

**This is a tentative course outline!**

## **GNDS 810: Black Geographies/Abolition Geographies**

**Instructors: Katherine McKittrick and Ruth Wilson Gilmore**

### **Overview**

This course is co-taught by Drs. McKittrick and Gilmore and will bring together graduate students from Queen's University and the City University of New York Graduate Center.

The classes will be held on Zoom, Wednesdays from 4-7.

To accommodate our different university schedules at Queen's and CUNY/GC we have adjusted our meeting times.

Our first meeting will be *before* the Queen's official term begins. It is an informal meeting on August 25 where we introduce the course and each other. This meeting is optional but recommended. As already noted, this is a tentative course outline—the finalized syllabus will be available before August 25, 2021.

### **Course Description**

We will read scholarship that shows how people in various time-space configurations made the dynamic, flourishing presence Ruth Wilson Gilmore has termed abolition geography. What did people do? How, with whom, and to what end? What antagonisms created boundaries and barriers? What are the roles of ideology, culture, and environment? To think through possible answers, we will closely examine how scholars use disciplinary and interdisciplinary approaches to shape and investigate questions, and how they combine theories, objects, and methods. Key concepts include but are not limited to: racial capitalism, political parties, narrative structure, class formation, social reproduction, livingness, modernization, internationalism.

### **Assignments**

One Presentation (with colleagues).

One Final Paper (single or co-authored).

### **Tentative Reading and Presentation Schedule**

August 25: introduction to course, reading and presentation plans, and introducing each other.

September 8: read.

September 15: keep reading.

September 22: Brenna Bhandar, *Colonial Lives of Property*.

September 29: Stuart Hall, "Race, Articulation and Societies Structured in Dominance," from Paul Gilroy and Ruth Wilson Gilmore, eds., *Selected Writings on Race and Difference*, and Cindi Katz, article TBA.

October 6: Simone Browne, *Dark Matters*.

October 13: No Meetings/Queen's Midterm Reading Break (e.g. read)

October 20: Catherine Ceniza Choy, *Empire of Care*.

October 27: Michael Denning, *Noise Uprising* (selections).

November 3: Hazel Carby, *Imperial Intimacies*.

November 10: Marlene NourbeSe Philip, *Zong!*

November 17: Ruth Wilson Gilmore, *Golden Gulag*.

November 24: Katherine McKittrick, *Dear Science*.

December 1: TBA

December 8: TBA