

CAPILANO UNIVERSITY

COURSE OUTLINES

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| TERM: SPRING 2018 | COURSE NO: WGST 345 | |
| INSTRUCTOR: | COURSE NAME: GENDER, SLUMS AND URBANIZATION IN THE GLOBAL SOUTH | |
| OFFICE: TEL: | SECTION NO: | CREDITS: 3 |
| MOODLE WEBSITE: http://moodle.capilanou.ca | | |
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COURSE FORMAT:

Three hours of class time, plus an additional hour of supplemental activity delivered through on-line or other activities for a 15-week semester, which includes two weeks for final exams.

COURSE PREREQUISITES:

45 credits of 100-level or higher coursework.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

For the first time in history the world is now predominantly urban, with most population growth occurring in towns and cities in the Global South. Although urbanization is often associated with higher qualities of life and enhanced opportunities, many women in cities across Asia, Africa and Latin America experience profound disadvantages compared to men. Nowhere has the changing role of women and girls been more evident than in the cities of the Global South, whose populations are increasing at a velocity unprecedented in history. The feminization of rural-urban migration flows has gained considerable currency in the study and understanding of cities of the Global South. Women constitute the majority of rural-urban migrants and the vast majority of the poorest migrants. Slums are critical sites of everyday gendered practices that are distinct from men's. This course focuses on the gender-slum-interface which includes a host of female specific concerns including very sensitive day to day needs such as 'WASH' (water, sanitation and hygiene), maternal health challenges, mobility and connectivity challenges, personal safety and security, and access to human capital.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Identify the nature of gender-based disadvantage in urban contexts in the Global South.
- Apply research methods using audio and /or visual format in their research projects.
- Evaluate everyday challenges and struggles faced by women and girls in cities in the Global South.

- Critique the normalization of poverty and violence in the lives of women in cities in the Global South.
- Analyze the obstacles to gender equality in urban employment.
- Analyze the gendered health challenges in slums and squatter settlements.
- Assess prospects for an improved feminized urban future.

COURSE WEBSITE:

Course-related materials, including all PowerPoint slides are posted or linked on the course Moodle webpage. Information regarding access and use of this site will be provided in class.
 URL to Moodle Website: <https://moodle.capilanou.ca>

REQUIRED TEXTS:

1. Chant, Sylvia and Cathy McIlwaine. 2016. *Cities, Slums and Gender in the Global South: Towards a Feminised Urban Future* (New York and Milton Park: Routledge).
 – available at bookstore.
2. WGST 345 Course Readings – available online/ or posted on moodle

COURSE CONTENT:

| <u>Week(s)</u> | <u>Content</u> |
|----------------|---|
| 1, 2 | Introduction to cities of the Global South/a review of trends and prospects specific to women |
| 3, 4 | Origin and theories of urbanization |
| 5 | Postcolonial feminist theory |
| 6 | Gendered access to housing |
| 7 | Gendered access to health care |
| 8, 9 | Gendered access to urban politics and governance |
| 10, 11 | Gendered access to the labour market |
| 12 | Gendered-based violence in cities and slums |
| 13 | Meeting the environmental challenge; A ‘Woman’s Right to the City’ |
| 14, 15 | Final Exam Period |

EVALUATION PROFILE:

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|-----------------------------------|-------|
| Urban Gender Mainstreaming Report | 20% |
| City/slum term essay | 25% |
| Student-led research project | 20% |
| 4 th Hour | 5% |
| Final exam | 30% |
| | ----- |
| | 100% |

1. Gender Mainstreaming Report (20%): Urban-gender mainstreaming is about integrating women’s perspectives in the preparation, design and planning of urban spaces. Cities, particularly in the Global South, have been planned to meet the needs of everyone. However, this neutrality does not always take gender differences into consideration. Drawing on examples from many cities and using maps, photos and published articles students will prepare a report on urban-gender mainstreaming.
2. City/slum term essay (25%): Students will select a city in a country of the Global South and write a research essay focusing on a specific theme impacting poor women. Guidelines and submission dates will be provided on Moodle site.
3. Student-led research project (20%): Students will work individually and collaboratively on their student-led research project. Students will choose how they wish to present their research but it must be in either an audio and/or video format. Some examples that students may choose from include short video, power-point presentation, an interview presented as an audio file or video interview.
4. 4th Hour (5%): Each week the instructor will post an article on the Moodle site. At the beginning of the class, students are expected to submit a short critical summary of the article that they have read. A small amount of class time will be spent on discussing the article each week.
5. Final exam (30%): This is an all-encompassing final exam covering all course materials: lectures, readings and films.

GRADING PROFILE:

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|----------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| A+ = 90 - 100% | B+ = 77 - 79% | C+ = 67 - 69% | D = 50 - 59% |
| A = 85 - 89% | B = 73 - 76% | C = 63 - 66% | F = 0 - 49% |
| A- = 80 - 84% | B- = 70 - 72% | C- = 60 - 62% | |

OPERATIONAL DETAILS:

Capilano University has policies on Academic Appeals (including appeal of final grade), Student Conduct, Cheating and Plagiarism, Academic Probation and other educational issues. These and other policies are available on the University website.

Attendance: Students are responsible for obtaining all the information from class; i.e. notes, time lines on exams, etc.

Missed Exams: Exams must be taken at posted times. All missed exams and quizzes will be assigned a grade of “0”.

Late Assignments: Marks will be deducted for late submission of assignments. The penalty for the late submission of an assignment is 10% for each day.

Incomplete Grades:

"I" grades will be awarded to any student who legitimately requires additional time to complete assignments. The amount of time deemed necessary for completion will be determined through consultation between the student and the instructor.

Electronic Devices:

No personal electronic devices (cell phones, pagers, calculators, electronic dictionaries, etc...) may be used during an examination without prior approval from the instructor. During an exam, turn off all cell phones and pagers and remove them from the desk.

Emergency Procedures:

Please read the emergency procedures posted on the wall of the classroom.

Calendar Description: WGST 345 Gender, Slums and Urbanization in the Global South

This course focuses on a dilemma in the development process: every week millions of rural peasants in the Global South, driven from the countryside by political and economic turmoil, population pressures and ecological breakdown, migrate to cities already overcrowded. This phenomenon uniquely affects women and girls. This course examines a range of gender inequalities and injustices in the Global South that constrain women's engagement in labour markets, inhibit their ability to access education and health care.

Rationale for Developing: WGST 345 Gender, Slums and Urbanization in the Global South

Every week millions of rural peasants in the Global South migrate to overcrowded cities and the majority of those migrating are female. Although some women in these cities enjoy advantages over their rural counterparts, a range of gender injustices persist that constrain women's engagement in the labour market and inhibit their access to education and health care. For women who are responsible for "reproductive", unpaid labour, including routine domestic chores, and are increasingly pressured to engage in paid formal or informal sector work, life can be very tragic. We fully expect this course will hold broad appeal; it will help students more fully understand cities in the Global South and provide a more rigorous analysis of the role and situation of women. This course has been developed to add to our current complement of offerings.