Winter 2024



GNDS 125/3.0 Gender, Race and Popular Culture

Students can expect to spend 10 hours per week

Lectures Tuesdays 9:30-11:15am.

Tutorials 1 hour for per week/ 10 sessions **Weekly Office Hours:** By appointment/ on Zoom

GNDS 125 explores popular culture from feminist and anti-racist perspectives, with attention to sexuality, gender, race, and nation in a variety of media. In this class, we will examine and unpack how race, gender, sexuality, and class are constructed and re-constructed in mass media and popular culture. Specifically, we will investigate how popular culture elements are framed through the processes of production, consumption, representation, and reception. The course is aimed to develop a critical understanding of media productions and cultural texts that are produced through social, political, cultural, and historical contexts. In this class, through intersectional feminist analysis the students will engage critically with the most contemporary examples of popular culture.

Required Course Material:

Online material accessible via Queen's University Libraries

Reelout Film Festival (Attend one film screening)

General Learning Outcomes: In this course students will learn key concepts and theories drawn from gender and feminist studies, anti–racist and decolonization studies, and media studies by

- engaging with connections between everyday events, popular culture, and politics, and social justice issues, preparing to become global citizens;
- applying a feminist and critical lens for the analysis of the construction and representation of gender, race, sexuality, class, ability, ethnicity and nationhood in popular culture;
- critically evaluating how power, privilege, and oppression are implicated in popular culture and different forms of media;
- utilizing an intersectional approach to analyze how racialization processes and other experiences of various social groups are constituted, entrenched and challenged through popular culture;
- developing active and creative responses to popular culture, exploring resistance as well as consumption or consumptive relationships with received knowledge(s) about gender, race, and social justice.

Grading Components:

Critical Film Review 20%

Quizzes (2x10%) 20%

Creative Project 20%

Participation 15%

Final Paper 25%

Weekly Topics: Popular Culture and Gender Studies

Gender, Identity, and Normativity

Racialization and Intersectional Analysis

Consuming Pop Culture

Gender, Technology, and Social Media

Gendered Representations: Femininities & Masculinities

Gender and Cultural Imperialism Gender and Racial Capitalism Gender and Settler Colonialism

Feminist Present: Creating Consent Culture

Feminist Futures: Climate Justice