Notice of the Final Oral Examination for the Degree of Master of Arts of

D. SOPHIA MYERS

BA (Vancouver Island University, 2017)

“Embodied Revolt: A Feminist-Bourdieuian Analysis of Protesting Bodies”

Department of Sociology

Thursday, October 8, 2020
10:00 A.M.
Remote Defence

Supervisory Committee:
Dr. Steve Garlick, Department of Sociology, University of Victoria (Supervisor)
Dr. Laura Parisi, Department of Gender Studies, UVic (Outside Member)

External Examiner:
Dr. Mara Martin, Department of Political Science, UVic

Chair of Oral Examination:
Dr. Neil Ernst, Department of Computer Science, UVic

Dr. Stephen Evans, Acting Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies
Abstract

Through assessing Bourdieu’s concepts of habitus and field, this research project examines how resistance can be understood as an embodied experience. Six resistors are asked in semi-structured and dialogic interviews how they experience resistance to oppression of various forms including patriarchy, colonialism, cisheteronormativity, and capitalism. Three main themes emerge from these interviews and include: the construction of a resistant habitus, the occurrence of solidarity through which resistant habitus may mobilize, and the possibility of transforming oppressive fields such as patriarchy into fields of feminist resistance. Through instances of increased awareness of one’s social struggle, developments of mobile solidarity, and the occupation of oppressive fields in the name of social change, this project posits that habitus are capable of enacting change upon the field.