QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF GENDER STUDIES

Course Name	Course Instructor
GNDS 480/820 Psychoanalysis, Race and Gender	
	Trish Salah
Contact Hours:	
tba	
Course Description and Learning Aims:	Required Course
This course considers the resources and problems psychoanalysis presents for	Materials:
thinking about sexual, gender and racial difference(s), trauma and pleasure, and	
the shaping of subjectivity, experience, and the social, particularly in relation to	TBA
conditions of colonialization and racial capitalism. Historically psychoanalysis has	
been described as a science, a treatment, an art, a practice of normalization and	
control, a way of understanding culture or oppression, a sham or a scam, a	
practice of freedom, revolt and decolonization. In our inquiry we will approach	
psychoanalysis as theoretical and clinical practice, as political praxis and as an	
institutional apparatus, all rooted in Eurocentric thought and worldmaking, with	
both adaptive/normalizing and liberatory possibilities and contextually specific	
applications.	
This course is premised upon both the impact and the utility of psychoanalysis for	
thinking race, sexuality, domination, consciousness, colonization, feminism, and	
progressive struggle more broadly. It therefore has several aims.	
It will serve as an introduction to psychoanalytic theories (by Freud,	
Fanon, Kristeva, Laplanche, Musser, Saketopoulou, Sheehi, among others).	
We will consider accounts of identity, sexuality, what we now call "gender	
identity," race, culture and aesthetics, as well as psychoanalysis' utility for	
theorizing social life and conflict. To do so we will explore questions of	
fantasy, repression, narcissism of minor difference, libido and the ego, the	
unconscious, sublimation and the uncanny.	
It will serve as an introductory inquiry into anti-colonial/Marxist/ facilities as a facility and facilities as a fa	
feminist/queer/trans of colour critiques of, and engagements with.	i

- It will serve as an introductory inquiry into anti-colonial/Marxist/ feminist/queer/trans of colour critiques of, and engagements with, psychoanalytic theory; that is, we will explore the parallels, debates and borrowings between some progressive social theories and psychoanalytic inquiry.
- It will thus be an attempt to provide students with psychoanalytic tools for making anti-imperialist and anti-racist critique in the contexts of theory, culture and progressive organizing, as well as an exploration of what, psychoanalytically speaking, may be the hazards, limits and unconscious dimensions of political critiques and clinical institutions.

Course Evaluation

- Attendance and Active Participation in Seminar (20%)
- Discussion Facilitations (3 x 5% =15%)
- In-class Response Journal (20%)
- Final Paper Proposal (10%)
- In-class presentation on Final Paper Proposal (10%)
- Final Paper (25%)