

GEOGRAPHY*3090

GENDER AND ENVIRONMENT

University of Guelph
Department of Geography, Environment and Geomatics
Fall 2021 Course Outline

Instructor: Dr Dawn Dietrich
Location: THRN 1200 (Thornbrough Building)
Class time: Monday and Wednesday 1pm – 2:20pm
Email: ddietric@uoguelph.ca
Office hours: via Zoom on Thursdays @ 10:30-11:30AM (ET)
or by appointment

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Description

This course introduces feminist scholarship and perspectives to explore women and men's experiences with both the natural and built environment. The course draws on case studies from the global south and north to demonstrate the importance of gender differences in understanding human interactions with the environment. Students will observe gendered use, access, knowledge, responsibility, and control in rural and urban landscapes.

The course applies feminist theories of, and perspectives on nature and space to explore how gender mediates experiences of the environment. It spans a number of interrelated themes, including gendered interactions with nature, gendered body politics, and gendered productions and use of space. To do so, we will draw on geographical case studies from diverse contexts to demonstrate the importance of gender in understanding human interactions with the environment.

Course Objectives

By the end of the semester, students will be able to:

- Identify and describe major schools of thought related to gender and environment themes;
- Compare and contrast varying perspectives on gender and environment, and assess their explanatory potential of society;
- Apply theories and critical perspectives to "real world" scenarios and everyday life; and
- Demonstrate critical reading, writing and thinking using gender analysis and feminist thought.

To get the most out of this course, students will:

- Approach the course content with an open mind;
- Attend lectures, take notes and take part in in-class discussions on course material;
- Do the course readings before each lecture and engage with these readings thoroughly for course assignments;
- Participate in all in-class lecture activities and in-class writing exercises;
- Leave enough time to reflect on, write, and edit assignments; and
- Visit the Instructor's office hours to clarify any questions throughout the semester.

Final Grade Breakdown

In-class activities – 10% (5 x 2% each)
Assignment # 1 – 15%
Assignment # 2 – 20%
Assignment # 3 – 25%
Take-home exam – 30%

Brief Descriptions

In-class activities - There will be 5 classes throughout the semester in which seminar/lab type exercises will take place (schedule will be discussed at the start of term). Students are required to attend the classes and complete the activity to our satisfaction by the end of class to receive marks.

Assignment # 1 – Reflections on social construction of gender – personal reflection and short essay (**due Sunday, September 26, 2021 @ 11:59pm on CourseLink**)

Assignment # 2 – Applying gender and environment theories – short argumentative essay (**due Sunday, October 24, 2021 @ 11:59pm on CourseLink**)

Assignment # 3 – Bodies in and out of place – primary research, individual reflection and group* report (**due Sunday, November 28, 2021 @ 11:59pm on CourseLink**)

*To be an individual assignment if pandemic conditions necessitate

Take-home exam – Short and long answer questions based on course materials (**due Wednesday, December 15, 2021 @ 11:59pm on CourseLink**)

Illness

Medical notes will not normally be required for singular instances of academic consideration, although students may be required to provide supporting documentation for multiple missed assessments or when involving a large part of a course (e.g., final exam or major assignment).

Safety Protocols

For information on current safety protocols, follow these links: <https://news.uoguelph.ca/return-to-campus/how-u-of-g-is-preparing-for-your-safe-return/>
<https://news.uoguelph.ca/return-to-campus/spaces/#ClassroomSpaces>

Please note, these guidelines may be updated as required in response to evolving University, Public Health or government directives

Disclaimer

Please note that the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic may necessitate a revision of the format of course offerings, changes in classroom protocols, and academic schedules. Any such changes will be announced via CourseLink and/or class email. This includes on-campus scheduling during the semester, mid-terms and final examination schedules. All University-wide decisions will be posted on the COVID-19 website (<https://news.uoguelph.ca/2019-novel-coronavirus-information/>) and circulated by email.

Late Policies

In-Class Activities: If you know you will miss an in-class activity or are unable to participate due to extenuating circumstances, contact the instructor as soon as possible to discuss alternative arrangements. Missed in-class activities (without arrangements) will receive a mark of zero (i.e. 0/2).

Assignments: Late penalties of 5% per day (including weekends) will be deducted. If you require an extension or alternative arrangements, speak with the instructor well before the deadline or as soon as possible. Late assignments are not accepted more than six days after the deadline unless alternative arrangements have been made.

Take-home exam: Exams must be received by the indicated deadline. If there are extenuating circumstances, please make arrangements with the Instructor as soon as possible.

Copies of out-of-class assignments

Please keep paper and/or other reliable back-up copies of all out-of-class assignments: you may be asked to resubmit work. Note that computer problems are not an acceptable excuse for extensions.

Turnitin Originality Check

In this course, your instructor will be using Turnitin, integrated with the CourseLink **Dropbox** tool, to detect possible plagiarism, unauthorized collaboration or copying as part of the ongoing efforts to maintain academic integrity at the University of Guelph.

All individual assignments submitted to the **Dropbox** tool will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers. Use of the Turnitin.com service is subject to the Usage Policy posted on the Turnitin.com site.

A major benefit of using Turnitin is that you will be able to educate and empower yourself in preventing academic misconduct. In this course, you may screen your own assignments through Turnitin as many times as you wish before the due date. You will be able to see and print reports that show you exactly where you have properly and improperly referenced the outside sources and materials in your assignment.

Course Readings and Resources

All course readings are available via Ares or the CourseLink website. Be prepared to print or have online access to readings and bring them to class when requested, e.g., for in-class activities.

A basic outline of PowerPoint slides used in lecture will be available on CourseLink after each class. However, these outlines are not a replacement for coming to lecture. If you miss a lecture you can coordinate with other students (not the instructor or TA) to catch up with what you missed.

Course Communication

Announcements will be posted regularly on CourseLink. It is the student's responsibility to keep abreast of course materials and relevant communication through this means. Students should regularly check their uoguelph.ca e-mail address as well for course-related news.

Questions about the course organization and content can be posted on the CourseLink discussion board where your peers, the TA and instructor will respond (within 2 business days). The aim of this is to make course communications more efficient and less repetitive. Questions of a personal nature (e.g. you require an extension on an assignment because you are ill) should be e-mailed to the instructor. You can expect a reply within 48 hours Monday to Friday (i.e., 2 business days). E-mails sent over the weekend will generally receive a response on Monday. I do not check my email or the discussion boards after business hours or on the weekends.

Drop Date

The last date to drop one-semester courses, without academic penalty, is Friday, December 3. For regulations and procedures for Dropping Courses, see the Undergraduate Calendar.

<https://calendar.uoguelph.ca/undergraduate-calendar/schedule-dates/>

Accessibility

The University of Guelph is committed to creating a barrier-free environment. Providing services for students is a shared responsibility among students, faculty and administrators. This relationship is based on respect of individual rights, the dignity of the individual and the University community's shared commitment to an open and supportive learning environment.

Students requiring service or accommodation, whether due to an identified, ongoing disability or a short-term disability should contact Accessibility Services as soon as possible.

For more information, contact Accessibility Services at 519-824-4120 ext. 56208, email Accessibility Services accessibility@uoguelph.ca or visit the Accessibility Services website

<https://wellness.uoguelph.ca/accessibility/>

Academic Misconduct

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity and it is the responsibility of all members of the University community – faculty, staff, and students – to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring. University of Guelph students have the responsibility of abiding by the University's

policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff and students have the responsibility of supporting an environment that discourages misconduct. Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection.

Please note: Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor. The Academic Misconduct Policy is detailed in the Undergraduate Calendar. <https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-amisconduct.shtml>

Recording of Materials

Material discussed in the course may be of a sensitive and personal nature. For this reason, only those with specific accommodations to record course material will be granted permission to do so. Material that is recorded (with permission) can only be used for coursework purposes unless further permission is granted. If you make a recording without the expressed permission /consent of the instructor and/or impacted class members, you may be in violation of the University Community Values and it can result in penalties.

“The University of Guelph’s core value is the pursuit of truth. It is animated by a spirit of free and open enquiry, collaboration, and mutual respect. It asserts the fundamental equality of all human beings and is committed to creating for all members of its community, an environment that is hospitable, safe, supportive, equitable, pleasurable, and above all, intellectually challenging (*University of Guelph Act, 1964*). It is expected that all members of the University community will support and enrich these values by interacting with each other in a manner that is respectful, civil and consistent with the following responsibilities. Failure to abide by these responsibilities, or assisting or conspiring with another individual to act contrary to these responsibilities may result in penalties”

Resources

See the University of Guelph Academic Calendars for procedures, policies and regulations.

Schedule (subject to change)

<i>Week</i>	<i>Lecture Topics (M = Monday, W = Wednesday)</i>	<i>Readings and Preparation to do Before Lecture</i>
Week 1	Introduction: Theorizing Sex and Gender	
Sept. 13	M: Introduction, review course outline	M: no readings
Sept. 15	W: Theorizing sex and gender (what do they mean, etc.),	W: Assignment 1 Overview Root Aulette and Wittner (2012) Gendered Worlds Sam Killerman TED Talk Tracy Bear, Indigenous Concepts of Gender
Week 2	Gendered Knowledge	
Sept. 20	M: Feminist theories	M:

<i>Week</i>	<i>Lecture Topics (M = Monday, W = Wednesday)</i>	<i>Readings and Preparation to do Before Lecture</i>
Sept. 22	<p>In class activity 1: The 'Gender Explorer'</p> <p>W: Feminist Critiques of Science</p> <p>Assignment 1 due, Sunday, September 26, 11:59 pm</p>	<p>Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie TED Talk</p> <p>Kimberle Crenshaw TED Talk</p> <p>Glossary of Feminist Theory</p> <p>News articles on Storm, The 'Gender Explorer' (read for in-class activity)</p> <p>W: Harding (1986) Science Question in Feminism</p>
<p>Week 3</p> <p>Sept. 27</p> <p>Sept. 29</p>	<p>Gender and Nature I</p> <p>M: Overview: Women as Closer to Nature? Ecofeminism</p> <p>W: Feminist Environmentalism</p>	<p>M: Assignment 2 Overview</p> <p>Shiva (1989) Women in Nature</p> <p>W: -Agarwal (1992) The gender and environment debate</p>
<p>Week 4</p> <p>Oct. 4</p> <p>Oct. 6</p>	<p>Gender and Nature II</p> <p>M: Feminist Political Ecology</p> <p>In-class Activity 2 - Media Representations</p> <p>W: Indigenous Feminism</p>	<p>M: Schroeder, Richard. (1993) Shady Practice: Gender and the Political Ecology of Resource Stabilization in Gambian Gardens and Orchards</p> <p>Rocheleau et al. (1996) Feminist Political Ecology (optional)</p> <p>Elmhirst, Rebecca (2011). Introducing New Feminist Political Ecologies (optional)</p> <p>W: Hughes (2020) Indigenous Feminism, Performance and Protest</p> <p>All My Relations: Indigenous Feminism (podcast)</p>

<i>Week</i>	<i>Lecture Topics (M = Monday, W = Wednesday)</i>	<i>Readings and Preparation to do Before Lecture</i>
		<p>Kim Anderson, An Indigenous Feminist Commemoration</p> <p>Suzack, Cheryl (2015) Indigenous Feminism in Canada</p>
<p>Week 5</p> <p>Oct. 11</p> <p>Oct. 13</p>	<p>Gender and Nature III</p> <p>M: No class (Break)</p> <p>W: Guest Speaker</p>	<p>M: no class</p> <p>W: no readings</p>
<p>Week 6</p> <p>Oct 18</p> <p>Oct. 20</p>	<p>Gender and Nature IV</p> <p>M: Poststructural Gender and Environment</p> <p>W: Sustainable Development, Distilling Feminist Tenets and Complicating "Gender"</p> <p>Assignment 2 due, Sunday, October 24 @ 11:59 pm</p>	<p>M: Nightingale (2006) The Nature of Gender</p> <p>W: no readings</p>
<p>Week 7</p> <p>Oct. 25</p> <p>Oct. 27</p>	<p>Gendered Bodies in Places</p> <p>M: Power and surveillance</p> <p>W: Performativity and the body</p> <p>In-class activity 3 – We're not a costume</p>	<p>M: Assignment 3 Overview</p> <p>Bartkey (1988) Foucault and Femininity</p> <p>Bender-Baird (2015) Peeing Under Surveillance</p> <p>W: McCormack (2009) Performativity Encyclopedia</p> <p>Butler videos (x2)</p> <p>Butler (1990) Gender Trouble (optional)</p> <p>My Culture is Not a Costume (watch videos for in-class activity)</p>

<i>Week</i>	<i>Lecture Topics (M = Monday, W = Wednesday)</i>	<i>Readings and Preparation to do Before Lecture</i>
Week 8	Gendered Bodies in Places II: Tyranny of Public/Private Space	
Nov. 1	M: Tyranny of Gendered, Heteronormative Space	M: Doan (2010) Tyranny of Gendered Space Smith, Nairn and Sandretto (2016) Complicating Heteronormativity in Space
Nov. 3	W: Guest Speaker	W: no readings
Week 9	Gendered Bodies in Places III: Gendered, Racialized Violence in Urban space	
Nov. 8	M: Urban space, Gender-based Violence and Surveillance	M: Koskela (2005) Urban Space in Plural: Elastic, Tamed, Suppressed Amnesty International Report (2016) Rampant Resource Development Puts Indigenous Women and Girls at Risk of Violence
Nov. 10	W: (Re)Claiming Public Space In-class activity 4 – (Re)Claiming Public Space	W: Friedman et al (2015) This is what a Feminist Looks Like SlutWalk Tarana Burke (2019) MeToo is a Movement, Not a Moment
Week 10	Gendered Bodies in Places IV: Systemic Racism - Built and Natural Spaces	
Nov. 15	M: Race as bodily markers in spaces of discomfort	M:

<i>Week</i>	<i>Lecture Topics (M = Monday, W = Wednesday)</i>	<i>Readings and Preparation to do Before Lecture</i>
Nov. 17	W: Guest Speaker	<p>Families Speak Out Against Police Violence at BLM Toronto Juneteenth Event, Ottawa</p> <p>Regis Korchinski-Paquet and Racism in Canadian Policing</p> <p>Hoover, Fushcia-Ann and Lim, Theodore (2021) Examining Privilege and Power in US Urban Parks and Open Space During the Double Crises of Anti-Black Racism and COVID-19</p> <p>#BirdingWhileBlack, Christian Cooper (NOVA)</p> <p>W: no readings</p>
Week 11 Nov. 22 Nov. 24	<p>Gendered Bodies in Places V: Working in Solidarity</p> <p>M: Work on Assignment 3</p> <p>W: Intimate geographies of allyship</p> <p>In-class activity 5: Making Connections)</p> <p>Assignment 3 due, Sunday, November, 28 @ 11:59 pm</p>	<p>M: no readings</p> <p>W: Gorkariksel and Smith, Intersectional Feminism</p>
Week 12 Nov 30 Dec 1	<p>Making Connections</p> <p>M: Guest Speaker</p> <p>W: Wrapping up, Exam Overview and Prep</p>	<p>M & W: no readings</p>