GSWS 101-3: Gender Talk (B-Soc)*
* This is a designated Social Sciences Breadth Course

Lara Campbell
Email: lcampbel@sfu.ca
Lecture: Wednesdays 10:30 – 12:20; AQ 3149
Office hours: TBD
Office: AQ 5105

Course Description:
Should prostitution be legalized? Is pornography sexist? Is Sex and the City a feminist or post-feminist T.V. show? If you are interested in the various ways we live as gendered beings in Canadian society, then GSWS 101 will help you think about and debate some of these questions. This introductory course examines the social and cultural constructions of gender and sexuality, and the way that ideas about femininity and masculinity shape social institutions, popular culture, and social policy. We will examine the interconnections of gender with race, ethnicity, class and sexuality, address how men’s and women’s lives and identitites are shaped by the intersection of oppression and privilege, and discuss the history and future of feminist activism.

This course is designed to help students develop critical and analytical skills by investigating popular stereotypes and assumptions about sexual difference and the effects that such assumptions have had within social policy, work, media and the family. By the end of the course, students will be able to analyze how the lives of men and women have been shaped by individual and institutional power relations.

Course Texts and Courseware:
Custom courseware package, available at the University bookstore
Stephanie Meyer, Twilight. Available in paperback at the bookstore, but any edition is acceptable.

Course Evaluation and Assignments:
Mid-term Essay Proposal / Annotated Bibliography: 10%
Final Essay: 25%
Mid-term test: 15%
Final Exam: 25%
Tutorial Participation/Attendance: 15%
Tutorial debates: 10%

THE DEPARTMENT OF GENDER, SEXUALITY, AND WOMEN’S STUDIES ENCOURAGES CLARITY OF THOUGHT AND EXPRESSION AND GOOD WRITING. STUDENTS WILL BE EVALUATED ON THESE SKILLS IN ALL COURSES GIVEN BY THE DEPARTMENT.
IN ADDITION, THE DEPARTMENT WILL FOLLOW POLICY T10.02 WITH RESPECT TO “INTELLECTUAL HONESTY,” AND “ACADEMIC DISCIPLINE” (WWW.SFU.CA/POLICIES/TEACHING)