This course will be an introduction to some of the most fundamental and fascinating issues concerning women:

- Have women always and everywhere been subordinate to men?
- Does biology determine the work that women do and the power relations between men and women?
- How do parents treat girl children differently than boy children even if they think they're treating them the same?
- Why do women earn lower wages than men?
- How do women view pornography?
- What arguments have women made for changes in the private and the public spheres of women?
- Can feminism be traced as far back as the 15th century?

We will examine the complex means by which our culture "creates" the contemporary Canadian woman, and we will look also at efforts that women, personally and collectively, have made and are making to "recreate" themselves and a more equitable and humane society.

This course is designed for independent study and is interdisciplinary in nature. Readings range from philosophy to fiction, popular journalism and feminist scholarship. Assigned texts will be accompanied by a study guide, audio cassette discussions, and a teleseries broadcast on KNOW. These programs will feature telephone interaction. In addition, the tutor will arrange a series of audio teleconferences and tutorials among registered students.

Required Reading

Paul and Erin Phillips, Women and Work: Inequality in the Labour Market
Margaret Atwood, The Edible Woman
Fitzgerald, Guberman and Wolfe, eds., Still Ain't Satisfied! Canadian Feminism Today
Penney Kome, Somebody Has to Do It: Whose Work is Housework?

Knowledge Network Teleseries (Lower Mainland Converter Channel 18)

Each program will feature a film or videotape and discussion with invited guests moderated by Dr. Anita Clair Fellman. Viewers will be able to talk, by telephone, with the moderator and guests during the interactive portion of most programs. Programs are show on Tuesdays at 9:30 p.m.

15 January Women in the World 5 March Rape as Sexual Politics
29 January Working for Pay 12 March Women in Popular Culture
19 February Growing Up Female 19 March Changing Women's Work
26 February Women View Pornography 26 March Union Women