WOMEN'S STUDIES PROGRAM

FALL 1989
Evening

MICHELE VALIQUETTE
Lec. Tue. 18:30-20:20
Tut. Tue. 20:30-21:20

W.S. 303-3
WOMEN AND CONTEMPORARY CANADIAN LITERATURE

The texts we will consider this semester are evidence of the richness and diversity of contemporary literature by Canadian women. They range from a feminist detective novel set in Vancouver to a series of interviews with immigrant domestic workers, from poetry one critic has aptly named "office gothic" to an innovative account of romantic love and environmental activism.

The women's renaissance which has given birth to these works has generated an equally intriguing body of theoretical writing. Questions feminist literary critics have raised -- about the role of the writer in her community, about the relationship between art and social change, about women's literary traditions and the specificity of women's writing, and especially, about the intersection of gender with class, race and sexual identity -- will provide us with points of entry into the texts.

REQUIRED READING

Kemp, Penny, Binding Twine. Ragweed, 1984. (poetry)
Rule, Jan, Memory Board. Macmillan, 1987. (novel)

RECOMMENDED READING


ASSIGNMENTS

10% Library assignment (3-4 pages)
15% Presentation & written summary (4 pages)
15% Short essay (5-7 pages)
45% Final paper (15 pages)
15% Seminar participation

Prerequisites: 60 credit hours
STUDENTS MAY APPLY TO THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT TO HAVE WS 303-3 DESIGNATED AS CREDIT TOWARD THE ENGLISH MAJOR REQUIREMENT.