



Poster by José Gómez Fresquet (Frémez), circa 1970. Collection of the Center for the Study of Political Graphics.

Course Description

In this course we will think in a philosophical way about issues in feminist thought.

We'll look at some social practices that raise pressing problems about the standing and treatment of women — practices like pornography, restrictions on reproductive rights, sex work, multiculturalism, harassment and the gendered division of labour. When we consider these practical issues we'll be asking first how we should *think* about these things as we work towards determining what we should do about them.

We'll also be examining a number of foundational concepts and theories in feminism. These include the concepts of sex and gender, patriarchy and oppression, intersectionality, consent, misogyny, objectification, the different voice, false consciousness and adaptive preference. We'll be thinking about how best to understand these concepts and evaluating different ways they have been used.

We'll consider ideas from a wide variety of contemporary feminist thinkers but we'll also draw on the ideas of earlier philosophers who wrote about women during the enlightenment, in the classic utilitarian tradition and in the development of existentialist thought.

Instructor: Karen Brown

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Office Hours: On Zoom Thursdays 8:00 am - 10:00 am The link is on Brightspace.

Class Meetings: Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays 12:30—1:20
January 11 though 21 we'll meet on Zoom at this time.
The link is on the Brightspace page.
The rest of the term we'll meet in MacLaurin Building D115.

Texts

Elinor Mason. *Feminist Philosophy: An Introduction*. Routledge. 2022.

All other course readings are available through Brightspace.

To access the course materials on Brightspace go to Bright.uvic.ca and log in with your regular network ID.

Course Work

Six Reaction Papers	50%
Three Quizzes	25%
Essay (1500 words max.)	25%

Information about the essay assignment, reaction papers and quizzes, including detailed instructions and late policies, can be found on the Brightspace page.

Grading

Grades for the course will be assigned using the UVIC Undergraduate Grading Scale:

Percentage	Grade
90 - 100	A+
85 - 89	A
80 - 84	A-
77 - 79	B+
73 - 76	B
70 - 72	B-
65 - 69	C+
60 - 64	C
50 - 59	D
Below 50	N or F

A+, A, or A- is earned by work which is technically superior, shows mastery of the subject matter, and in the case of an A+ offers original insight and/or goes beyond course expectations.

B+, B, or B- is earned by work that indicates good comprehension of the course material, good command of the skills needed to work with it, and full engagement with the course requirements and activities. A B+ represents a more complex understanding and/or application.

C+ or C is earned by work that indicates an adequate comprehension of the course material and the skills needed to work with the course material and that indicates the student has met the basic requirements for completing assigned work and/or participating in class activities.

D is earned by work that indicates minimal command of the course materials and/or minimal participation in class activities that is worthy of course credit toward the degree.

N indicates that the course requirements were not completed.

Academic Integrity

The University Policy on Academic Integrity (covering plagiarism, multiple submission, unauthorized use of an editor, falsifying materials, cheating and aiding others to cheat) will be enforced in this course. **You are responsible for familiarizing yourself with the policy.** You can find it online in the UVIC Calendar at https://www.uvic.ca/calendar/future/undergrad/index.php#/policy/Sk_0xsM_V?bc=true&bcCurrent=08%20-%20Policy%20on%20Academic%20Integrity&bcGroup=Undergraduate%20Academic%20Regulations&bcItemType=policies

If you have any questions about what this policy requires or any doubts about whether or not you are complying with it, please don't hesitate to ask me about it.

Territory Acknowledgement

The University of Victoria acknowledges with respect the Lekwungen-speaking peoples on whose traditional territory the University of Victoria stands, and the Songhees, Esquimalt and WSANEC peoples whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.

Equity

Uvic is committed to promoting, providing and protecting a positive, supportive and safe learning and working environment for all its members. Information about Uvic policies on human rights, equity, discrimination and harassment are available at [Uvic's Equity and Inclusion page](#). If you have any particular concerns about equity in our course please don't hesitate to contact me.

Religious Accommodation

Information regarding accommodation of religious observance can be located in the UVIC Calendar at <https://www.uvic.ca/calendar/future/undergrad/index.php#/policy/r1q0gofdN?bc=true&bcCurrent=10%20-%20Accommodation%20of%20Religious%20Observance&bcGroup=Undergraduate%20Academic%20Regulations&bcItemType=policies>

Readings listed below by chapter are all from Mason's *Feminist Philosophy*.
 All other readings can be found through the course Brightspace page.
 Any changes to the schedule will be announced in class and posted on Brightspace.

These 1st two weeks we'll be meeting on Zoom at the regular class time. The link is on the Brightspace page.

	Tuesday	Wednesday	Friday
Jan. 11, 12, 14	Mason Introduction	Rousseau Emile Wollstonecraft A Vindication of the Rights of Woman	<i>continued</i>
Jan. 18, 19, 21	Ch. 1: Feminism in a Global and Multicultural Context	<i>continued</i> Reaction Paper 1	<i>continued</i>
Jan. 25, 26, 28	J.S. Mill On the Subjection of Women H.T. Mill The Enfranchisement of Women	Antony Different Voices or Perfect Storm?	Ch. 2: Work and Care Reaction Paper 2
Feb. 1, 2, 4	Ch. 7: Sexism, Oppression and Misogyny	<i>continued</i>	Bettcher Trapped in the Wrong Theory
Feb. 8, 9, 11	Quiz One	Ch. 3: Reproductive Rights	<i>continued</i> Reaction Paper 3
Feb. 15, 16, 18	<i>continued</i>	Ch. 8: Intersectionality	<i>continued</i>
Feb. 21–25	<i>R e a d i n g</i>	<i>B r e a k —</i>	<i>N o C l a s s e s</i>
Mar. 1, 2, 4	Ch. 4: Pornography	<i>continued</i> Reaction Paper 4	<i>continued</i>
Mar. 8, 9, 11	Nietzsche Thus Spake Zarathustra, Beyond Good and Evil Beauvoir The Second Sex	Ch. 10: Objectification	<i>continued</i>
Mar. 15, 16, 18	Quiz Two	Ch. 9: Ideology, False Consciousness and Adaptive Preferences	<i>continued</i> Reaction Paper 5
Mar. 22, 23, 25	<i>continued</i>	Ch. 5: Sex Work	<i>continued</i> Reaction Paper 6
Mar. 29, 30 Apr. 1	Ch. 11: Consent	<i>continued</i>	Ch. 6: Sexual Violence and Harassment
Apr. 5, 6	Discussion of Essay Drafts	Quiz Three	
Essay — Due Thursday, April 14 at 5 p.m.			