



## DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND EDUCATION

### COURSE OUTLINE – FALL 2010

WS 3000 Women's Studies A2 – 3 (3-0-0) 45 Hours

**INSTRUCTOR:** Cheryl Bereziuk                      **PHONE:** 780 539 2739  
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**OFFICE HOURS:** Tuesday 1 – 2:30 p.m. and Thursday 1 – 2:30 p.m.

**PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE:** none

#### **REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:**

Full Frontal Feminism by Jessica Valenti  
Grassroots by Jennifer Baumgardner and Amy Richards  
Consciously Female by Tracy Gaudet

#### **CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:**

This course introduces the field of women's studies, with emphasis on the theoretical foundations of feminist analysis and the diversity of debates within feminism. The primary focus surrounds issues of gender as a social, cultural and political construct and how this intersects with race, class and sexuality. The course is also an opportunity to explore the shared and diverse aspects of women's experiences and show how women's studies as an academic discipline challenges the methods, theories and knowledge of traditional disciplines.

#### **CREDIT/CONTACT HOURS:**

WS 3000 consists of three hours of instructional time each week

#### **DELIVERY MODE:**

The course work includes lectures, class discussions, in-class group and individual work.

#### **OBJECTIVES:**

The primary objective of WS 3000 is to introduce the field of women's studies such that students become familiar with the theoretical foundations of feminist analysis and the diversity of debates within feminism. The course is also an opportunity to explore the shared and diverse aspects of women's experiences.

**TRANSFERABILITY:**

GPRC has transfer agreements with the University of Alberta, the University of Calgary, the University of Lethbridge, Athabasca University, Concordia University College and Grant MacEwan University. Students should check with the receiving institution concerning transferability as all arrangements are subject to change.

\*\*Grades of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institution to ensure transferability.

**EVALUATION:**

In class activities	10%
Dinner party project	20%
Political party analysis	20%
Activist proposal	15%
Current events project	20%
Activist project	15%
Total	100%

Note: In order to pass this class the dinner party, political party, current events and activist proposal and project must all be completed.

**GRADING CRITERIA:**

Grades will be assigned on the Letter Grading System.

<b>GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE</b>			
<b>GRADING CONVERSION CHART</b>			
<b>Alpha Grade</b>	<b>4-point Equivalent</b>	<b>Percentage Guidelines</b>	<b>Designation</b>
<b>A<sup>+</sup></b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>90 – 100</b>	<b>EXCELLENT</b>
<b>A</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>85 – 89</b>	
<b>A<sup>-</sup></b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>80 – 84</b>	<b>FIRST CLASS STANDING</b>
<b>B<sup>+</sup></b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>77 – 79</b>	
<b>B</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>73 – 76</b>	<b>GOOD</b>
<b>B<sup>-</sup></b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>70 – 72</b>	
<b>C<sup>+</sup></b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>67 – 69</b>	<b>SATISFACTORY</b>
<b>C</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>63 – 66</b>	
<b>C<sup>-</sup></b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>60 – 62</b>	
<b>D<sup>+</sup></b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>55 – 59</b>	<b>MINIMAL PASS</b>
<b>D</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>50 – 54</b>	
<b>F</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0 – 49</b>	<b>FAIL</b>
<b>WF</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>FAIL, withdrawal after the deadline</b>

**EVALUATIONS:**

All take home assignments must be word-processed. It is important to save a copy of any written work handed in for credit or grading. Details on the take home assignments will be given to you on a separate handout at the beginning of the term.

Assignments are due on the dates set by the instructor at the beginning of class. Unauthorized late assignments will have a 5% per day late penalty applied to the assigned grade (including weekend days). If there is a valid reason for an extension, it must be requested prior to the due date although students should be advised that extensions are rarely granted in lieu of the late penalty.

If a student does not hand in an assignment when it is due, the procedure is as follows:

1. Advise the instructor via email that the assignment has not been submitted and confirm the date it will be submitted.
2. Deliver the assignment directly to the instructor or to the Cashier's Office where it will be placed in the instructor's mailbox.
3. Confirm with the instructor the receipt of the assignment. The assignment will be considered submitted the day the instructor receives or picks up the assignment not the day it is placed in the mailbox.

In class activities are short in-class assignments pertaining to that day's chapter discussion. Most class will have some sort of assignment that must be handed in during that class. Failure to be in class and not handing in an assignment will result in a grade of 0 with no opportunity for a makeup assignment. The exception to this is if you have an excused absence for a valid reason in advance of class time. Please do this via email and be sure to specify exactly which course you are in (i.e., WS 3000 section A2). In these cases you will not get a makeup assignment but neither will you be docked marks for noncompliance. These assignments will range from a written response to a question, group activity/experiment, worksheet, summary of film/chapter material, pop quiz, etc. Grading for these assignments will be: 0 if not submitted or an obvious lack of effort, 1 for adequate but many errors/lack of understanding, and 2 for good effort with minimal errors. Your full name (first and last) must be on all submitted assignments or marks will be docked during grading.

#### **STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:**

Regular attendance is critical to success in this course. Should a student be unable to attend a class, it is the student's responsibility to acquire the missed material and to complete the assigned readings. The instructor does not lend out lecture notes. If you are unwell, please do stay home until you are feeling better. Because a significant component of your final grade comes from in class activities, students are expected to email the instructor in advance explaining why they require an excused absence.

Learning is an active process that will take effort on your part. Students are expected to read the chapters in advance of lectures, participate in activities and discussions in the classroom, and communicate with the instructor when difficulties are encountered with the course material. This is a seminar course meaning students must be prepared to engage in discussions during class time. Students are responsible for learning all of the assigned chapters, even if all the material has not been covered in lecture, as well as any other topic or video covered during class time.

Students are expected to display a professional attitude and behavior in the classroom including academic honesty, respect for and cooperation with your colleagues and the instructor,

attention to colleague's questions and the instructor's response, and a determination to meet deadlines. Students who are unable to meet these expectations will be required to leave the class in the interest of preserving the learning environment for the other students.

Because the issues we will be discussing are complex and controversial, there are bound to be many different opinions about them. An important ground rule for this course is a commitment from all students to help build a respectful learning environment where we are all comfortable expressing our views and learn from one another. You are encouraged to keep an open mind, allow for the exchange of views, and respect opposing viewpoints. Also keep in mind that some of the issues we will address will be highly personal so consider the types of responses you are willing to share with other people in this class. It will be expected that all individuals will maintain confidentiality of the class discussions but you do not have to share experiences you would rather not disclose. Don't be afraid, however, of carefully examining what you believe and why you believe it. Also be cognizant of the fact that women's studies is an academic discipline that although draws from women's personal experiences is not meant to be a substitute for personal counseling nor an entertaining or dramatic chat session more suited to daytime talk shows. One of the difficult aspects of this course is that we will examine how we have been systematically taught and internalized misinformation about ourselves and others. We will also be confronting how we participate in this process ourselves. The issues confronted in this course will affect some of us deeply and personally. Please be gentle with yourself should issues arise for you and feel free to talk to the instructor about such matters or for a referral for counseling should the need arise.

If you have a disability, please self-identify to the instructor if you require any specialized supports.

Please be sure to familiarize yourself with moodle as all communication with students outside of class and office hours will be done via email to your gprc email account. Be sure to check your college email often. Please also be sure to specify exactly which course you are in when contacting the instructor.

**STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:**

Please refer to <http://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies/> to see the college policies regarding plagiarism, cheating and the resultant penalties. There are serious issues and will be dealt with severely. The instructor reserves the right to use electronic plagiarism detection services.

## **COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:**

September 13	Class begins
September 14	Last day to add a class
September 15	Full Frontal Feminism (F) Chapter 1
September 20	Grassroots (G) Chapter 1
September 22	Last day to drop a class and F Chapter 2
September 27	G Chapter 2
September 29	F Chapter 3 and dinner party project due
October 4	G Chapter 3
October 6	F Chapter 4
October 11	G Chapter 4
October 13	F Chapter 5
October 18	G Chapter 5 and political party project due
October 20	F Chapter 6
October 25	G Chapter 6
October 27	F Chapter 7
November 1	G Chapter 7
November 2	Last day to withdraw from a class
November 3	F Chapter 8 and 14 and activist proposal due
November 8	Consciously Female (CF) Chapter 1 and 2
November 10	F Chapter 9
November 15	CF Chapters 3 and 4
November 17	F Chapter 10
November 22	CF Chapters 5 and 6 and current events project due
November 24	F Chapter 11
November 29	CF Chapters 7 and 8
December 1	F Chapter 12
December 6	F Chapter 13
December 8	Activist project due

The dates listed on this outline are tentative and subject to change.