SOCI 4850 D
FALL 2025
CARE WORK, GENDER, RACE AND MIGRATION

Instructor: Carieta Thomas

Office Hours: Fridays at 12:00pm to 1:00pm or via Zoom by appointment

Email: CarietaThomas@cunet.carleton.ca

Pre-requisites & Precluded Courses: Fourth-year standing

Method of Delivery: In-person Mondays at 11:35am to 2:25pm

In this course, you are expected to learn from your texts, your teacher and from one another. This requires striving towards understanding each other but it does not imply striving towards finding agreement. Our class will be racially, religiously, politically, culturally, generationally, and economically diverse. We will be of different gender identifications and sexual orientations and our lived experiences and reactions to the course material will reflect this diversity. Sharing our perspectives and interpretations on the course material will enhance everyone's learning experience and you are encouraged to openly express any disagreements with the authors you will read, with your fellow classmates, or with the Professor in the different participation fora that are available for this course. However, you are expected to conduct yourself in such a way that shows the utmost respect to others who may – or may not – share your views. Derogatory comments and hateful behavior towards others (and their views) will not be tolerated.

Carleton University acknowledges the location of its campus on the traditional, unceded territories of the Algonquin nation. In doing so, Carleton acknowledges it has a responsibility to the Algonquin people and a responsibility to adhere to Algonquin cultural protocols.

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES:

This course will examine care work at the intersection of gender, race, and migration. We will explore the transnational and national issues contributing to the care deficit, including the conceptualization of care work, the devaluation of care work, the experiences of migrant care workers, the COVID-19 pandemic, and the frameworks governing migrant care labour. Students will gain a deep understanding of the role of care work in the lives of both the care recipients and the caregivers, emphasizing the impact of race, gender roles, migration, family, and workplace dynamics. Additionally, we will explore the importance of recognizing and valuing care work as integral to social cohesion and economic development.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

At the end of the course, students should be able to:

- Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of the key concepts and theories related to care work, including categorical distinctions within caring labour and the stratification of care work.
- Analyze the impact of intersecting systems of race, gender, and migration in the global care economy.
- Evaluate public policies, labour migration programs, and legal frameworks on the rights and working conditions of migrant care workers.
- Apply feminist, intersectional, and transnational perspectives to real-world case studies and experiences of care work.
- Demonstrate critical thinking, analytical, and communication skills by engaging in discussions, debates, reflections, writing assignments, and research.
- Develop and demonstrate the ability to effectively advocate for specific policy positions by creating research-informed advocacy outputs that translate academic research into accessible formats for public and policy audiences.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS & METHODS OF EVALUATION

Assessment of learning outcomes will take place through a variety of methods. Below are the assessment components, required assignments, and the percent value of each assignment for determining your course grade.

Assessment Component/Assignment	Due Date	Weight
Participation	Ongoing	10%
Critical Reflection Papers (3 out of 5)	September 16th at 11:59pm September 23rd at 11:59pm September 30th at 11:59pm October 7th at 11:59pm November 4th at 11:59pm	30% (3 at 10% each)
Final Project Topic & Outline	October 31st at 11:59pm	5%
Film Analysis	November 21st at 11:59pm	20%
Final Research Project	December 5th at 11:59pm	35%