WOMEN'S STUDIES PROGRAM: SFU

SPRING SEMESTER 1987

WOMEN'S STUDIES 100-4

PERSPECTIVES ON WOMEN: AN INTRODUCTION TO WOMEN'S STUDIES

In this course we will focus on the lives of modern Canadian women and how our culture "creates" her, and we will look also at the efforts that women, personally and collectively, have made and are making to "recreate" themselves and a more equitable and humane society. In order to do this we will examine a wide range of questions, including:

- How do women and men talk to each other? What does this tell us about power?
- Why do women earn lower wages than men?
- Why is housework important work and who does the housework?
- How do women combine working outside the home with raising a family?
- What are special problems of minority women in Canada?
- What role does biology play in determining women's and men's roles?
- How do parents treat girl children differently than boy children, even if they think they're treating them the same?
- How do women view pornography?
- What are women doing today to change women's lives for the better?

REQUIRED READING:

Fitzgerald, M., C. Guberman & M. Wolfe, eds. Still Ain't Satisfied: Canadian Feminism Today Women's Press

Atwood, M. The Handmaid's Tale Bantam-Seal

ORGANIZATION:

There will be three lecture/discussion hours and one tutorial hour per week (see times, above). A week-by-week schedule will be available in class.

ASSIGNMENTS:

Tutorial participation (including a journal on the readings and one short oral report - 20%); Take-home mid-term exam - 20%; 6-10 page essay - 30%; Take-home final exam - 30%.