



POLI 323 Feminist Political Economy

Instructor Spring 2022: Dr. Feng Xu

Course delivery: In the Spring 2022 term, this course will be delivered on campus and face-to-face.

Course description:

Feminist political economy (FPE) grew out of feminist movements of the 1970s. It subsequently has established itself as a systematic interdisciplinary field. “FPE is an approach that understands social difference—including, but not limited to, gender—to be integral to the functioning of political-economic systems and knowledge production processes.” At the centre of feminist political economy is the collective feminist effort, in both activism and academic work, to make social reproduction in capitalism visible and valuable. We start our course with *Wages for Housework* and the *Combahee River Collective* to ground feminist political economy in grassroots movements. We then move from the contemporary stakes of reproductive labour to their earliest formation at the dawn of capitalism. We end the course envisioning feminist futures.

Prerequisites: None.

Course outcomes/objectives:

- Understand the history and basic concepts of feminist political economy
- Recognize, identify and explain key concepts in feminist political economy
- Apply concepts to contemporary themes in feminist political economy
- Develop written and verbal communication through essay writing and discussion

Topics may include:

Gendered migration

International division of (reproductive) labour

Gender violence and primitive accumulation

Indigenous feminist political economy

Social reproduction

Precarious labour and gender (e.g. service economy, surrogacy, digital economy)

This summary provides an overall sense of the course and is not considered an official course outline. Detailed course outlines will be available for all registered students on the first day of class.