"Men are men and women are women" - we may take that for granted, but should we?

What does it mean to be a woman? What are the "real" differences - apart from the obvious - between women and men? What are the different roles that women and men play in society - and why these roles?

This course will look first at the findings of biology, psychology, and sociology, to see what differences there might "really" be between women and men, in personality, work, social role. We will ask where these differences might have originated and why they're expressed the way they are.

We will then look at women in Canadian society: women as settlers, as wives and mothers, as workers, as citizens. We will discuss some of the significant advances in rights for women that have occurred in this century: suffrage, the "Persons Case", property rights, family relations laws. We will ask how "equal" women are in Canada, and what the future holds for Canadian women.

Reading List


Sinclair Ross, As For me and My House, Toronto, M & S, 1970.


Grading

Grading will be based on a seminar presentation (25%) and a term paper of approximately 10 pages (75%).