In this course we will explore how the processes shaping how and what we value within contemporary capitalist economies are transforming identities, relations and the pursuit of social justice. The course will provide an exploration of feminist and decolonial approaches to the study of political economy, but also, and importantly, how productive engagements with the expanding literature on racial capitalism, intersectionality, and anti-coloniality can help us to respond to the urgent issues of our time. Climate change, global pandemics, anti-Black, anti-Indigenous, orientalist and other forms of systemic racism, displaced populations, growing economic inequality, instability and collapse, are some of pressing issues linked to global capitalism that are disrupting and reconfiguring socio-spatial, economic, political and cultural arrangements. It is our contention that these processes are transforming relationships between economic production and social reproduction and are creating new intersecting regimes of inequality. Throughout this course we will strive to identify the opportunities, connections and limitations that different conceptual framings bring to feminist understandings of contemporary capitalism and the avenues for social justice that they bring for humans located at the intersections of multiple and interactive oppressive systems. This term we will pay particular attention to amplified learning created by the Covid-19 pandemic, Climate Change, global protests against systemic racism, and re-evaluations of the place of Blackness and Indigenization in imagining worlds beyond capitalism.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

• To identify, define key theoretical debates in feminist political economy, their genealogies, contributions and limitations.
• Demonstrate how decolonial, anti-racist, intersectional and queer theories challenge and extend debates in feminist political economy.
• Analyze the connections between capitalist impulses towards commodification, inequality and dispossession, and broader socio-spatial structures.
• To effectively apply feminist political economy perspectives to contemporary issues in global capitalism.
• To communicate feminist research to a non-expert audience.

COURSE TOPICS
Feminist Theory and Feminist Political Economy; Social Reproduction and Geographies of Care, Economic Production and changing ontologies of work; Global Neoliberalism, racial capitalism and Anti-Colonial Approaches; States, Nationalisms and States of Exception; Intimacies and Abandonments; Neoliberalism and the Undoing of Democracy; Changing Borders, Securities and States; Social movements and the struggle for liberation; Reclaiming Humanity in post-Neoliberal and post-Human Worlds

COURSE READINGS