

COURSE SYLLABUS



COURSE TITLE: GSWS-110: Women, Knowledge, Sex & Power

CLASS SECTION: 001

TERM: Fall

COURSE CREDITS: 3

DELIVERY METHOD(S): In-Class Lecture

Camosun College campuses are located on the traditional territories of the Lək̓ʷəŋən and W̱SÁNEĆ peoples. We acknowledge their welcome and graciousness to the students who seek knowledge here. Learn more about Camosun's [Territorial Acknowledgement](#).

For COVID-19 information please visit <https://camosun.ca/about/covid-19-updates> (note - legacy page link works too: <https://legacy.camosun.ca/covid19/index.html>)

Camosun College requires mandatory attendance for the first-class meeting of each course. If you do not attend, and do not provide your instructor with a reasonable explanation in advance, you will be removed from the course and the space offered to the next waitlisted student.

INSTRUCTOR DETAILS

NAME: Helen Lansdowne

EMAIL: hlansdown@camosu.bc.ca

OFFICE: Paul 230

HOURS: Monday/Wednesday 3:00-4:00

As your course instructor, I endeavour to provide an inclusive learning environment. However, if you experience barriers to learning in this course, do not hesitate to discuss them with me. Camosun College is committed to identifying and removing institutional and social barriers that prevent access and impede success.

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

Drawing on various disciplines, this course considers how feminism is socially constructed with regard to relations of gender, class, sexual orientation and ethnicity. Gender and Women's Studies is an interdisciplinary field that includes scholarship in areas such as masculinity, femininity, transsexual, and lesbian/gay/bi/queer studies.

PREREQUISITE(S):

One of:

- C+ in English 12
- C in Camosun Alternative

CO-REQUISITE(S):

Not Applicable

EXCLUSION(S):

Not Applicable

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES / OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course a student will be able to:

1. Describe gender as a category of analysis.
2. Identify key concepts, themes, theories and debates in Women's Studies.
3. Outline Feminist Theory, particularly as it pertains to a transnational world.
4. Incorporate the workings of privilege, power and transformation in social and historical life.
5. Intersect sexuality, ethnicity, class, nationality, religion and age with respect to gender identity.

REQUIRED MATERIALS & RECOMMENDED PREPARATION / INFORMATION

Can We All Be Feminists? edited by June Eric-Udorie, Penguin Books, 2018.

All other readings are in PDF form uploaded to D2L or are available through Camosun Library.

All of Me Stories of Love, Anger, and the Female Body, edited by Dani Burlison, PM Press 2019.

Additional readings are listed in the Course Schedule below and can be accessed through the Camosun Library or online.

COURSE SCHEDULE, TOPICS, AND ASSOCIATED PREPARATION / ACTIVITY / EVALUATION

The following schedule and course components are subject to change with reasonable advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

WEEK or DATE RANGE	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	ASSIGNED READINGS
Sept. 5	Introduction to Course	
Sept. 12	Myths of Gender	Lecture Reading: Audre Lorde, "The uses of anger: Fall 1981", <i>Women's Studies Quarterly</i> 25 no 1/2 278-85 Spr/Summer 1987 accessible at https://web-s-ebSCOhost-com.libsecure.camosun.bc.ca:2443/ehost/detail/detail?vid=4&sid=ddfeab5d-8f20-457b-b35c-c33eb4a5ea45%40redis&bdata=JnNpdGU9ZWwhvc3QtGjZlZQ%3d%3d#AN=9710315874&db=a9h Discussion Readings: June Eric-Udorie, "Introduction", Charlotte Shane, "No Wave Feminism", both from <i>Can We All Be Feminists?</i>
Sept. 19	Social Constructions of Gender	Lecture Reading: bell hooks, "Feminism: A Transformational Politic" (D2L) Discussion Readings: Juliet Jacques, "In Search of Gender Troublemakers" and Afua Hirsch, "Imperial Feminism" both from <i>Can We All Be Feminists?</i>
Sept. 26	Intersectionality	Lecture Reading: Patricia Collins, "Intersectionality's Definitional Dilemmas" (D2L) Discussion Readings: Selina Thompson, "Fat Demands" and Evette Dionne, "Intersectionality and the Black Lives Matter Movement" both from <i>Can We All Be Feminists?</i>

WEEK or DATE RANGE	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	ASSIGNED READINGS
Oct. 3	Race, Ethnicity, White Feminism and Colonial Creations of the "Other"	Lecture Reading: Margo DeMello, "Racialized and Colonized Bodies" (D2L). Discussion Readings :Mariya Karimjee, "Brown on the Outside" and Zoe Samudzi, "Afro-Diasporic Feminism and a Freedom" both from <i>Can We All Be Feminists?</i>
Oct. 10	Sexualities	Lecture Reading: Amia Srinivasan, "The Right to Sex" (D2L). from <i>The Right to Sex Feminism in the Twenty-First Century</i> by Amia Srinivasan, New York: Picador, 2021. Discussion Readings: Gabrielle Bellot, "Borderlands" and Nicole Dennis-Benn, "Unapologetic" both from <i>Can We All Be Feminists?</i>
Oct. 17	Mid-Term Lecture - Communities	Mid-Term: lecture materials and readings to date. Lecture Reading: ChandraMohanty, "Towards an Anti-Imperialist Politics: Reflections of a desi feminist", <i>South Asian Popular Culture</i> , April 2004, Vol. 2, Issue 1, pp.69-73. On- line through Ebsco Host.
Oct. 24	Consumer Culture and Standards of Beauty	Lecture Readings: Susan Bordo, "Material Girl "The Effacements of Postmodern Culture" (D2L), from <i>Unbearable Weight Feminism, Western Culture and the Body</i> . University of California Press, 2003. Discussion Readings: Soofiya Andry, "Deviant Bodies" and Aisah Gani, "Representation as a Feminist Act" both from <i>Can We All Be Feminists?</i>
Oct. 31	Bodies and Gender	Discussion Readings: Dani Burlison (Ed.), <i>All of Me Stories of Love, Anger and the Female Body</i> ; (see Book Review Notes) Mandatory attendance for full marks
Nov. 7	Religions and Gender Diversity	Lecture Reading: Sean Gill, "Why Difference Matters: Lesbian and Gay Perspectives on Religion and Gender" (D2L) from <i>Gender, Religion and Diversity: Cross Cultural Perspectives</i> , edited by Ursula King and Tina Beattie. Bloomsbury Publishing, 2005. Discussion Readings: Brit Bennett, "Body and Blood" and Caitlin Cruz, "Loving Two Things at Once: On Bisexuality, Feminism, and Catholicism", both from <i>Can We All Be Feminists?</i>
Nov. 14	Gendered Transnational Labour	Lecture Reading: Melissa Wright, "The Dialectics of Still Life: Murder, Women and Maquiladoras" (D2L), from <i>Disposable Women and Other Myths of Global Capitalism</i> . New York: Routledge, 2006. Discussion Reading: Wei Ming Kam, "The Machinery of Disbelief" from <i>Can We All Be Feminists?</i>
Nov. 21	Roe vs. Wade Feminist Implications	Lecture Reading: Keertana Kannabiran Tella, "Justice at the Threshold of Rights The Construction of Abortion Rights in America" (D2L). Discussion Readings: Francis Ryan, "No Disabled Access" and Emer O'Toole, "Ends, Means, and Subterfuge in Feminist Activism" from <i>Can We All Be Feminists?</i>
Nov. 28	Activism & Praxis	Lecture Reading: Sara Ahmed, "Killing Joy: Feminism and the History of Happiness" (D2L) from <i>Signs</i> 35, No. 3, 2010: 571-94, accessible through JSTOR through Camosun Library. Discussion Reading: Eishar Kaur, "A Hundred Small Rebellions" from <i>Can We All Be Feminists?</i>

Dec. 5	Final In-Class Test	Test materials will cover from mid-term test onward.
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Students registered with the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) who complete quizzes, tests, and exams with academic accommodations have booking procedures and deadlines with CAL where advanced noticed is required. Deadlines scan be reviewed on the [CAL exams page](http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/exams.html). <http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/exams.html>

EVALUATION OF LEARNING

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
Test One - scheduled for October 17 th	15%
Test Two – scheduled for December 5 th	15%
Four pop quizzes distributed throughout the term based on discussion readings	20%
Book Review – due October 31 st – must be brought to class (attendance mandatory)	25%
Transnational Research Project – November 28 th	25%
TOTAL	100%

If you have a concern about a grade you have received for an evaluation, please come and see me as soon as possible. Refer to the [Grade Review and Appeals](http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf) policy for more information.

<http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf>

COURSE GUIDELINES & EXPECTATIONS

Lecture Attendance – to get the most out of this course, students are expected to attend all classes and be on time. It is your responsibility to acquire the information given during a class missed, including notes, hand-outs, changed exam dates etc.

Assessments – instructions regarding all assessments for this course can be found on D2L.

SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENTAL INFORMATION

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY

Enrolment at Camosun assumes that the student will become a responsible member of the College community. As such, each student will display a positive work ethic, assist in the preservation of College property, and assume responsibility for their education by researching academic requirements and policies; demonstrating courtesy and respect toward others; and respecting expectations concerning attendance, assignments, deadlines, and appointments.

SUPPORTS AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

Camosun College offers a number of services to help you succeed in and out of the classroom. For a detailed overview of the supports and services visit <http://camosun.ca/students/>.

Academic Advising	http://camosun.ca/advising
Accessible Learning	http://camosun.ca/accessible-learning
Counselling	http://camosun.ca/counselling
Career Services	http://camosun.ca/coop
Financial Aid and Awards	http://camosun.ca/financialaid
Help Centres (Math/English/Science)	http://camosun.ca/help-centres
Indigenous Student Support	http://camosun.ca/indigenous
International Student Support	http://camosun.ca/international/
Learning Skills	http://camosun.ca/learningskills
Library	http://camosun.ca/services/library/
Office of Student Support	http://camosun.ca/oss
Ombudsperson	http://camosun.ca/ombuds
Registration	http://camosun.ca/registration
Technology Support	http://camosun.ca/its
Writing Centre	http://camosun.ca/writing-centre

If you have a mental health concern, please contact Counselling to arrange an appointment as soon as possible. Counselling sessions are available at both campuses during business hours. If you need urgent support after-hours, please contact the Vancouver Island Crisis Line at 1-888-494-3888 or call 911.

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

The College is committed to providing appropriate and reasonable academic accommodations to students with disabilities (i.e. physical, depression, learning, etc). If you have a disability, the [Centre for Accessible Learning](#) (CAL) can help you document your needs, and where disability-related barriers to access in your courses exist, create an accommodation plan. By making a plan through CAL, you can ensure you have the appropriate academic accommodations you need without disclosing your diagnosis or condition to course instructors. Please visit the CAL website for contacts and to learn how to get started:

<http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/>

Academic Integrity

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.13.pdf> for policy regarding academic expectations and details for addressing and resolving matters of academic misconduct.

Academic Progress

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.1.pdf> for further details on how Camosun College monitors students' academic progress and what steps can be taken if a student is at risk of not meeting the College's academic progress standards.

Course Withdrawals Policy

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.2.pdf> for further details about course withdrawals. For deadline for fees, course drop dates, and tuition refund, please visit <http://camosun.ca/learn/fees/#deadlines>.

Grading Policy

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.5.pdf> for further details about grading.

Grade Review and Appeals

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf> for policy relating to requests for review and appeal of grades.

Mandatory Attendance for First Class Meeting of Each Course

Camosun College requires mandatory attendance for the first class meeting of each course. If you do not attend, and do not provide your instructor with a reasonable reason in advance, you will be removed from the course and the space offered to the next waitlisted student. For more information, please see the "Attendance" section under "Registration Policies and Procedures"

(<http://camosun.ca/learn/calendar/current/procedures.html>) and the Grading Policy at

<http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.5.pdf>.

Medical / Compassionate Withdrawals

Students who are incapacitated and unable to complete or succeed in their studies by virtue of serious and demonstrated exceptional circumstances may be eligible for a medical/compassionate withdrawal. Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.8.pdf> to learn more about the process involved in a medical/compassionate withdrawal.

Sexual Violence and Misconduct

Camosun is committed to creating a campus culture of safety, respect, and consent. Camosun's Office of Student Support is responsible for offering support to students impacted by sexual violence. Regardless of when or where the sexual violence or misconduct occurred, students can access support at Camosun. The Office of Student Support will make sure students have a safe and private place to talk and will help them understand what supports are available and their options for next steps. The Office of Student Support respects a student's right to choose what is right for them. For more information see Camosun's Sexualized Violence and Misconduct Policy: <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.9.pdf> and camosun.ca/sexual-violence. To contact the Office of Student Support: oss@camosun.ca or by phone: 250-370-3046 or 250-3703841

Student Misconduct (Non-Academic)

Camosun College is committed to building the academic competency of all students, seeks to empower students to become agents of their own learning, and promotes academic belonging for everyone. Camosun also expects that all students to conduct themselves in a manner that contributes to a positive, supportive, and safe learning environment. Please review Camosun College's Student Misconduct Policy at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.5.pdf> to understand the College's expectations of academic integrity and student behavioural conduct.

Changes to this syllabus: Every effort has been made to ensure that information in this syllabus is accurate at the time of publication. The College reserves the right to change courses if it becomes necessary so that course content remains relevant. In such cases, the instructor will give the students clear and timely notice of the changes.