



The University of Victoria, Department of Gender Studies
Fall 2020

GENDER STUDIES 310 INDIGENOUS FEMINISMS

Instructor: waaseyaa'sin Christine Sy
Email: christinesy@uvic.ca

Course Description

In this course, you will be introduced to Indigenous feminisms as a body of methods, theories, and practices with which Indigenous peoples, particularly womxn, have varying relationships. Emphasis is given to indigenous feminisms as a tool that is utilized strategically to interpret, analyze, negotiate and transform the dynamic, heterogeneous settler-colonial and indigenous worlds that womxn specifically, and Indigenous peoples more generally, navigate. This course is transnational as it illuminates aspects of Indigenous womxn's lives from within and across Indigenous Nations and nation-states (i.e. Canada, U.S). Origins, debates, personal narratives, dialogues, issues, and aesthetic forms arising within and from this political, social, and theoretical orientation are presented. Learning occurs online through engagement with recorded asynchronous voice-over power points and links to multi-media as well as recorded synchronous weekly online gatherings that will include large and small group discussions and when possible, guest visits. Because Indigenous peoples around the world are living in actively unfolding (de)colonial contexts, including Canada, space may be made in the course to engage emergent issues that relate to the subject of Indigenous feminisms.

Objectives

- To learn the “for whom” and “for what” of Indigenous feminisms
- To learn about key debates and issues in IFs
- To practice IF intellectual-relational methodology of dialogue, witnessing, and thoughtful response
- To develop analytical skills utilizing IF theories

Required Text

Making Space for Indigenous Feminism, Joyce Green, ed. (2017, 2nd edition)

Course Films & Media

Six Miles Deep (Sara Roque, 2010, 43m)
A Red Girl's Reasoning (Ella-Maija Tailfeather's, 2012, 10m)
Whalerider (Niki Caro, 2003, 1h41m, to be confirmed)
Broken Box Podcast