WS 200-3  Women in Cross-Cultural Perspective: Mothers and Daughters

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COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES
In this course we will examine lives of mothers and daughters and the relationship between them as depicted in literary texts by women from Canada, China, Nigeria and the United States. Together we will explore issues of identity, expectation, generation gap, poverty, racial conflicts and stereotyping, sexism, adolescence and old age, voice, tradition and culture, universality and individualism. The objective of the course is to provide frameworks and tools for investigating, analyzing and understanding the social construction of mother-daughter roles and relations, to understand differences and similarities by in-depth case studies and to learn the history and culture of these geographical locations through the eyes of mothers and daughters.

REQUIRED READINGS
Kingston, Maxine Hong. *The Woman Warrior* by 1976
Munro, Sheila. *Lives of Mothers and Daughters: Growing up with Alice Munro*. McClelland & Stewart, 2001

RECOMMENDED READINGS
Alice Walker. *In Search of Our Mother’s Gardens*.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING STRUCTURE
10% - Participation
15% - Reading Journal (weekly 2-page critical response)
20% - Mid-term examination
10% - Oral presentation and group project (in-depth case study)
5% - Research paper proposal and bibliography
20% - Research Paper (10 pages)
20% - Take-home final

PREREQUISITES
WS 101 or 102 (may be taken concurrently).