GSWS 398W-4: Feminist Currents (W)

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Course Description:
This course examines major ideas in and beyond third wave feminist writing through an exploration of various forms of critical and creative expression. We will focus on the following themes: third wave and postfeminist debates; men, masculinity and feminism; transgender issues; activism and creativity; pedagogy and critical thinking in the classroom. The writing intensive component of the course will help students develop analytical, writing, and research skills through a variety of writing assignments including blogging, exploratory writing, a group 'zine project, and a sequence of critical and creative assignments that build up to a final writing project. Students are encouraged to contribute actively to the learning environment with ideas from their own experience, practices, and visions of feminism.

Learning Outcomes:
Students are expected to:
- gain a comprehensive understanding of third wave and postfeminist debates
- learn from, and practice using, different critical and creative conventions in contemporary feminist writing
- develop skills to articulate advanced critical ideas on gender and sexuality through a variety of writing and research practices
- experience working in groups while cultivating awareness and self-reflection of the collaboration process

Course Texts and Courseware:
- Genz and Benjamin, Postfeminism: Cultural Texts and Theories (Edinburgh, 2009).
- Shira Tarrant, Men and Feminism: Seal Studies (Seal Press, 2009).
- Kate Bornstein & S. Bear Bergman, Gender Outlaw: The Next Generation (Seal Press, 2010).
- bell hooks, Teaching Critical Thinking: Practical Wisdom (Routledge, 2009).

Additional Articles in Custom Courseware

Course Evaluation and Assignments:
Attendance & Participation 10%
Contributions to Blog 10%
Writing Assignment 1 10%
Writing Assignment 2 10%
Writing Assignment 3 10%
Final Writing Project 30%
Group 'Zine Project 20%

Prerequisite: 30 units including three units in GSWS.

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)