QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF GENDER STUDIES

Course Name:

BLCK 380 - Black Environmentalism/Environmental Ecologies: A Global South Perspective

Contact Hours:

Lecture: Monday 11:30 – 1:00 and Thursday 1:00-2:30

Office Hours: Monday 1:30 – 2:45

Course Description:

The climate emergency as well as environmental issues related to pollution, waste toxic dumping, oil spills and other forms of environmental degradation are global environmental problems that transcend geopolitical borders. These environmental problems have an outsized impact on Black, and other racialized populations, especially in the global South as people of colour are more likely to live in the areas most contaminated by dirty heavy polluting industries, toxic waste dumping, etc - making the climate crisis as well as other global environmental problems racial justice issues.

This course provides students with an interdisciplinary educational experience, focusing on the historical and contemporary environmental issues facing the global South today, including climate and environmental change, resource management (resource extraction and habitat conservation), toxic waste dumping, informal recycling economies, environmental (in)justice etc. This course discusses practical methods for understanding and addressing contemporary environmental problems, using case studies from the global South. The course will adopt an interdisciplinary methodology drawing on literature from Racial Capitalism, Critical Race Theory, Environmental Studies, Political Ecology, Black Ecopoetics, Black Studies and Geographies and more broadly.

Course Instructor:

Kesha Fevrier, PhD
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Required Course Materials:

 All readings are available through the library's e-reserve.

Course Objectives:

By the end of the course, students should be able to:

- 1. Explain key theoretical approaches and concepts in the field of Black Environmentalism and Ecologies
- 2. Explain the relation between race, colonialism, capitalism, and environmental destruction
- 3. Describe the causes and consequences of inequitable distributions of environmental harms.
- 4. Explain complex concepts in written and verbal formats
- 5. Develop critical reading skills, participate, and learn from class discussions and assigned readings

Course Evaluation: (Subject to Change)

Activities		%	
1.	Attendance & Participation	10	
2.	Reflection (x3)	15	
3.	Oral Presentation	15	
1.	Midterm Take Assignment	20	
5.	Annotated Bibliography	40	

Topics in Course Outline: (Subject to Change)

Origins of Black environmentalism, specifically the relationship between Black people in. the global South and the environment, as well as creative expressions of Black environmentalism.

- Black Ecologies
- Environmental Racism
- Environmental Conservation
- Environmental Justice
- Waste Ecologies

- Green Economy
- Resource Extraction
- Wildlife Tourism
- Environmental Politics
- Public Health & the Environment
- Informal Recycling Economies
- Climate Change
- Disaster Capitalism