This course will explore one of the major themes in Canadian women’s history, that is, women’s experience of work in all its aspects. The course will examine women’s unpaid work in the home as wives, mothers, and caregivers, their voluntary pursuits, and their participation in the workforce over the past seventy-five years. Where appropriate, Canadian women’s experience will be located within the broader international context of women’s history. As a way to highlight the diverse and unique experiences of Canadian women, the course will explore a variety of sources: fiction, diaries, and other literary materials, statistical data, government documents, oral history, and videos. Students will be introduced to historical methodologies and special attention will be paid to the problems of researching and writing women’s lives.

Sessions will consist of a lecture, followed by discussion in tutorials of assigned readings from required texts and some additional journal articles on reserve in the library. To facilitate these exchanges, students must be prepared to keep up with the reading which will be kept within a reasonable limit. Depending on class size, during the last two or three tutorials, students will present brief progress reports related to the research essay.

**Required Texts:**


**Assignments and Marks Allocation:**

- Book Review (3 pages)  15%
- Midterm test (4-6 pages)  15%
- Major research essay (10-12 pages)  30%
- Class participation  15%
- Final exam (6-8 pages)  25%