GSWS 200-3: Women in Cross Cultural Perspectives: Women Im/migration from South to North: Cross-Cultural Issues and Challenges

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Course Description:
This course will explore interconnections between transnational women im/migration and globalization, feminization of poverty, gender and racial inequalities through the anti-racist and feminist lens. First part of the course will focus on pre-im/migration context of women living in the countries of South or ‘third world’, while the second part will discuss the post-immigration challenges and issues being faced by women immigrants living in the global North, specifically Canada. Students, interested in political theory, social and anthropological approaches, social and immigration policy, media and culture, gender and feminist studies will benefit from the course.

Learning Outcomes:
The key objectives of the course are:
- To examine the geo-political, socio-economic and gendered context of the countries of South, ‘third world’ or ‘immigrant exporting countries’.
- To explore theories of immigration to analyze a) significant reasons for transitional immigration of women and, b) to examine the changing immigration policies of Canada under different regimes.
- To explore the perspectives of the host countries to deal with the issues of immigrant women.
- To examine the settlement, particularly social and economic challenges being faced by transnational immigrant women; and also to explore their responses and resilience to deal with the challenges.
- To explore the role of government(s), socio-economic, political and media institutions in creating or not creating ‘spaces’ for transnational immigrant women.
- To understand the cultural gaps, expectations and anxieties and their consequences for the first and second generations of transnational immigrant women.
- To examine the possibilities and ‘things to do list’ to create safe spaces for transnational immigrant women.

Course Texts and Courseware:
GSWS 200-3 Custom Courseware 2011 Spring

Recommended Readings:
A list of recommended readings will be provided and a set of books will be placed on 7 day reserve in the library.

Course Evaluation and Assignments:
Reading Reviews & Presentations 20%
Reflective Journal 20%
Short Paper 20%
Class Participation & Attendance 10%
Final Exam 30%

Prerequisite: None

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 TI0.02 WITH RESPECT TO “INTELLECTUAL HONESTY,” AND “ACADEMIC DISCIPLINE” (WWW.SFU.CA/POLICIES/TEACHING)