GSWS 321-4: Special Topics is GSWS: Gendering Environment

Professor: Dr. Tiffany Muller Myrdahl
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Lecture: Mondays 13:30 - 17:20; AQ 4140

Office: AQ 5095
Office hours: Tuesdays 13:00 - 15:00 and by appointment

Course Description:
This course uses a feminist/critical geographic perspective to examine environment, sustainability, and eco-activism, paying particular attention to the social forces that are at work in efforts to address environmental change. The course begins with an examination of the production of knowledge and the relationship between nature and culture. It moves on to explore case studies in environmental activism and sustainability studies. Each case study enables us to assess and discuss how social relations (e.g., gender, race, class, colonial history, globalization) affect both the embodied experience of ecological change and the ability to address ecological challenges. Further, these case studies will allow us to evaluate environmental activism at various scales: we will examine individual and community activism, institutional policy initiatives, state governance, and international debates over environmental protection. Students will apply this analysis to the campus or local environment.

Learning Outcomes:
The goal of this course is to engage students in an examination of, and conversation about, feminist/critical approaches to environment, political ecology, and sustainability. Further, the course asks students to conduct an evaluation of on-campus or local environment/sustainability/eco-policy initiatives using a feminist analysis.

Course Texts and Courseware
• Readings on reserve or electronically accessed through the SFU Library.
• Content on course blog, TBA.

Course Evaluation and Assignments:
Attendance and Participation 20%
Reading responses (3) 30%
Activity & analysis 50%

Prerequisite: 15 Units