Educational Goals:
- Raise consciousness about the intersections of privileges
- Learn how to break the cycle of oppression

Course Texts and Courseware:
- GSWS 314 Custom Courseware 2015 Spring

Course Evaluation and Assignments:
- Short Paper (1500 words; 5-6 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: 15 units. Students who have taken either GSWS 301 (or WS 301) or GSWS 310 (or WS 310) as Special Topics: Race, Class and Gender may not take this course for 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)