

SOCI 5805 GLOBAL BLACK FEMINIST THOUGHT

Course Description

This course provides a broad interdisciplinary survey of contemporary Black feminist thought. It takes a transnational approach to understanding the interpretive, theoretical, political, and methodological tools Black feminists have employed and views Black feminist thought as a pluralist theory, praxis, and site of contestation. Through critical analysis of a wide range of texts and film, the course will explore key areas of concern for Black feminist thought, including epistemology, intersectionality, reproductive health, Black sexualities, unequal impacts of economic development and globalization, and solidarities across movements. Focusing on the late 20th and 21st centuries, the course will examine how Black feminism(s) have changed and contemporary issues such as the mainstreaming of intersectionality and celebrity co-optation/performative Black feminism. Including theorists and activists outside of North America, the course will also consider how Black feminist theory is produced across the African diaspora and the impacts of histories of colonialism and transatlantic slavery on its development in the Caribbean, Latin America, and Africa.