Instructor: Itrath Syed  
Email: isyed@langara.bc.ca  Office: A118d  
Office Hours: Mon: 5:00 – 6:00 & Thursday 1:00 – 2:00

Women's Studies 1195  
Women of the Global South

This course will explore a number of social and political movements of women in the Global South. We will look at the issues that women in these movements have identified as priorities and we will explore the particular ways in which women have chosen to organize around these issues.

The course will begin with a look at the ways in which the frameworks of western/northern feminism are often questioned by women in the South. We will then move to a survey of various specific movements in Latin America, Asia, Africa and the Middle East. The course will then wrap up with a look at solidarity and the ways in which women in the North can have effective solidarity with women's movements in the South. We will particularly focus on the sites where this solidarity has been successful and effective.

Readings:

Week 1, January 7:  
Introduction of terminology and course themes.

Readings for Week 2, January 14:  
Global feminism from the perspective of the South – the issues and their contexts

Roy, Arundhati. “Do Turkeys enjoy thanksgiving”?  

http://www.rollingstone.com/politics/story/30841581/climate_rage/print

Readings for Week 3, January 21:  
Indigenous Feminisms


Readings for Week 4, January 28:

_Mexico – Women in the Zapatista Movement_


Readings for Week 5, February 4:

_Maquiladoras_

Critical Response paper due.


Readings for Week 6, February 11:

_India_


2 week break

Readings for Week 7, March 4:

_Egypt – Feminism and the Nationalist Struggle_


Readings for Week 8, March 11:

Group Presentations

No readings for this week.

Readings for Week 9, March 18:

Palestine – Women and the Anti-occupation Movement

Talhami, Ghada Hashem. “Evolution of the Palestinian Feminist Movement” Transcript of Remarks in For the Record, No. 247 (10 March 2006) http://www.thejerusalemfund.org/ht/redisplay/1/printerfriendly/1

Peled-Elhanan, Nurit. “Speech at a Demonstration in Tel Aviv Commemorating 40 years of Occupation” in Middle East Policy Vol. 14, No. 3, Fall 2007: 41-44.


Readings for Week 10, March 25:

Afghanistan – Women’s Resistance


Readings for Week 11, April 1:

South Africa – Feminism in the Freedom Struggle

Individual research papers due.


**Readings for Week 12, April 8:**
*Corporate Globalization, Empire, and Solidarity – part 1*


**Readings for Week 13, April 15:**
*Corporate Globalization, Empire, and Solidarity – part 2*

Take home exam distributed.


Women’s Studies 1195 - Women of the Global South
Assignments and Grade Breakdown:

- Attendance/class participation: 15%
- Critical Response paper, 2-3 pages [due week 5, Feb. 4] 15%
- Group presentation [week 8, in class March 11] 20%
- Individual Research paper, 6-7 pages [week 11, due April 1] 25%
- Final exam: 25%

Course Assignments:
- All assignments should adhere to the academic standards of honesty and integrity as detailed in the Langara Course Calendar.

Attendance and participation:
- Class participation through a critical engagement in the discussion of the course material is a central part of this course; to that end, attendance is necessary.

Critical response paper:
- This paper will be a chance for the students to reflect on one or more pieces of the previous weeks of readings. The paper must demonstrate a grasp of the key arguments of the article as well as how it relates to the larger themes of the course, as presented in class through the lectures, readings and class discussion.

Group Presentation:
- Students will form groups of 5 and choose a course related issue/topic. You will research the issue and construct a presentation [poster, powerpoint, or something else] to reflect your findings and analysis. Your group should take on a project that interests you as a group. However, each of you will contribute to your group project and then stake out one area that you can research individually.

Individual Research paper:
- Each of you will submit a paper [6-7 pages] in which you will further elaborate on your part of the group research project. The research paper should use at least 3 academic sources.

Final Exam:
- This will be a take-home exam and you will have 2 weeks to complete it.