Three generations of women came of age in Canada between 1920 and 1970. Their lives and experiences cast light on the situation of women in the 1980s. Using the words of the women themselves as much as possible, and films and magazines of the period, we will examine the working lives of these three generations (at home and on the job), their roles as daughters, mothers and wives, the impact of politics, religion, law, education, war and poverty on their lives, and contemporary ideas about such things as aging and women's sexuality. The things that changed for these three generations and the things that stayed the same will be the evidence by which we will interpret the present lives of women in Canada.

Students will prepare one short book review and a research paper. A bibliographic essay on the research topic will be required and separately graded. Use of such sources as films, interviews, visual and other arts and physical objects in addition to printed works is encouraged. There will be a final take-home examination.

Required Texts:

M. Luxton, More than a Labour of Love
P. and E. Phillips, Women and Work
G. Roy, The Tin Flute
L. Dranoff, Women in Canadian Life: The Law

A reprint packet, available from the instructor, at cost.

Grading Structure:

20% Book review
15% Bibliographic source essay
35% Research essay
20% Final examination
10% Class participation