**Course Name**  
GNDS 280: Introduction to Mad Studies

**Contact Hours/Delivery Method**  
This course will run asynchronously (no scheduled lectures or tutorials).

**Course Description**  
This course will introduce you to the discipline of Mad Studies from a feminist perspective. Mad Studies challenges the idea of what it means to be sane, focusing on the lived experience of mentally ill or “mad” people, including psychiatric consumers, survivors, and ex-patients. In this course, you will explore concepts and theories used to describe “madness” and how psychiatry benefits from and contributes to sexism, racism, and other forms of oppression.

**Course Objectives**  
- Identify key concepts, theories, themes in the discipline of Mad Studies  
- Apply theories learned to mainstream discourses of mental illness and psychiatry  
- Understand how gender, race, sexual orientation, and colonialism affect mad people’s experiences with psychiatry and other forms of mental health care  
- Challenge hierarchies between professional and experiential knowledges

**Required Course Materials**  
This book will be available as a physical or digital copy via the Queen’s bookstore.  
Other readings will be available through eReserves.

**Course Evaluation**  
Participation and Discussion (15%)  
News Article Response (15%)  
Midterm (25%)  
Annotated Bibliography (15%)  
Final Paper (30%)

**Topics in Course Outline**  
Introduction to Mad Studies  
Historical and Epistemological Foundations of Madness and Psychiatry  
Medicalization and the Social Model  
Asylums and (De)institutionalization  
Mad Activism  
- The Antipsychiatry Movement  
- Race, Class, and Mad Identity  
Symbolic and Epistemic Violence  
Psychiatric Survivors & Survivor Research  
Madness and the University  
Madness, Media, and Pop Culture  
Moving Forward: The Future of Mad Studies