WS 312-4: Immigrants, Women and Transnational Migration

Dr. Habiba Zaman
hzaman@sfu.ca
Wednesdays, 9:30 – 13:20
Office hours: TBA
Office: AQ 5104B

Course Description:
This course explores socio-economic-political conditions required for immigrant and migrant women’s security for the growth, development and their full participation in the Canadian society. The concept of immigrant is used in a broad and comprehensive way – beyond the legal framework and “standard” societal perception. By exploring the role of the state, this course also examines the restructuring of immigration and settlement policies in Canada and how immigrants irrespective of race, gender, class, sexual orientation, age, ethnicity, and dis/ability have been affected by these policies. Key objectives of the course are to:

• examine immigration policies in an era of neo-liberalism;
• examine the role of institutions in facilitating transnational migration and different forms of migrant workers including refugees;
• analyse various layers of commodification and erosion of skills related to immigrant and migrant women;
• explore the federal and provincial governments’ efforts to recognize immigrants’ credentials from countries of origin;
• analyse the role of multiculturalism, citizenship and social policies in immigrants’ and migrants’ lives;
• explore effective strategies for facilitating full participation of immigrants and their families.

Required Readings:


WS 312 Custom Courseware 2011

On-line materials

Recommended Texts:
A number of texts will be placed on 7-day reserve in the library.

Assignments and Evaluation:
One short paper and presentation (1500 words; 6-7 pages) 25%
Research essay and presentation (9-10 pages; 300 words per page) 30%
Take-home final exam (two short essays out of three) 30%
Class attendance and participation 15%
Class attendance and participation 10%

Prerequisites: 24 Units