GNDS 262: Reproductive Justice

Contact Hours: 3 hours per week

Sessions: Monday 2:30pm

Course Instructor See SOLUS

Course Description

This course introduces students to prominent scholarship on reproductive justice theoretical framework and activism through feminist, anti-racist, anti-colonial, and intersectional lenses. Students will explore the history of access to reproductive care including but not limited to abortion in Canada as well as the challenges women of colour, Indigenous women, incarcerated people, and trans and non-binary people face when they try to carry a pregnancy to term, access reproductive services and attempt to raise their kids in culturally appropriate ways. Pushing beyond an individualistic vision, reproductive justice framework recognizes the need to sustain families and communities. In this course, students will learn to use a decolonial approach to examine laws and policies that impact the reproductive autonomy of marginalized peoples for collective liberation.

Required Course Materials

Required material will be provided online through the course onQ

Textbook also available through the library ereserves: Ross, L., & Solinger, R. (2017). Reproductive Justice: An Introduction. University of California Press.

Topics in Course Outline

Reproductive Justice History
A Reproductive Justice in the 21st century
Reproductive Justice Activism
Reproductive Justice as Decolonial Praxis
Reproductive Justice and Incarceration
Management of Fertility
Reproductive Justice and Border Policies
Reproductive Justice and the Right to Parent
Reproductive Justice as Disability Justice

Reproductive Justice as Community Building

Course Evaluation

- Reflection Journal: Imagining Otherwise 40%
- Film or Book Review 20%
- In-class exercises 10%
- Final Paper or Project 30%

Course Objectives

- 1. Critically analyze theories and discourses of sex, gender, and reproductive justice that have emerged since the 20th century:
- Recognize, acknowledge, and challenge structures of inequality including racism, capitalism, colonialism, (hetero)sexism, ableism, and other manifestations of power, in the production and dissemination of knowledge about reproductive health, reproductive rights and reproductive justice.
- 3. Apply an intersectional lens to explain how experiences in the field of reproduction are bound up with experiences of race, Indigeneity, ethnicity, class, age, and (dis)ability;
- 4. Explain the role of power and context in shaping knowledge about reproduction in terms of sex, gender, and other identity markers;
- 5. Identify strategies for activism and reproductive justice work with people of color individuals and communities.
- 6. Discuss how systems of privilege and oppression have created social hierarchies among different genders and sexualities as well as other axis of power;
- 7. Practice different modes of communication for exploring reproductive health and justice issues, including formal academic writing, creative writing, visual and oral communication, and other forms of creative work.