

FACULTY OF ARTS
WOMEN'S STUDIES PROGRAM

WMST315.01 Winter 2015

TITLE: Introduction to Women's Studies
Instructor: Rebecca Sullivan
Office: SS1142
Phone: 403-220-3397
Online: rsulliva@ucalgary.ca
Office hours: Tuesdays, 12:30 – 2:00 PM

Course description:

This course explores the scholarly and political implications of conducting feminist research by examining key methods and their justifications. Students will have the opportunity to design their own research project.

Student conduct:

Some of the materials and topics in this class may include explicit content (violence; sexuality; profanity; blasphemous, objectionable or illegal conduct). If you feel any materials may cause you distress or severe discomfort, you are encouraged to speak with the professor and/or to take measures to ensure that you feel safe within the classroom. You will not be exempt from any assigned work but we will work together to accommodate your concerns. This class respects difference and diversity while welcoming thoughtful, critical debate and discussion. No one person's right to their beliefs may supersede another person's right to security and dignity. If you feel that you need more support than can be provided by the classroom or the professor, you are encouraged to take advantage of some of these resources:

SU Wellness Centre (403-210-9355 / 403-266-4357)
Calgary Communities Against Sexual Abuse Hotline (403-237-5888)
Alberta Mental Health Hotline (1-877-303-2642)

Trained peer supporters are also available through the Women's Resource Centre (4th Floor, MacEwen Centre, in The Loft), and the Q Centre for Gender and Sexual Diversity (2nd Floor, Mac Hall, near The Den).

If you have a serious concern about the professor's conduct, you may speak in full confidence to the Associate Dean of Undergraduate Programs and Student Affairs (Dr. Virginia Tumacz, tumasz@ucalgary.ca)

Responsibility for attending and fulfilling the requirements for all aspects of the course resides with the student. The professor will not give out lecture notes, repeat information, nor provide replacement copies of material that was provided during regular class hours. The course includes a combination of individual assignments, group work, lectures, screenings, and readings. Students are expected to arrive in class on time and prepared to work.

Students are welcome to bring portable word processing devices (tablets, laptops, airbooks, Acer, anything you got) to class as learning tools to improve your focus and engagement in the lecture. Abuse of these devices (surfing inappropriate or offensive material, use of social network sites, texting, playing music, watching videos, etc.) is prohibited and may result in having your privileges to use your device in class revoked and/or being removed from the class. See the section on Course Technology for more details.

Plagiarism, defined as using any source whatsoever without clearly documenting it, is a serious academic offense. Consequences include failure on the assignment, failure in the course and possible suspension or expulsion from the university. Please refer to the following information and make sure you are familiar with the statement on plagiarism provided at the end of the syllabus.

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-2-1.html>

Course Technology

A D2L portal has been set up for this course which allows for group correspondence, course announcements, class materials, assignment submissions and grading, and other forms of communication. Students are expected to check D2L before class time for any last minute changes or cancellations.

Texts and readings:

Available on D2L and through the university library.

In-class screening are considered as a required part of the lectures and part of any examination or assignment parameters.

Additional recommended readings may be included in D2L.

Assignments and Evaluation:

Research Design #1	Thursday, March 26 th @ 9AM / Friday, March 27 th @ 5PM	15%
Research Design #2	Thursday, April 2 nd @ 9AM / Friday, April 3 rd @ 5PM	15%
Research Design #3	Thursday, April 7 th @ 9AM / Friday, April 9 th @ 5PM	15%
Research Design #4	Thursday, April 14 th @ 9AM / Friday, April 15 th @ 5PM	15%
Quiz #1	Thursday, February 12 th	20%
Quiz #2	Thursday, March 19 th	20%

Research Design

In D2L under the Research Design Module (Contents), there is a worksheet which all students must use cumulatively. That means that as you complete each part of the worksheet, you submit a file that has the previous parts included. By the final Part IV, the worksheet will be completely filled out. Each time you submit a worksheet, you must be sure that it is submitted into the appropriate Dropbox Folder. Only one file will be accepted, and it must be complete and in either Word or PDF format.

Each part of this assignment takes you through an important step in research design. There will be a lecture on the specific components of design on the Tuesday of the relevant week, and a workshop on your project on the Thursday. Included in the worksheet are fields to list the names of the individuals who participated in your workshop group. If you do not participate in a workshop and do not have sufficient (and documented) reasons for doing so, your grade for that part of the assignment will be deducted by one half letter grade.

Instructions for each part of the Research Design assignment are included in the worksheet. A draft version of each part must be completed in time for the workshop class and you must bring a copy to class. If you have not completed your work, you may participate in the workshops, but your grade for that part of the assignment will be deducted by one half letter grade. The professor will circulate during the class and you must show your completed assignment to her. The final version of your assignment is due the next day (Friday) by 5PM. Again, you must submit through D2L Dropbox in the appropriate folder. Only Word and PDF formats are accepted, you must use the worksheet provided, and it must be up-to-date and only one file.

Online Quizzes

Online quizzes will be made available through D2L on the assigned date, from 10:00 AM until 2:00 PM. There will be no regular class on those days. Quizzes will be based on all material covered in the course since the last quiz. The quizzes will be timed so you will have no more than 75 minutes to complete, and the computer will shut the test down precisely at 2:00

PM, so it is strongly recommended that you begin no later than 12:30 PM. There is a timer at the top of the page for the quiz, but you should also have your own timers set. It is possible to go over time, but there will be a significant grade penalty.

To ensure no technological problems, students must turn off all pop-ups, and open any windows they might want to refer to prior to commencing the quiz. Students are also expected to use a reliable computer and Internet connection. If you're not 100% positive that what you have is up to the task, go to the TFDL or a computer lab on campus.

You may refer to your notes or any other resources at your disposal, but remember that nothing replaces good old-fashioned studying, and scrambling about for the answer increases your chance of making a technological error or just wasting precious time. Students are expected to work independently. Sharing of answers will be considered plagiarism and you will receive a grade of F (0) and risk disciplinary measures.

Policy for Late Assignments

Unless otherwise stated, no extensions will be granted on assignments except in cases of documented medical or personal distress. Failure to submit on time will result in a grade of F (zero).

Failure to complete all of the required exams and assignments may result in a grade of F (zero) in the course. If you complete all assignments but receive more than two Fs (including an F in participation), the professor reserves the right to give you a final grade of F.

It is the student's responsibility to keep a copy of all assignments in case of loss by any cause.

There will be no Registrar-scheduled final exam.

Grading system:

This course uses a combination of letter and number grades, according to the chart below. The university's Undergraduate Grading System is available here: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-2.html>. In most cases where the final letter grade for the course is less than 1% from the next higher grade, the professor will round-up.

Percentage	Letter	Usually Graded	Point
90 + %	A+	95	4.0
85 – 89 %	A	87	4.0
80 – 84 %	A–	82	3.7
77 – 79 %	B+	78	3.3
74 – 76 %	B	75	3.0
70 – 73 %	B–	72	2.7
67 – 69 %	C+	68	2.3
64 – 66 %	C	65	2.0
60 – 63 %	C–	62	1.7
55 – 59 %	D+	57	1.3
50 – 54 %	D	52	1.0
0 – 49 %	F	0	0

Writing support:

The Student Success Centre offers both online and workshop writing support for U of C students.

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing-support>

Academic regulations and schedules:

Consult the Calendar for course information, university and faculty regulations, dates, deadlines and schedules, student, faculty and university rights and responsibilities. The homepage for the University Calendar is

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/index.htm>

Guidelines on e-mail Etiquette: **<https://www.ucalgary.ca/it/help/articles/email/etiquette>**

Academic Accommodation:

It is the students' responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodations and have not registered with Student Accessibility Services, please contact them at 403-220-6019. Students who have not registered with Student Accessibility Services are not eligible for formal academic accommodations. More information about academic accommodations can be found at **www.ucalgary.ca/access**.

Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points: **<http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>**;

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act: **<http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip/>**

“Safewalk” Program:

Campus Security will escort individuals day or night: call 220-5333 for assistance. Use any campus phone, emergency phone or the yellow phone located at most parking lot pay booths.

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk/>

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources:

Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS102, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at **picarts@ucalgary.ca**. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at **<http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate>** which has detailed information on common academic concerns.

For program planning and advice, contact the Program Information Centre at 403-220-3580 or **artsads@ucalgary.ca**. For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.

Contact for Students Union Representatives for the Faculty of Arts:

arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca

Contact for Students Ombudsman's Office: **<http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>**

The University of Calgary has a number of student clubs and other resources dedicated to issues of gender and sexual equity. Here are links to their Facebook sites (please note that the professor is a member of all these sites):

Consent Awareness and Sexual Education Club
Queers on Campus
Q: The SU Centre for Gender and Sexual Diversity
Women in Leadership Club
Women's Resource Centre
Women's Studies and Feminism Club

Plagiarism

Using any source whatsoever without clearly documenting it is a serious academic offense. Consequences include failure on the assignment, failure in the course and possible suspension or expulsion from the university. Please refer to the following information and make sure you are familiar with the statement below on plagiarism.

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-2-1.html>

The University Calendar states:

1. Plagiarism - Essentially plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Most commonly plagiarism exists when:

- (a) the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test),
- (b) parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author,
- (c) the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or,
- (d) a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted.

Plagiarism occurs when direct quotations are taken from a source without specific acknowledgement, or when original ideas or data from the source are not acknowledged. Citing your sources in a bibliography is not enough, because a bibliography does not establish which parts of a student's work are taken from other sources. MLA (Modern Language Association) documentation or other recognized forms of citation must be used for this purpose. Advice on adequate documentation can be found at the following web sites:

<http://www.dianahacker.com/resdoc/>

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/>

Safer Space Guidelines

In the interest of making this a safer space for sharing ideas about gender and sexual diversity, please consider the following in your interactions with other participants:

Address people without assuming their gender. Some ways to do this:

- Don't refer to groups as guys, ladies, women, men, etc.,
- Refer to individuals whose gender has not been disclosed to you in gender-neutral ways such as "the person who said..."

Address people using the gender pronouns they have indicated for themselves. Offer your gender pronouns to others to make it a safer space to talk about gender pronouns. Ways to talk about your pronouns include, but are not limited to:

- they/them/theirs
- she/her/hers
- ze/hir/hirs
- he/him/his
- ey/em/eirs

Don't assume that others have the same experiences, identities, or histories as you. Question your assumptions and be open to having others question them too. Practice respectful listening and respectful communication.

Some additional identities/assumptions to consider are racial identity, ethnic identity, immigrant status, citizenship status, sex assigned at birth, mental health situation, accessibility needs (or lack thereof), and formal education status. Not all such identity markers are visible or obvious, so try as best as you can to not assume.

Provide discrete and succinct content/trigger warnings if you will be talking about topics that may be traumatic for some and the content is not already apparent, examples of such topics could include abuse, violence, addiction, suicide, mental health, transphobia/homophobia/other forms of discriminatory behaviours. An example of wording could be, "Please note that there will be (x) content in my discussion."

Respect your own and others' physical, mental, and emotional boundaries. Please speak up in a respectful way if you are uncomfortable, seek support if you want/need it, and engage in self-care as required and/or desired.