# GNDS 125: Gender, Race and Popular Culture

**Contact Hours:**

Lectures: 2 x 1 hr/wk for 12 weeks  
Tutorials: 1 x 1 hr/wk for 12 weeks

GNDS 125 explores popular culture from feminist and anti-racist perspectives, with attention to sexuality, gender, race and nation in a variety of media. In this class, we will examine and unpack how race, gender, sexuality, and class are constructed and re-constructed in mass media and popular culture. Specifically, we will investigate how popular culture elements are framed through the processes of production, consumption, representation and reception. The course is aimed to develop a critical understanding of media productions and cultural texts that are produced through social, political, cultural and historical contexts. In this class, through intersectional feminist analysis the students will engage critically with the most contemporary examples of popular culture.

## General Learning Outcomes:

- learn key concepts and theories drawn from gender and feminist studies, anti-racist and decolonization studies, and media studies;  
- engage with connections between everyday events, popular culture, and politics, and social justice issues, preparing to become global citizens;  
- apply a feminist and critical lens for the analysis of the construction and representation of gender, race, sexuality, class, ability, ethnicity and nationhood in popular culture;  
- critically evaluate how power, privilege, and oppression are implicated in popular culture and the new media;  
- utilize an intersectional approach to analyze how the racialization processes and other experiences of various social groups are constituted, entrenched and/or challenged through popular culture;  
- develop active responses to popular culture, exploring resistance as well as consumption or consumptive relationships with received knowledge(s) about gender, race, and social justice.

## Grading Components:

- Critical Evaluation: Reelout Film Festival 10%  
- Quizzes (2x10%) 20%  
- Zine Project 30%  
- Tutorial Participation 20%  
- Final Paper 20%

## Weekly Topics:

- Popular Culture and Gender Studies  
- Racialization and Intersectional Analysis  
- Gender, Identity, and Normativity  
- Gender Representations: Femininities  
- Gender Representations II: Masculinities  
- Consuming Pop Culture  
- Gender, Technology, and the New Media  
- Gender and Orientalism  
- Gender and Anti-Black Racism  
- Gender and Anti-Indigenous Racism  
- Creating Consent Culture