

COURSE OUTLINE		
TERM: Spring 2025	COURSE NO: WGST 204	
INSTRUCTOR:	COURSE TITLE: Literary Explorations of Gender	
OFFICE: LOCAL: E-MAIL: @capilanou.ca	SECTION NO(S):	CREDITS: 3.0
OFFICE HOURS:		
COURSE WEBSITE:		

Capilano University acknowledges with respect the Líl'wat7úl (Lil'wat), xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), shíshálh (Sechelt), Sḵwx̱wú7mesh (Squamish), and Səlílwətaʔ/Selilwitulh (Tseil-Waututh) people on whose territories our campuses are located.

COURSE FORMAT

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

COURSE PREREQUISITES/CO-REQUISITES

None

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

This course provides an intersectional examination of representations of gender in literature. Learners will focus on the ways that literary texts discursively shape, respond to, reinforce, and/or challenge existing gender norms. Readings, which may include both fiction and non-fiction, will span writing by authors who are prominent, emerging and/or historically excluded.

COURSE NOTE

WGST 204 is equivalent to WMST 104. Duplicate credit will not be granted for this course and WMST 104. Completion of ENGL 100 and WGST 100 and/or WGST 111 is recommended. WGST 204 is an approved Culture and Creative Expression course for Cap Core requirements.

REQUIRED TEXTS AND/OR RESOURCES

A selection of literature and media will be identified by the instructor.

COURSE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

On successful completion of this course, students will be able to do the following:

- Apply critical thinking skills both orally and in writing within the context of critical, decolonial and/or intersectional feminist literary theory
- Recognize how gender and other intersecting identities are ideologically constructed in literature as well as embodied in particular social contexts

- Mobilize writing as both a tool and a platform to increase awareness of various forms of oppression and modes of resistance
- Demonstrate collaboration through engaging in dialogic approaches to analysing the construction of gender and other identity markers in literature and media
- Articulate how literature as both an aesthetic activity and a social institution is related to systems of power and access
- Connect the production and circulation of literature and other types of culture to socioeconomic structures and political movements

Students who complete this Culture and Creative Expression course will be able to do the following:

- Identify, analyze, and critique the elements of a form of expression using its specific vocabulary.
- Assess the interaction among cultural frameworks, people, and the natural environment.
- Explain or demonstrate the connection between various events, ideas, traditions, and belief systems and the modes in which they are artistically or culturally expressed.
- Interpret diverse forms of creative expression from different perspectives (e.g. artistic, historical, Indigenous, literary, scientific, philosophical).

COURSE CONTENT *(Note: this course will require reading literature each week and possibly watching or engaging with digital media content. The content and week-by-week breakdown of the course will vary by term and instructor. Authors analyzed may include, but are not limited to: Sojourner Truth, Charlotte Perkins Gilman, Angela Davis, Monique Wittig, Audre Lorde, Lee Maracle, Sara Ahmed, Alicia Elliott, Alexandra Kollantai, Rudy Hamad, Vivek Shraya, Carmen Maria Machado, Kai Cheng Thom, Robin Wall Kimmerer, Maria Campbell, Adrienne Maree Brown, and Jackie Kay.)*

Weeks 1 – 4: Introduction to core key words, key concepts in literary practice, and/or early constructions of gender and sexuality

Weeks 5-7: Connecting literary forms and expression to social movements and particular historical contexts

Weeks 8-11: Contemporary areas of controversy and debate in literature

Weeks 12-13: Contemporary intersections, debates and synthesis including an application of core ideas that build on course texts, lectures, and discussions

Weeks 14-15: Final Exam Period

EVALUATION PROFILE

Critical writing, research and presentation assignments (e.g., response paper, research paper, reflection, podcast/video, collaborative learning, 5-30% per assignment)	90%
Participation and/or Attendance (e.g. class discussion and dialogue, note taking, completion of readings, and/or co-created criteria during first week of class)	10%

100%

GRADING PROFILE

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	

Incomplete Grades

Grades of Incomplete "I" are assigned only in exceptional circumstances when a student requests extra time to complete their coursework. Such agreements are made only at the request of the student, who is responsible to determine from the instructor the outstanding requirements of the course.

Late Assignments

Assignments are due at the beginning of the class on the due date listed. If you anticipate handing in an assignment late, please consult with your instructor beforehand.

Missed Exams/Quizzes/Labs etc.

Make-up exams, quizzes and/or tests are given at the discretion of the instructor. They are generally given only in medical emergencies or severe personal crises. Some missed labs or other activities may not be able to be accommodated. Please consult with your instructor. Accommodations can be made to honour community needs and traditional practices.

Attendance

Students are expected to attend all classes and associated activities.

English Usage

Students are expected to proofread all written work for any grammatical, spelling and stylistic errors. Instructors may deduct marks for incorrect grammar and spelling in written assignments.

Electronic Devices

Students may use electronic devices during class for note taking only except with accommodations.

On-line Communication

Outside of the classroom, instructors will (if necessary) communicate with students using either their official Capilano University email or eLearn; please check both regularly. Official communication between Capilano University and students is delivered to students' Capilano University email addresses only.

UNIVERSITY OPERATIONAL DETAILS**Tools for Success**

Many services are available to support student success for Capilano University students. A central navigation point for all services can be found at: <https://www.capilanou.ca/student-services/>

Capilano University Security: download the [CapU Mobile Safety App](#)**Policy Statement (S2009-06)**

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

Academic Integrity (S2017-05)

Any instance of academic dishonesty or breach of the standards of academic integrity is serious and students will be held accountable for their actions, whether acting alone or in a group. See policy and procedures S2017-05 Academic Integrity for more information:

<https://www.capilanou.ca/about-capu/governance/policies/>

Violations of academic integrity, including dishonesty in assignments, examinations, or other academic performances, are prohibited and will be handled in accordance with the Student Academic Integrity Procedures.

Academic dishonesty is any act that breaches one or more of the principles of academic integrity. Acts of academic dishonesty may include but are not limited to the following types:

Cheating: Using or providing unauthorized aids, assistance or materials while preparing or completing assessments, or when completing practical work (in clinical, practicum, or lab settings), including but not limited to the following:

- Copying or attempting to copy the work of another during an assessment;
- Communicating work to another student during an examination;
- Using unauthorized aids, notes, or electronic devices or means during an examination;
- Unauthorized possession of an assessment or answer key; and/or,
- Submitting of a substantially similar assessment by two or more students, except in the case where such submission is specifically authorized by the instructor.

Fraud: Creation or use of falsified documents.

Misuse or misrepresentation of sources: Presenting source material in such a way as to distort its original purpose or implication(s); misattributing words, ideas, etc. to someone other than the original source; misrepresenting or manipulating research findings or data; and/or suppressing aspects of findings or data in order to present conclusions in a light other than the research, taken as a whole, would support.

Plagiarism: Presenting or submitting, as one's own work, the research, words, ideas, artistic imagery, arguments, calculations, illustrations, or diagrams of another person or persons without explicit or accurate citation or credit.

Self-Plagiarism: Submitting one's own work for credit in more than one course without the permission of the instructors, or re-submitting work, in whole or in part, for which credit has already been granted without permission of the instructors.

Prohibited Conduct: The following are examples of other conduct specifically prohibited:

- Taking unauthorized possession of the work of another student (for example, intercepting and removing such work from a photocopier or printer, or collecting the graded work of another student from a stack of papers);
- Falsifying one's own and/or other students' attendance in a course;
- Impersonating or allowing the impersonation of an individual;
- Modifying a graded assessment then submitting it for re-grading; or,
- Assisting or attempting to assist another person to commit any breach of academic integrity.

Sexual Violence and Misconduct

All Members of the University Community have the right to work, teach and study in an environment that is free from all forms of sexual violence and misconduct. Policy B401 defines sexual assault as follows:

Sexual assault is any form of sexual contact that occurs without ongoing and freely given consent, including the threat of sexual contact without consent. Sexual assault can be committed by a stranger, someone known to the survivor or an intimate partner.

Safety and security at the University are a priority and any form of sexual violence and misconduct will not be tolerated or condoned. The University expects all Students and Members of the University Community to abide by all laws and University policies, including B.401 Sexual Violence and Misconduct Policy and B.401.1 Sexual Violence and Misconduct Procedure (found on Policy page <https://www.capilanou.ca/about-capu/governance/policies/>)

Emergencies: Students are expected to familiarise themselves with the emergency policies where appropriate and the emergency procedures posted on the wall of the classroom.