

GEOGRAPHY AND PLANNING

GPHY 352- Gender and the City



Course Instructor	Hilal Kara	Email: hilal.kara@queensu.ca
Office	Mac-Corry D310	
Contact Time	Mondays 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. in Jeffrey 118 Wednesdays 2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in Jeffrey 118	
Format	Two 1.5 hours lectures twice a week	
Class Assessment	Class Participation (%15) Reflection papers (% 25) Take-home exam (%30) Research Paper (% 30)	

COURSE OVERVIEW

This course explores contested relationships between gender, sexuality, and the city. Unfolding and questioning power dynamics shaping everyday life of urban dwellers this course will examine a number of key questions, such as: what interlinked historical and current urban processes do produce gendered and sexualized discourses, social constructions, and framings? Why are certain bodies/ sexual practices/ gender politics normalized and encouraged, whereas others are excluded, criminalized, and marginalized? How do cities shape our understandings of gender and sexuality and vice versa? How do gendered ideas and assumptions shape the design of public spaces, the physical layout of workplaces and home, and daily mobility patterns across multiple scales including body, neighborhood, and community in cities? What forms of subversive social and spatial practices are produced by marginalized and excluded bodies to reclaim their space in the city? Focusing on the cases and scholarly work across the world (the Global North(s) and Global South(s)) and utilizing movies, documentaries, short videos, visual illustrations as creative mediums to foster our classroom discussions we will analyze alternative social, spatial, and temporal imaginaries about the possibility of thinking and creating more inclusive cities.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Adopt a critical thinking and developing conceptual, theoretical, and methodological tools to analyze gendered assumptions, ideas, and constructions of urban spaces across various contexts
- Integrate creative mediums and everyday life experience to theoretical and conceptual framework
- Engage an intersectional approach to analyze and understand complex issues and processes shaping everyday life in cities
- Understand and go beyond conceptual dichotomies including public/private space, social reproduction/production, informal/formal, femininity/masculinity, immobility/mobility, visibility/invisibility, work/non-work
- Understand and apply theoretical frameworks and construct your own theoretical arguments

COURSE TOPICS

The course will explore topics including public and private spaces; bodies and cities; social reproduction and work; spatial everyday mobility; urbanization, sexuality, and gender politics; feminist, decolonial and queer interventions to urban geographies

COURSE READINGS

Selected readings will be posted on OnQ. Required readings: Cities and Gender eds. Jarvis, H., Cloke, J. and Kantor, P. Londra: Routledge, 2009; Feminist City: Claiming Space in a Man-Made World, Kern, L. Verso, 2020