GSWS 210-3: Gender Today: Reproductive Justice, Reproductive Rights

Professor: Dr. Rebecca Scott Yoshizawa
Email: Rebecca_yoshizawa@sfu.ca
Office: TBC
Office hours: TBA
Lecture: Thursdays 14:30 - 17:20; AQ 4130

Course Description:
Reproductive politics refers ongoing struggles to define, constrain, medicalize, technologize, spur, and/or prevent reproduction. This is an introductory course that builds interdisciplinary and feminist tools to analyze narratives, issues, practices, and arguments regarding reproductive politics as they manifest throughout the lifecourse, from preconception to end of life. Topics include reproductive choices, fertility, non-normative kinship, childbirth, child rearing, menopause and andropause, and the developmental origins of health and disease. Recognizing the topical and controversial nature of reproductive politics as well as the role of GSWS in transforming students into critical advocates for social change, assignments encourage students to engage in public dialogues on reproduction and to develop programmes of advocacy to advance reproductive justice.

Educational Goals:
At the end of this course, students will be able to:
1. Demonstrate knowledge of a range of feminist and intersectional perspectives
2. Demonstrate knowledge of a wide range of issues pertaining to reproductive politics
3. Analyze reproductive politics from feminist perspectives
4. Mobilize advocacy skills for participation in public debates on reproductive politics

Course Texts and Courseware:
- Articles on Canvas.

Course Evaluation and Assignments:
- 15% Participation and attendance
- 20% Op-ed - Write a ~800 word opinion editorial piece about a reproductive political issue from feminist perspectives learned in the course
- 20% Film Review - A ~1000 review of a film shown in class
- 10% Issues Diary - Keep a weekly diary outlining contemporary issues regarding reproductive politics that you hear about from media, or have personally experience. ~50 words per week with links to sources, if any
- 35% Group Advocacy Proposal - In groups of 3-4, develop a programme of advocacy regarding a contemporary issue in reproductive politics. Give a 30-minute presentation of your project and analysis to the class in either week 12 or 13. Collaboratively write 10-12-page report on your programme, to be submitted on the final day of class

Prerequisite: none

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)