WS 208-3: Feminist Research Methods

Habiba Zaman
hzaman@sfu.ca
Phone: 291-5528, Rm. AQ 5104B

This course introduces students to a wide range of research methods taking women as a central point of reference. The course will explore a variety of feminist approaches, each with its distinctive and implied methodology, including defining feminist research, the qualitative/quantitative controversy, ethnography, survey, laboratory and field experimentation, cross-cultural and case study, oral history, and research for social change. Through readings, discussion and assignments, students will learn how to conduct research through participant observation and interviewing that includes examination of ethical issues, research guidelines and the inclusion of difference.

Required readings
Seigart, Denise and Sharon Brisolara (eds.). 2002. Feminist Evaluation: Explorations and Experiences. ISSN: 1097-6736

Assignments and grading structure
35% - Take-home final exam (2 short essays out of 4 questions; 6-7 pages per essay)
35% - Interview exercise-written report/presentation (10-12 page; approximately 250 words per page)
20% - Participant observation exercise-written report/presentation (5-7 page; approximately 250 words per page)
10% - Class attendance and participation

** Please NOTE: The tutorial room has changed and now will be held in AQ 4125 **

Prerequisites:
WS 101 or WS 102. May be taken concurrently.

THE DEPARTMENT OF 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.