



**Greetings!**

Greetings to you all in Gender & Women's Studies this term! I'm Dr. Jen Roth (she/her, they/them), the Acting Department Chair. I'm always happy to answer any questions you have about our programs, so never hesitate to reach out. We have a number of exciting upcoming events this term that are open to all. In GWS, 95% of our students are working in the career of their choice a year after graduation, and I hope that you'll enjoy your time with us too. Let me know if you have any questions as you move through your degree this term: [jroth@lakeheadu.ca](mailto:jroth@lakeheadu.ca)

**Let the winter term begin!**



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**Department of Gender and  
Women's Studies**

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Office hours: Monday –Friday, 8:30am- 4:30pm

## Upcoming Spring Courses!

Course	Title	Instructor	Method	Time
WOME-1100-SDE (12 weeks)	Madonna to Madonna	TBA	WEB	n/a

**Course Description:** An interdisciplinary introduction, the course explores intersections of gender, race, class, sexuality, ability, age and other socially/historically shaped dimensions of identity. Discussions will include such topics as media, health, work, poverty, body and sexuality, violence, law and creativity, in local and global contexts.

Course	Title	Instructor	Method	Time
WOME-2111-SDE* (6 weeks)	Sex, Gender and Species	TBA	Zoom	1pm to 4pm (Monday & Wednesday)

**Course Description:** In this course, we will undertake a critical feminist analysis of the questions “what is a woman?” and “what is an animal?” Drawing on interspecies feminist theory, we will consider the ways that women and animals have been constructed, objectified, and entangled in social and cultural practices – including the discourses and material consequences of Western ethics, science, consumption, and entertainment. Throughout the course, an aim is for you to grapple with interspecies feminist theory to develop responses that move beyond biological determinism, and do not draw a line at the human boundary.

*\*This is a Special Topic course: The content of this single term course will vary from year to year.*

These spring courses start the first week of May 2023. Registration for spring and summer courses opens in February. For a list of important dates, please visit the [Lakehead Academic Schedule of Dates](#). To access the Lakehead University [timetable, please click here](#) (scroll down and select your campus).

### Are you considering applying to a Master's program?

The deadline to submit an application is February 1st, 2023, but many programs are still willing to consider applicants to their Master's program, including any that are wanting to do the Gender and Women's Studies Specialization. Our dynamic, interdisciplinary group learns how to apply feminist theory and methods to their home disciplines and receives an additional designation on their degree. If you are interested or have any questions, contact Dr. Jen Chisholm, Graduate Program Coordinator, [jchisho1@lakeheadu.ca](mailto:jchisho1@lakeheadu.ca).

## What research have some of our GWS Specialization Students been working on?

Ashley W.

My name is Ashley Walter, and I am a teacher, artist, and arts educator. I recently completed my Masters in Social Justice Studies in the creative stream, specializing in Gender and Women's Studies. Although I was already interested in the Social Justice Studies program, finding out that I could specialize in Gender and Women's Studies, as well as having a creative stream option, provided me more incentive to decide to engage in such a program. My project, *Mothering and COVID-19: Narratives of Pandemic Life as Art*, considers the experiences of mothers during COVID-19, and presents their stories as visual art pieces. My Master of Social Justice Studies work is a Creative Stream art-as-research project aimed at exploring the experiences and narratives of motherhood during the COVID-19 global pandemic. I conducted interviews based on a set of questions about their experiences of motherhood during COVID-19. The data was coded to find themes within each interview and between participant narratives. Each participant was asked for a personal object to inspire or be incorporated into a work of art. Participants gave me: empty pill bottles, a balloon, an Apple AirPods box, a laptop, a piece of paper, a bottle of hand sanitizer, a toothbrush, and I submitted LEGO bricks. The mediums I used were drawing, found objects and other mixed media, sculpture, and printmaking. The intention of the art is to aesthetically express the themes shared in the interviews and to disseminate the experiences of mothers during the COVID-19 pandemic to a wider audience. These works are being featured as a solo exhibition at the CO. LAB art gallery between the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> of March, with an opening on March 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7pm.

Koral H. (pronouns: they/them)

For my Master's thesis, I created a new form of therapy in a proposal for funding. The therapy is called Dialectics for Indigenous Peoples. This therapy combines the traditional Dialectic Behavioural Therapy with Indigenous healings and teachings from bands across Canada. It is the first therapy of its kind. It has been picked up by a non-profit organization in British Columbia called the *Unique Get Together Society*. I am in the funding phase right now. I am hoping to get this proposal funded to complete the research and implement the program. Hopefully, I would like this program to replace the standard court-ordered anger management or AA NA treatments as it is designed to not only address target behaviours such as substance use, violence, and suicide, it is also designed to address intergenerational and vicarious traumas at a deeper level. It will provide participants with a healthy set of coping mechanisms in 4 target areas, emotional regulation, distress tolerance, mindfulness, and interpersonal effectiveness. The therapy will be delivered as land-based and an elder will be present to take the institutional feel out of the therapy and make it personalized to each Indigenous person's life experiences. This is the beginning of our healing journey as Anishinabe people and a step towards Canada's promise for reconciliation with our nations.

*Update: It is now accepted for review officially by The Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs as well as Indigenous Health Canada.*

Raven B. (pronouns: they/she)

I graduated from the Social Justice Studies program, with a specialization in Gender and Women's Studies, last year and I would highly recommend it to any student interested in pursuing a master's degree. I appreciated the opportunity to take graduate level classes from many different departments at the university; I took classes offered by Gender and Women's Studies, Indigenous Learning, History, and Social Justice Studies. This gave me the freedom to

direct my learning towards topics that I found especially interesting, which made writing papers much more enjoyable.

In my second year I chose to specialize in the research stream of the program. I worked with Dr. Lori Chambers to design and carry out an original research project, in which I interviewed trans survivors of sexual violence on their experiences with support systems post-assault. The GWS department gave me the time and space to develop a methodology that prioritized study participants' well-being and ownership of their stories. Research involving the trans community has too often spoken for or about trans people, rather than given our community a platform to speak for themselves. This program taught me that the way we conduct and present research is equally (if not more) important than the research data itself.

## Events

### Department of Gender and Women's Studies Feminist Dialogues Speaker Series

Date: February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023(Thursday)

Time: 1:00pm

Location: LI 5002

Speaker: Dr. Jen Roth

**“But do you know what day it is?”: *Dracula*, Gendered Empire, and the Breakdown of Patriarchal-Imperial Colonial Discourse**

Victorian patriarchal-imperial discourse justified colonization abroad and men's ownership of women at home. In Bram Stoker's *Dracula*, the frontiers between internal/external, home/elsewhere exist everywhere, and are often associated with women who hold knowledge-power that undermines the Crew of Light's assumptions about the 'natural' inferiority of women, feminized men, and land. Muddled marriage, multiple feminized frontiers, and knowledgeable local women all challenge the idea that colonization was a natural offshoot of British patriarchal responsibility. If only the Crew would listen!

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Date: March 6th, 2023 (Monday)

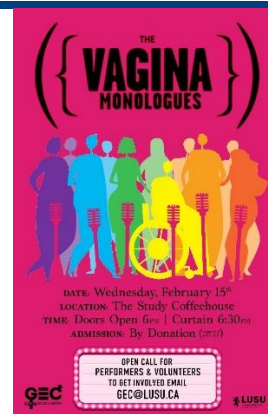
Time: 1:00pm

Location: Zoom

Speaker: Dr. Hayley Baker

### **Exploring the Underrepresentation of Women Coaches in Canadian University Sport**

Currently, there are disproportionately few women who hold coaching positions within Canadian university sport. To investigate the gender gap, Dr. Hayley Baker's research explores the institutional practices that inform women coaches' working realities. In her talk, Dr. Baker will describe the taken-for-granted nature of university sport, calling for a more nuanced understanding of women's work in coaching to address gender disparity and diversify leadership in this space.



**Event:** Craftivism in the GEC  
**When:** Each Wednesdays starting January 11th. (ends the last week of March, 2023)  
**Time:** Drop in between 2:00 pm and 6:00 pm  
**Where:** GEC (SC 0020)

No experience necessary. Supplies will be provided. For more information, contact the Gender Equity Centre, [gec@lusu.ca](mailto:gec@lusu.ca).

**Event:** The Vagina Monologues  
**When:** Rescheduled – new date TBA  
**Time:** 6:30pm (doors open at 6:00pm)  
**Where:** The Study Coffeehouse  
**Admission:** By donation (suggested price \$10)

Open call for performers & volunteers: to get involved, email [GEC@lusu.ca](mailto:GEC@lusu.ca).

## Call For Participants!

Feminisms and the Lakehead 2023: Local(izing) Feminist Resistance  
 Wednesday, April 5th 2023 in the Faculty Lounge

Feminisms at the Lakehead 2023, the department of Gender and Women's Studies annual conference welcomes submissions addressing the broad theme of Local(izing) Feminist Resistance. We are seeking work that addresses feminist resistance, resilience, activism, and praxis (practice) in local settings. This could mean local to Thunder Bay, Northwestern Ontario, Canada, or a place/space you call "home".

We invite proposals for papers, presentations, artwork and performance that address these themes.

We especially welcome submissions from undergraduate and graduate students, as well as faculty and community members.

Interested participants are asked to email a brief description (no more than 250 words) of what you would like to present/discuss/display/play and any audio/visual requirements by Friday, February 24th, 2023 to [gec@lusu.ca](mailto:gec@lusu.ca)

Questions or Queries can be directed to: Dr. Jen Chisholm [jen.chisholm@lakeheadu.ca](mailto:jen.chisholm@lakeheadu.ca) OR Dr. Jessica Jurguti [jjurguti@lakeheadu.ca](mailto:jjurguti@lakeheadu.ca). Please put "Feminisms at the Lakehead" in the subject line.

Feminisms at the Lakehead 2023 is proudly co-hosted by the Gender Equity Centre and the Department of Gender and Women's Studies.

## Pride Central



### Gwen's Closet

Free, gender-affirming clothing for trans and non-binary students. For more information, please contact Pride Central at [pride@lusu.ca](mailto:pride@lusu.ca).

### Peer Support

Pride Central will continue running weekly Peer Support meetings every Wednesday and Thursday from 2pm-4pm in UC 0019. Should you have any questions, please email [queerpeersup@gmail.com](mailto:queerpeersup@gmail.com)

### Pride in the North

Save the date! This year, Pride in the North will be held from March 6th - 10th. Stay tuned for more details on specific events and how to register.

### Stay Connected

Email: [pride@lusu.ca](mailto:pride@lusu.ca)

Instagram: @lusu.pridecentral

Discord: Unofficial Pride at Lakehead