

WST 291- INTRODUCTION TO FEMINIST THEORY

Instructor: Shruti Mukherjee, PhD Candidate

FALL 2018// 3 CREDITS// TUESDAY & THURSDAY// 1:00PM – 2:00PM



An introductory survey of historical and contemporary interdisciplinary theories, this course will provide a strong theoretical foundation for further studies in Women's and Gender Studies. This course is designed to introduce you to a wide variety of ideas, voices, and eras that have influenced feminism, as well as feminist contributions to social, cultural, and political issues especially from the “Global South”.

We will engage with a range of theoretical perspectives on questions of sex, gender, sexuality, race, class, knowledge, discourse, representation, capitalism, imperialism, nation, nature, culture, and disability while highlighting some of the major debates within feminism and attempt to examine them from various – and oftentimes oppositional – perspectives.

There has never been just one way of being a feminist, nor has there been only one feminist theory. Thus, a primary aim of the course is to map the diversity of feminist theoretical interests and concerns from different times and places. This introduction to feminist theory will provide students with a sense of the historical scope and evolution of feminist thought through the contemporary moment.

Prerequisite: WST 102 or WST 103

DEC G. Required grade: A through D