**Course Name**
GNDS 445  Feminist and Queer Ethnography

**Contact Hours**
3hr  Tuesdays 2:30 – 5:20 pm

**Course Description**
This seminar examines feminist ethnography and queer ethnography as scholarly subfields, arenas of inquiry, bodies of critical theory, writing genres, methods for ethical relationship in research and social life, and arenas in which trans, queer, and feminist critical work is advanced. Our classroom-based work will consider: (1) histories of feminist and queer ethnography, in anthropology and across the social sciences in which ethnography is practiced; (2) critical engagements with and transformations of the colonial and racial logics of anthropology and ethnography, through feminist, queer, and trans research; and (3) the importance of ethnographic relationships, methods, writing, interpretation, and ethics to theory and practice in gender studies.

Because most students will not be familiar with the broad scope of these fields ethnography, we begin by reading a recent textbook in feminist ethnography that bridges into queer ethnography. Then because in narrative form, ethnographies realize their full extent within extended studies, our course focuses on the study of ethnographic monographs -- single-authored books. Students will read three ethnographic monographs, as well as an array of individual articles and book chapters.

**Required Course Materials**
Students will read four required books as part of the Seminar. Three will be read by the entire class: *Feminist Ethnography*. Dana-Ain Davis and Christa Craven, Ed. *In/Divided Unity*, Theresa McCarthy *Butch Queens Up In Pumps*, Marlon Bailey

The remaining book will be assigned from this list. Do not acquire one until one has been assigned to you, but do review the books on reserves so you can request your top choices. *Global Divas*, Martin F. Manalansan IV *Filipino Crosscurrents*, Kale Fajardo *Queen for a Day*, Marcia Ochoa *Queer Activism in India*. Naisargi Dave *Black Women Against the Land Grab*, Keisha Khan-Perry *The River Is In Us*, Elizabeth Hoover

Additional required readings (book chapters and journal articles) appear on the syllabus.

**Course Objectives**
- Understand theories and debates in gender studies through their articulation with distinctive subfields: feminist ethnography and queer ethnography
- Understand ethnography -- its histories, methods, ethics, applications, and effects -- through critically feminist, queer and trans perspectives

**Course Evaluation**
Attendance and Participation (30%)
Book Presentations (graded, part of Participation)
- Understand how ethnography may function as a research method, a writing genre, an arena of intellectual inquiry, a body of critical theory, and a model of ethical relationship
- Understand the importance of these qualities of ethnography in the field of gender studies
- Study and appreciate the complexities of ethical research and writing about people and interpersonal relationships
- Gain and practice skills in close, critical reading of academic texts; and, in reading comprehension of book-length arguments
- Develop and practice skills in advanced undergraduate or entry-level graduate analytical writing (short-form and long-form)
- Develop and practice skills in independent research, through the investigation, preparation, and writing of a major project

Reading Responses (3 x 10%)
Major Paper (40%)
The Major Paper will be prepared in stages throughout the term to assist in its completion.