GSWS 822-5 Graduate Seminar in Feminist Theory
“Contemporary Trans/National Feminist Theories on Race, Gender, and Sexuality”

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Lecture: Fridays 9:30 – 14:20 RCB 5118
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Course Description:
This course examines contemporary feminist theories on racism, gender, and sexuality. We will study how feminist theories can illuminate current political, racial, social, and gendered realities for subjects in national and international contexts. While focused on seeing links between this large and intersecting body of scholarship, special attention will be paid to the ways in which feminist theory can allow us to (or prevent us from) the task of challenging and dismantling multiple and interlocking systems of oppression both at “home” and “abroad.”

Course Texts and Courseware:

- Yee, Jessica, ed. *Feminism for Real: Deconstructing the Academic Industrial Complex of Feminism.* Ottawa: Canadian Center for Policy Alternatives, 2011.

*Additional articles will be assigned to students and will be made available via a course website.*

Course Evaluation and Assignments:

| Attendance and Participation | 20% |
| Seminar Presentation          | 30% |
| Final Research Paper or Project | 50% |

Details of Evaluation and Assignments on page 2

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)
Attendance and Participation, 20%
Attendance is essential in this course. It is imperative that you attend class on time and that you actively participate in all classes. Reading assigned materials and actively engaging class discussions are vital aspects of this seminar course.

Seminar Presentation, 30%
Each student will lead a seminar based on weekly theoretical readings. Presentations should attend to the key arguments/themes raised in the reading and provide discussion points and/or questions for the group. The presentations should strive to make appropriate links to contemporary political, historical, and social debates and utilize external research to illuminate difficult concepts and ideas raised in the readings. While providing some summary of the readings, presentations should include new analytic elements, showcasing students’ abilities to synthesize ideas and suggest exciting and nontraditional avenues for feminist research and praxis.

Final Research Paper or Project, 50%
A final research paper which does not exceed 18 pages in length addressing and extending the questions, debates, and discussions raised by the selected course materials and readings. The paper, while referencing theoretical works utilized in this class, should also showcase students’ research abilities and analytical skills. Papers must provide a clearly articulated thesis, a works cited page, and follow appropriate documentation guidelines. All students are encouraged to discuss their potential research projects with the instructor well before the deadline.