



### Upcoming Spring Web Course!

Course Code	Course Title	Instructor
WOME-3111-SDE	Representing Disability	Dr. Niittynen

WOME 3111 SDE  
Gender and Women's Studies Department  
Lakehead University  
Spring Session, May 2 – June 13, 2022 (Online, asynchronous)  
Instructor: Dr. Miranda Niittynen



**Course Description:**

In the course *Representing Disability*, students will be introduced to the field of critical disability studies and its scholarly connection to intersectional feminist research. As an introduction to the field, students will be given the language to discuss disability (in all of its complex embodiments) and critically analyze the ways in which disability has been represented and/or misrepresented in popular media, art and visual culture, advertisement, medicine, museums, fashion, and politics. Through a number of different artistic and visual culture examples, we will discuss historical and contemporary representations of disability – both visible and invisible. We will look at activist movements that address inequality as it relates to physical, cognitive, neuro, and mental diversity, as well as socio-economic factors and other social determinates of access and health. A variety of representational forms will be discussed, such as film, sculpture, painting, performance, memoir, photography, and students will be given the opportunity to produce a small scale creative activist project. From this course, students will acquire a larger understanding of critical disability studies as an academic field and will be given the tools to actively and creatively approach social justice activism in their own lives.

*No background or knowledge in disability studies required, this course is open to all types of online learners!*

**Schedule:**

- Week 1: What is Disability?: Feminist Perspectives on Critical Disability Studies
- Week 2: In/Visibility and Underrepresenting Disability
- Week 3: Disability in Art
- Week 4: Creating 'Crip' Activisms
- Week 5: Technology, Transformation, and Embodiment
- Week 6: Intersectionalities and Imagined Futures



## Staff Involvement Outside of the Classroom



### Dr. Jurgutis Grant Recipient

Dr. Jurgutis and colleagues received the CIHR Indigenous Gender and Wellness Grant in the amount of \$500,000 for a project entitled “Honouring Voices and Visions: Illuminating Incarcerated Indigenous Womxn’s Sexual, Reproductive and Maternal-Child Health and Wellness”.

### Dr. Jurgutis Hosts Workshop

Dr. Jurgutis also gave a workshop on Land Acknowledgements with the Teaching Commons in February, and will be running the workshop again this April. Please stay tuned for future details!



### Dr. Chisholm Participates in 12 Techniques of Teaching

Dr. Chisholm made a micro-lesson in the Teaching Commons’ “12 Techniques of Teaching” as part of the 12 Techniques of the Holidays 2021. To access her mini lesson, please visit Lakehead University’s [Teaching Commons webpage](#).

### Dr. Chisholm Grant Recipient

She and her colleagues received the UBC’s *Women’s Health Research Institute Catalyst Grant* of \$25,0000.

## Publishing



**Dr. Niittynen** wrote "Apocalyptic Time: Vegan Taxidermy, the Remains of Dolly the Sheep, and Bio-Engineered Art(ificiality) in the Time of Mass Species Extinction." Her article was published in the *Green Letters: Studies in Ecocriticism* (2022): 1-16 and can be found [here](#).

*Article abstract:* In this article, I complicate the ways that scientists and artists stage unique taxidermied animals. I look to what present day taxidermy sculpture examples can teach us about human fears of extinction. Taxidermy has been repurposed in art galleries and is used to commemorate famous animals, such as ‘Dolly,’ a cloned Finn Dorset sheep. I explore how taxidermy art can be used to theorize and think through anthropocentric *apocalyptic* time. In order to challenge artificial human notions of *origins* and *ends*, I place Dolly’s taxidermied remains in dialogue with Robert Marbury’s ‘vegan’ taxidermy sculpture of a woolly mammoth, made from discarded plush toys. Taxidermied Dolly (an animal that transcends ‘natural’ origins) and Marbury’s mammoth (a faux taxidermy piece that does not use *real* animal skin) blur boundaries – the real from the fake, the authentic from the gaff – and help us think through the temporal limits of human knowledge.



“Dolly the Sheep in a field at The Roslin Institute.”  
Photo courtesy of The Roslin Institute, The University of Edinburgh

## Upcoming Events

**Event:** Land Acknowledgements

**Event Date:** Tuesday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022 - 2:00pm to 3:00pm EDT (rescheduled to April 19<sup>th</sup>)

**Event Location:** Zoom

**Event Contact Name:** Kathy Boczek

**Event Contact E-mail:** [teachingcommons@lakeheadu.ca](mailto:teachingcommons@lakeheadu.ca)

**Presenter:** Dr. Jessica Jurgutis, Assistant Professor, Department of Gender & Women’s Studies & Indigenous Learning

**Description:** What are land acknowledgments and what do they mean? In this workshop, Dr. Jurgutis will journey beside us as we learn what they are and why we use them today.

[Register Here](#)

To access the above information on the [Teaching Commons webpage, use this link.](#)

## 2022 – 2023 Timetable

The final timetable for the upcoming academic year is scheduled to be released on June 1st, 2022 (Wednesday).

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