GSWS 312-4: Immigrants, Women and Transnational Migration

Habiba Zaman
Email: hzaman@sfu.ca
Lecture: Mondays 9:30 – 13:20; Surrey 2985
Office hours: TBD
Office: AQ 5105

Course Description:
This course explores socio-economic-political conditions that are considered necessary for immigrant and migrant women’s security for their development and full participation in the Canadian society. The concept of immigrant is used in a broad and comprehensive way – beyond the legal framework and “standard” societal perception. By exploring the role of the state, this course also examines the history and restructuring of immigration and settlement policies in Canada and how immigrants irrespective of gender, class, race, sexual orientation, age, nationality, ethnicity, and dis/ability have been affected by these policies. Key objectives of the course are to:

• Examine immigration policies in an era of neo-liberalism;
• Examine the history and role of institutions in facilitating transnational migration and different forms of migrant workers including refugees;
• Analyse various layers of commodification and erosion of skills related to immigrants and migrants;
• Explore the federal and provincial governments’ efforts to recognize immigrants’ credentials from countries of origin;
• Analyse the role of multiculturalism, citizenship, and social policies in immigrants’ and migrants’ lives;
• Explore effective strategies for facilitating full participation of immigrant women and their families in Canada.

Course Texts and Courseware:
GSWS 312 Custom Courseware 2011 Fall

On-Line Materials

Recommended Texts

In addition, a number of texts will be placed on 7-day reserve in the library.

Course Evaluation and Assignments:
One short paper and presentation (1500 words; 5-6 pages) 20%
History of Immigration-Written only (1800 words; 6-7 pages) 25%
Poster presentation/written part (Group Project) 15%
Journal (300 words per page; 9-10 pages) 25%
Class attendance and participation 15%

Prerequisite: 15 units. Students who have previously taken WS 320 Special Topic: Immigrant Women and Economic Security may not take this course for further credit.