Course Description:
The Centre for Contemporary Cultural Studies emerged at the University of Birmingham (UK) in 1964, and combined media studies, history, sociology, anthropology, and literary studies to explore the everyday lives of ordinary people. The work of the CCCS established cultural studies as a major interdisciplinary force in the English-language academy. Early work in cultural studies was heavily influenced feminist theorists and by theorists of race and racism. This course will be an intensive seminar in the birth and development of cultural studies, with an emphasis on the role of women and African diaspora scholars in shaping the intellectual directions of cultural studies. Students will read a core of texts together, but pursue individually defined research topics.

Course Texts and Courseware:
Angela McRobbie, The Uses of Cultural Studies
Toby Miller, Ed. A Companion to Cultural Studies
Selections available full text online

Course Evaluation and Assignments:
Participate in and lead class discussion (10%)
3 - 5-page papers on foundational concepts (30%)
Literature review on selected topic (20%)
25 page integrative paper, incorporating foundational papers and literature review (40%)

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. IN ADDITION, THE DEPARTMENT WILL FOLLOW POLICY T10.02 WITH RESPECT TO “INTELLECTUAL HONESTY,” AND “ACADEMIC DISCIPLINE” (WWW.SFU.CA/POLICIES/TEACHING)