WOMEN'S STUDIES 100-3

Spring Semester 1981
Evening Course

Instructor: Dr. Barbara Blakely

Perspectives on Women: An Introduction to Women's Studies

Description

The course will begin with a discussion of current women's issues: what are they, and what perspectives are available for understanding them? We will look at philosophical, psychoanalytic, biological, psychological and literary perspectives for understanding and explaining the position of women.

The course will then focus on women's work: what work do women do inside and outside the home, and what value is this work given? We will use a materialist perspective to examine woman's economic position in contemporary Canadian society; we will also explore the sources of the contemporary situation in other historical periods.

Finally, the course will conclude with a discussion of the Women's Movement: how has the Women's Movement contributed to our understanding of women's lives, and what solutions does it offer to the issues it has defined?

Required Readings

Margaret Atwood, The Edible Woman
Pat & Hugh Armstrong, The Double Ghetto

Plus readings to be distributed by the instructor.

Requirements

There will be one two-hour lecture and one tutorial per week. In the tutorial, students will discuss the reading assignment for the day, and each student will give one brief oral presentation based on the assignment (20%). In addition, there will be one short paper (30%) and a take-home exam (50%).