QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF GENDER STUDIES

Course Name GNDS 350/3.0 Feminism, Body and Visual Culture	Course Instructor See SOLUS
Contact Hours Lecture: Thursdays 8:30-11:30	
Course Description	Required Course Materials
This course examines how visual culture constructs, contests, and subverts the category of "woman" and broader identities across race, class, gender, and sexuality. Students will critically engage with feminist and queer theories, decolonial thought, art, and historical perspectives to explore how power is exercised and resisted through the various examples of visual culture. From the male gaze to the imperial shutter, from activist art to critiques of museums and institutions, this course traces the politics of representation across photography, surveillance, and digital media. Special attention will be given to the body—as a site of desire, memory, commodification, and protest.	All readings are available through the library's e-reserve.
Course Objectives By the end of the course, students should be able to:	Course Evaluation
 Critically analyze visual culture through feminist, queer, and decolonial theoretical frameworks, identifying how images construct and contest categories of race, gender, sexuality, and class. Interrogate the politics of representation in art, photography, film, and museum practices, with attention to historical and contemporary power structures. Apply key concepts such as the male gaze, imperial shutter, counter-visuality to visual texts and other media. Collaborate in critical dialogue through writing or creative projects that challenge dominant narratives and propose alternative modes of seeing, curating, and storytelling. 	Attendance & Participation 10% Reading Responses 25% Presentation 25% One page proposal and annotated bibliography 15% Final paper 25%

Topics in Course Outline

- Visual Culture, Gaze, and Power
- Images and Photography
- Imperial Optics: Visuality and Colonialism
- Third World Feminism
- Queer Art Now
- Disciplining the Body and Surveillance
- Women and the colonial/post-colonial gaze
- Can the Museum be Decolonized?
- Art as Resistance
- Contested Narratives