GSWS 317-4 BREAD RIOTS TO RIOT GRRLS: GENDER, RESISTANCE AND PROTEST IN HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

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Office hours: Tuesdays 14:30 - 15:30  
Lecture: Mondays 9:30 - 13:20; WMC 2503

Course Description:
How do the ways we frame or historicize movements for social justice shape their cultural memory? How are intersecting identities of gender, race, class, and sexuality articulated in social movements, and how are they obscured? This course traces women’s activism from the late 19th century to the present day. We cover a range of left wing social movements, with a particular focus on the intersections of race, gender, and violence in feminist and civil rights organizing from the 1950s onwards. We also look at grassroots feminist organizing in Oregon and Washington in the 1990’s.

The course also focuses on how different social movement organizations have navigated issues of power and oppression. We will incorporate a range of creative activist practices into our sessions, to get hands-on experience in social movement message-making. Class time will consist of a combination of lectures, group-work, presentations and class discussion. Students are expected to do their weekly readings and come to class prepared to contribute to class discussions.

Educational Goals:
- Become familiar with a range of contemporary and historical social movements
- Demonstrate the ability to critically examine social movement history through a feminist lens
- Apply class learnings to a creative portfolio promoting the message of a particular social movement.
- Communicate ideas effectively through in-class assignments and discussion.

Course Texts and Courseware:
All course readings are available on Canvas.

Course Evaluation and Assignments:
Attendance and in-class participation: 15%
Short written assignments: 20%
Creative portfolio of work produced in-class: 15%
Thesis proposal and annotated bibliography: 10%
Research essay or creative project + essay: 40%

Prerequisite: 15 units. Students who have previously taken GSWS 301 (or WS 301) with the same title may not take this course for further credit.