

**CARLETON UNIVERSITY**  
SCHOOL OF INDIGENOUS AND CANADIAN STUDIES

COURSE NUMBER /SECTION: INDG2020

Cross listed with WGST 2812B

ACADEMIC YEAR/TERM: WINTER 2021

**DECOLONIZING SEX, GENDER AND SEXUALITY**

**Instructor:** Cheyanne Thomas (cheyanne.thomas@cmail.carleton.ca)

**Office Hours:** Online, by appointment

**Phone Number:** N/A

**Course Meets:** Tuesdays, 11:35 a.m. - 1:25 p.m, Big Blue Button (cuLearn course page)

\* This syllabus was previously developed by Professor Geraldine King.

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**Discussion Groups:**

A1: Wednesday, 10:35 - 11:25 a.m., BIG BLUE BUTTON

A2: Tuesday, 6:05 – 6:55 p.m., BIG BLUE BUTTON

A3: Wednesday, 9:35- 10:25 a.m., BIG BLUE BUTTON

**Course Description:**

This course examines the effects of colonization in unbalancing Indigenous peoples' lives through the imposition of constructions of gender, sex, and sexuality, and the ways that Indigenous peoples are working to restore balance to their families and communities.

Thus, working from a pedagogical framework centred in Indigenous feminisms, this course focusses on the ways Indigenous women, Two Spirit and gender non-conforming peoples generate and mobilize epistemologies of resistance, resurgence and renewal. This course emphasizes and celebrates decolonial ontologies that are centred in the land, cosmologies, and critical pedagogies that undermine mechanisms of oppression as sanctioned by settler states. Through examinations of various decolonial feminist perspectives, this course aims to initiate an ontological summoning of ideas, gestures of rebellion, promising praxis and manifestos of sovereignty that honour, uphold and celebrate Indigenous movements towards liberation.

**Reading (s)/Textbook (s):**

Campbell, Tenille K. *#IndianLovePoems*. Signature Editions, 2017.

*Other course readings will be available through ARES or online.*

## **Course Requirements & Methods of Evaluation:**

Proposal for Research Paper DUE: FEBRUARY 12 <sup>th</sup>	10%
Research Paper DUE MARCH 26 <sup>th</sup>	30%
Decolonial Art Project DUE APRIL 9 <sup>th</sup>	10%
Final Exam TAKE HOME DUE APRIL 27 <sup>th</sup>	30%
Attendance & Participation OR Weekly reading reflection ONGOING	20%

## **Course Policies**

Due to the ongoing Covid-19 global pandemic, this course will be held online through Big Blue Button on the cuLearn course page. This course will be delivered asynchronously and synchronously. All lectures will be recorded and available on the course page, and you will have the option to complete weekly reflections if you are unable to attend your tutorial section at the specific time.

I am available to meet through Big Blue Button by appointment. I will not be able to meet in person due to the ongoing pandemic.

If you have questions about the course readings and assignments, please contact your assigned TA. If you wish to speak to me about grades you have earned in the assignments, you will need to first reach out to your TA and then provide me a written rationale describing why you believe your grade should be reconsidered.

I will post all information regarding the course on cuLearn; it is your responsibility to regularly check the course site.

## **Class Conduct**

The materials covered in this course will engage a range of complex topics. It is important that these issues be addressed within the class in a sensitive and respectful manner.

## **Assignment Submissions**

All assignments MUST be submitted on cuLearn. Emailed/hard copies of assignments will **NOT** be accepted. There is a 5% deduction for each day that an assignment is late. Assignments will not be accepted after 3 days past the due date and will receive a grade of zero (unless you have an extension/justification).

Information regarding academic accommodations is available at the end of this document. There are always exceptions beyond what is mandated by law and Carleton University policy and I am open to accommodate. However, in all cases you must contact your TA or myself as soon as possible regarding whether an exception can/will be granted by your TA/myself.

## **Course Schedule**

**NOTE:** All readings are required to be done *before* class. Along with the assigned chapter/article, you must read at least two (2) poems of your choice each week from #IndianLovePoems.

### **Week 1: January 12<sup>th</sup>: Sex, Gender and Sexuality – What’s the Difference(s)?**

“Indigenous Histories Through a Gendered Lens.” *Anishinaabewiziwin*, 12 Nov. 2016, <https://giizismoon.wordpress.com/2016/11/12/indigenous-histories-through-a-gendered-lens/>

### **Week 2: January 19<sup>th</sup>: Patriarchy and Colonialism**

#### **TA GROUPS START**

Eberts, Mary. “Victoria’s Secret: How to Make a Population of Prey.” *Indivisible: Indigenous Human Rights*, Fernwood, 2014, pp. 144-65.

### **Week 3: January 26<sup>th</sup>: Gendercide**

Miranda, Deborah A. “The Extermination of the *Joyas*: Gendercide in Spanish California”. *A Journal of Lesbian and Gay Studies*. 16 (1-2), 253-284.

### **Week 4: February 2<sup>nd</sup>: The Colonial Gendered Imaginary**

Green, Rayna. "The Pocahontas Perplex: The Image of Indian Women in American Culture." *The Massachusetts Review* 16.4 (1975): 698-714.

### **Week 5: February 9<sup>th</sup>: The Rise of Indigenous Feminism**

Arvin, Maile, et al. “Decolonizing Feminisms: Challenging Connections Between Settler Colonialism and Heteropatriarchy.” *Feminist Formations*, vol. 25, no. 1, 2013, pp. 8-34.

Indigenous Feminist Activity Book:

[https://issuu.com/indigenousfeministcohortuoft/docs/indigenous\\_feminist\\_activity\\_book](https://issuu.com/indigenousfeministcohortuoft/docs/indigenous_feminist_activity_book)

### **Week 6: February 16th: NO CLASS - READING WEEK**

### **Week 7: February 23<sup>rd</sup>: Critical Polyamories, or How to Decolonize Sex**

Tall Bear, Kim. "All My Relations Podcast".

<https://www.buzzsprout.com/262196/1001592>

*How the Traditional Indigenous Practice of Beading Can Lead to Frank Talk about Sex.*  
*The Globe and Mail,*

<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/life/health-and-fitness/health/how-the-traditional-indigenous-practice-of-beading-can-lead-to-frank-talk-about-sex/article29130767/>

### **Week 8: March 2<sup>nd</sup>: Decolonizing Sex Work**

Hunt, Sarah. "Decolonizing Sex Work: Developing and Intersectional Indigenous Approach." *Selling Sex: Experience, Advocacy and Research on Sex Work in Canada*, 2013, pp. 82-100.

### **Week 9: March 9<sup>th</sup>: Indigenous Erotics**

Christie-Peters, Quill. "Kwe becomes the moon, touches herself so she can feel whole again"

<http://gutsmagazine.ca/kwe-becomes-the-moon/>

Nelson, Melissa K. "Getting Dirty: The Eco-Eroticism of Women in Indigenous Oral Literatures." *Critically Sovereign: Indigenous Gender, Sexuality Feminist Studies*, Durham, Duke University Press, 2017, pp. 229 – 260.

### **Week 10: March 16<sup>th</sup>: Decolonial Aesthetics**

Nixon, Lindsay. "Making Space in Indigenous Art for Bull Dykes and Gender Weirdos."

<http://canadianart.ca/features/making-space-in-indigenous-art-for-bull-dykes-and-gender-weirdos/>

Danger, Dayna, et al. "Aesthetic Arousal." *Canadian Art*,

<https://canadianart.ca/features/aesthetic-arousal/>

Exercise: *Monkman and Decolonizing Sexuality*, CanLit Guides,  
<http://canlitguides.ca/canlit-guides-editorial-team/an-introduction-to-gender-and-sexuality/exercise-monkman-and-decolonizing-sexuality/>

### **Week 11: March 23<sup>rd</sup>: Indigenous Masculinities**

Hokowhitu, Brendan. "Taxonomies of Indigeneity: Indigenous Patriarchal Masculinity." *Indigenous Masculinities: Legacies, Identities, Regeneration*, UMP, 2015, pp. 80-98.

### **Week 12: March 30<sup>th</sup>: Two-Spirit Mobilizing and Resistance**

Driskill, Qwo-Li. "Double-Weaving Two-Spirit Critiques: Building Alliances between Native and Queer Studies." *GLQ: A Journal of Lesbian and Gay Studies*, vol. 16, no. 1-2, 2010, pp. 69-92.

Riddle, Emily. "(Indigenous) Governance is Gay." *GUTS*,  
<http://gutsmagazine.ca/indigenous-governance-is-gay/>

### **Week 13: April 6<sup>th</sup>: Where Do We Go from Here?**

Heath Justice, Daniel. "Notes toward a Theory of Anomaly." *GLQ: A Journal of Lesbian and Gay Studies*. 16(1-2), pp. 207-242.

### **Week 14: April 13<sup>th</sup>: Exam review**

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In accordance with the Carleton University Undergraduate Calendar Regulations, the letter grades assigned in this course will have the following percentage equivalents:

A+ = 90-100	B+ = 77-79	C+ = 67-69	D+ = 57-59
A = 85-89	B = 73-76	C = 63-66	D = 53-56
A - = 80-84	B - = 70-72	C - = 60-62	D - = 50-52
F = Below 50 WDN = Withdrawn from the course DEF = Deferred (See above)			

### **Academic Regulations, Accommodations, Plagiarism, Etc.**

University rules regarding registration, withdrawal, appealing marks, and most anything else you might need to know can be found on the university's website, here: [www.calendar.carleton.ca/undergrad/regulations/academicregulationsoftheuniversity/](http://www.calendar.carleton.ca/undergrad/regulations/academicregulationsoftheuniversity/)

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request, the processes are as follows:

#### **Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**

The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at **613-520-6608** or [pmc@carleton.ca](mailto:pmc@carleton.ca) for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send your **Letter of Accommodation** at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (*if applicable*).

#### **For Religious Obligations:**

Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details, visit the Equity Services website: [www.carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf](http://www.carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf)

#### **For Pregnancy:**

Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details, visit the Equity Services website: [www.carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf](http://www.carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf)

#### **For Survivors of Sexual Violence**

As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and where survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit: [www.carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support](http://www.carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support)

## **Accommodation for Student Activities**

Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation must be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. <https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf>

## **Plagiarism**

Plagiarism is the passing off of someone else's work as your own and is a serious academic offence. For the details of what constitutes plagiarism, the potential penalties and the procedures refer to the section on Instructional Offences in the Undergraduate Calendar. Students are expected to familiarize themselves with and follow the Carleton University Student Academic Integrity Policy (See <https://carleton.ca/registrar/academic-integrity/>). The Policy is strictly enforced and is binding on all students. Academic dishonesty in any form will not be tolerated. Students who infringe the Policy may be subject to one of several penalties.

### **What are the Penalties for Plagiarism?**

A student found to have plagiarized an assignment may be subject to one of several penalties including but not limited to: a grade of zero, a failure or a reduced grade for the piece of academic work; reduction of final grade in the course; completion of a remediation process; resubmission of academic work; withdrawal from course(s); suspension from a program of study; a letter of reprimand.

### **What are the Procedures?**

All allegations of plagiarism are reported to the faculty of Dean of FASS and Management. Documentation is prepared by instructors and departmental chairs. The Dean writes to the student and the University Ombudsperson about the alleged plagiarism. The Dean reviews the allegation. If it is not resolved at this level then it is referred to a tribunal appointed by the Senate.

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## **Assistance for Students:**

Academic and Career Development Services: <http://carleton.ca/sacds/>

Writing Services: <http://www.carleton.ca/csas/writing-services/>

Peer Assisted Study Sessions (PASS): <https://carleton.ca/csas/group-support/pass/>

## Important Information:

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- Student or professor materials created for this course (including presentations and property of the author(s)). They are intended for personal use and may not be reproduced or redistributed without prior written consent of the author(s).
  - Students must always retain a hard copy of all work that is submitted.
  - Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.
  - Carleton University is committed to protecting the privacy of those who study or work here (currently and formerly). To that end, Carleton's Privacy Office seeks to encourage the implementation of the privacy provisions of Ontario's *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FIPPA) within the university.
  - In accordance with FIPPA, please ensure all communication with staff/faculty is via your Carleton email account and/or cuLearn. To get your Carleton email you will need to activate your MyCarletonOne account through Carleton Central. Once you have activated your MyCarletonOne account, log into the MyCarleton Portal.
  - Please note that you will be able to link your MyCarletonOne account to other non-MyCarletonOne accounts and receive emails from us. However, for us to respond to your emails, we need to see your full name, CU ID, and the email must be written from your valid MyCarletonOne address. Therefore, it would be easier to respond to your inquiries if you would send all email from your Connect account. If you do not have or have yet to activate this account, you may wish to do so by visiting <https://students.carleton.ca/>
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