



New Name!

This academic year marks the new official name of our department: Women's Studies is now the Department of Gender and Women's Studies. Our course codes remain the same (WOME) as well as our administrative assistant email, WomensStudies@lakeheadu.ca.



Upcoming Winter Courses!

WOME-2012	Body Politics	Dr. Chisholm
WOME-2111	Queer Activisms	Dr. Niittynen
WOME-3357	Law and Women's Lives	Dr. Chambers
WOME-4010	Women, Gender & Social Justice	Dr. Chisholm

Instructors & Staff 2021-22



Dr. Lori Chambers (Chair)



Dr. Jen Chisholm



Dr. Jenny Roth



Dr. Jessica Jurgutis



Dr. Jan Oakley



Megan MacKenzie



Dr. Miranda Niittynen



Élaïne Doiron
(Administrative Assistant)

News

New Instructor!



Megan Mackenzie is a contract lecturer currently teaching the course “Women, Technology, and Cyberculture”. She has a Bachelor of Fine Arts as well as a master’s degree in Education with a specialization in Women’s Studies. Her area of expertise is feminist deconstruction of media, with a specific interest in analysing children’s animated films.

Dr. Lori Chambers becoming a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada (RSC)

On Friday, November 19, Dr. Chambers will be the 2nd Lakehead professor to become a Fellow.

The RSC elected Dr. Chambers as a Fellow for her research, which has transformed understandings of the history of Canadian law, particularly with regard to women and gender. Her original and ground-breaking research includes discussions of property law, unwed parenthood, adoption, violence against women, and, more recently, Indigenous histories in the North. Highly esteemed by historians and law professionals, her work has revealed how the past continues to shape our legal present.”

“I am honoured to receive this award and thank my colleagues and Lakehead University for their wonderful support over the past two decades,” she said.

Dr. Chambers joined Lakehead University in 1999. Chair of the Department of Gender and Women’s Studies, she is a former Lakehead University Research Chair on Gender, Law, and Equity, and was the Chair of the President’s Task Force on Sexual Assault Education, Prevention, and Support.

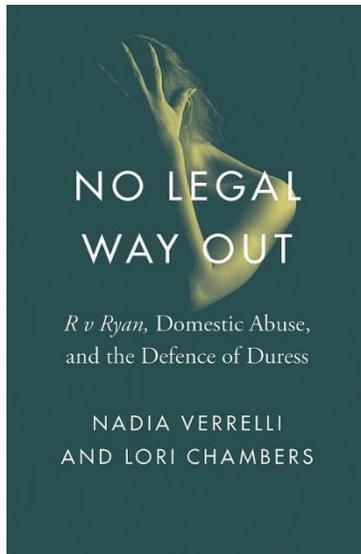
The above news is a shortened version: the [full article can be found on the “Campus Connection \(News & Events\)” webpage](#).

Exceptional Alumni Award



Congratulations to Ivory Tuesday's Exceptional Alumni Award! Ivory graduated with a Master's Specialization in Women's Studies (MA in SJS) in 2019, and was nominated by the Department of Gender & Women's Studies for anti-racist activism at the local, national and international levels.

New Book by Dr. Chambers!



An RCMP sting caught Nicole Doucet (Ryan) trying to hire a hitman to kill her ex-husband. It was supposed to be an open-and-shut case. It wasn't. She was acquitted on the basis of duress in a context of abuse. But her ordeal did not end there.

[No Legal Way Out](#) details the judicial process, media coverage, and legal implications of *R v Ryan*, a landmark case in Canadian law for all the wrong reasons.

A quarter-century after *R v Lavallee* – which expanded the parameters of self-defence to include the experiences of abused women – *R v Ryan* limited the legal options for women seeking to escape intimate partner terrorism. *No Legal Way Out* is an unabashedly feminist analysis that explains why the court, the police, and the media let down all women trapped by abuse.

Conference Activity

At the annual Women's and Gender Studies *et Recherches Féministes* (WGSRF) conference on May 31st, 2021, **Dr. Chisholm** and **Dr. Roth** presented "The blade that is sheathed in wit": Community, strategy, the backlash, and hope in the humour of *The Northern Woman Journal*. The title of their panel was *Feminist Writing Feminist Resistance: The "Northern Woman Journal," Rural Feminist Pathways, and Grassroots Social Change*.

Published Works From Our Department

Dr. Chisholm and **Dr. Jurgutis** presented “Mapping Strategies and Telling Stories: Exploring Histories of Feminist Anti-Violence Activism in Thunder Bay” at the Women’s and Gender Studies *et Recherches Féministes* Annual Conference in June of 2021. The title of their panel was *Feminist Writing Feminist Resistance: The “Northern Woman Journal,” Rural Feminist Pathways, and Grassroots Social Change*.

Dr. Jurgutis and fellow scholars (Liau, J., Nouvet, E., Dinely, B., Kearney, H., Reaka, N., Fitzpatrick-Lewis, D., Peirson and L., Kouyoumdjian, F.) wrote “[Reproductive health care in jail](#): A qualitative study of women’s experiences and perspectives in Ontario, Canada.” It was published in May of this year (2021) in *PLoS ONE*.

New Course

Lakehead University | Department of Gender and Women’s Studies

WOME 3111 FA | Dr. Miranda Niittynen

Term: Fall 2021



Term: Fall 2021

Meeting Time: Zoom / F2F (TBA)

Instructor: Dr. Miranda Niittynen

Office Hours: Virtual Office Hours,

Email: mniitty1@lakeheadu.ca

Mondays, 12:00-3:00pm

Course Description:

The contemporary museum is an educational and representational space born from a fraught and complicated past. Sixteenth-century *Wunderkammers* (cabinets of curiosities) were displays of objects accumulated by European travellers seen as ‘worldly’ and ‘well-travelled’ due to their imperial expeditions. These cabinets of stolen objects were preserved for encyclopaedic purposes, becoming

markers of privilege and high-class status for European men. Likewise, the natural history museum was informed by the school of *taxonomy* (classifications) from Swedish Botanist Carl Linnaeus' writings, which not only compartmentalized species and plants, but also produced fixed categories of gendered and racial difference and stereotypes. Anthropology museums were guilty for racist scientific experiments, the exploitation of live human exhibits, and the continual display of precious cultural objects yet to be repatriated. Anatomy museums continue to display preserved 'matter' to educate onlookers about the bodily 'pathology' of physiological 'differences.' In the contemporary moment, museums remain in tension with human rights activism, as a number of decolonizing social justice movements have shed light on the insensitive (mis)representations of Blackness in museums such as the Whitney Museum in New York, US, or the Royal Museum for Central Africa in Tervuren, Belgium. In addition to the call to decolonize the oppressive roots of the historical museum, the Canadian Museum of Human Rights in Winnipeg, MB, is under review for workplace harassment and allegations of racism and LGBTQ censorship.

In this course, students will gain knowledge in – and definition of – international human rights discourse and will be given critical skills in recognizing the ways in which museums aid in educating and normalizing institutional oppression. Informed by the schools of feminist, queer, critical race, critical disability, and social justice studies, this course will closely analyse violent mistreatment and representations in museum spaces, simultaneously reflecting on, decolonizing, disrupting, and protesting against unequal power relations. Complimentary to activist movements that continue to protest for better and more responsible illustration of human diversity, we will also look at contemporary artists who fight against museum narratives of oppression, mass exploitation, and dehumanization. Artists and performers include Rachel Herrick, Meryl McMaster, Kent Monkman, Coco Fusco, Lisa Reihana, and Kim Anderson.

[Pride Central](#)



Virtual Office Hours: Mondays, 9am-5pm & Wednesdays, 1:30pm-5:00pm

Whether you are looking for resources or need advice, Pride Central is here to help. Schedule a video call (Google Meet) or messaging session (Google Chat) during office hours, or by appointment.

Interested in volunteering, joining our monthly discussion group, or have an idea for an event? We'd love to hear from you!

Email: pride@lusu.ca

Instagram: [@lusu.pridecentral](#)

Facebook: [@LUSUPride](#)

WGSSA's New Executive Team



ALANDRA LENTO
PRESIDENT
she/her

Ally uses she/her pronouns and is in her second year of Women's and Gender Studies! The area of feminism that Ally is most passionate about is challenging and dismantling rape culture. A fun fact about Ally is that she can crack 27 parts of her body (actually).

Jess uses she/her pronouns and is in her fourth year of the Music Program (Vocal Performance)! The area of feminism that Jess is most passionate about is intersectional feminism, exploring the differences and advances of feminism throughout the various waves of feminism, and ecofeminism. A fun fact about Jess is that she is a music teacher!



JESSICA HAYES
VICE-PRESIDENT
she/her



MEGAN GREENWOOD
SECRETARY
she/her

Megan uses she/her pronouns and is in her third year of Nursing (BScN)! The area of feminism that Megan is most passionate about is feminism in health care! She thinks it is important that all women from all backgrounds are educated about their bodies and receive the same respect and help in Health Care settings. A fun fact about Megan is that her favourite food is pancakes!

Mya uses they/she pronouns and is in their first year of Visual Arts! The area of feminism that Mya is most passionate about is having equality in the way bodies and people are represented in the media. A fun fact about Mya is that she met Joe Gatto!



MYA MEEKIS
TREASURER
they/she



Riley uses she/her pronouns and is in her third year of Education and French! The areas of feminism that Riley is most passionate about are reproductive rights and ecofeminism. A fun fact about Riley is that she just got a puppy named Millie!

Ti uses they/she pronouns and is in their first year of social work (HBSW)! The area of feminism that Ti is most passionate about is combatting gender-based violence. They hope to work as a domestic violence victims advocate. A fun fact about Ti is that she has 3 cats and 1 is hairless!



To find out more about the Women and Gender Studies Student Association and upcoming events, you can visit them on [Facebook](#), [InstaGram](#) and [Twitter](#).

Gender Equity Centre



The LUSU VP Advocacy is currently looking for an enthusiastic student for the position of Gender Equity Centre Coordinator. Please find the form to apply for the position [here](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScbXuBdf1crKjUTxqw_I8GaJ71fdOlb0VU9oHF-z8PjwQIUoA/viewform) (link: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScbXuBdf1crKjUTxqw_I8GaJ71fdOlb0VU9oHF-z8PjwQIUoA/viewform). Students can email Sanjana for inquiries at vpa@lusu.ca.



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