

**POLI 2111 WA
Gender and Politics
Winter 2020**

Tuesday & Thursday: 4:00 – 5:30 pm
Room: RC – 1002

Professor: Dr. Toby Rollo
Office: RB – 2033

E-mail: toby.rollo@lakeheadu.ca

Phone: 807-343-8284

Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 12 – 1:30pm

Course Description:

This course is designed to examine gender, understood as a hierarchical, binary opposition of masculinity and femininity, and its intersection with power relations, understood as an expression of politics. We will examine how gender categories are constructed and how they shape our identities, our ways of thinking (concepts, worldviews), and our ways of acting (divisions of labor, institutions). We will examine how gender hierarchy is a system of differential power that intersects especially with ethnicity/race. We will examine gender in the politics of personal identities, everyday activities, political participation, and social structures (language, media, education, religion, violence). We will spend a significant amount of time considering the topic of women in politics. For centuries women have been excluded from mainstream politics, and the legacy of this exclusion remains. To this day women are marginalized in our political system, missing from the highest administrative posts, and they continue to participate in lower numbers than men. This course will explore women's political behavior and participation, as well as assessing women's attitudes towards politics, participation, and public policy. We will also address the gendered challenges men are facing in our ever-changing socio-economic context.

Format

Weekly lectures will focus on identified topics. Lectures complement assigned readings and are not summaries. Students must do the assigned reading prior to the lecture. Students are responsible for lecture material, required readings, films and other material covered in class.

Required text(s):

- 1) *The Big Push: Exposing and Challenging the Persistence of Patriarchy* (2017) by Cynthia Enloe (University of California Press)
- 2) *Intersectionality* (2016) by Patricia Hill Collins and Sirma Bilge (Polity Press)
- 3) *Stiffed: The Roots of Modern Male Rage* (2019) by Susan Faludi (William Marrow).

Additional readings will be made available through D2L/Courselink or may be copied from the instructor.

Course Requirements:

Attendance and Participation	20%
Photo Voice Project	20%
Essay Proposal	15%
Research essay	35%

Attendance and Participation (20%)

Students who attend and participate have an opportunity to earn up to 20% for their time and effort.

Photo Voice Project (20%)

This assignment asks students to document their experience(s) of gender and/or sexuality in their everyday life. Students must identify an artifact (media, news, advertisement, product, person, door, object, experience, clothes, space, location, building, etc.) that illuminates a way that gender/sexuality is enacted/ constrained/ challenged in their everyday life. Students must take a picture of the object/artifact and submit that picture with a two- page (double-spaced) discussion written in the first person that connects their personal experiences and reflections signified by the image to a minimum of two course readings and class discussions.

Essay Proposal (20%)

Written essay proposals should be submitted **via email** with the subject title **POLI 2111 Essay Proposal** no later than **March 5 (15%)**. Proposals should include an orienting research question, a working outline, and a minimum of 3 provisional research sources.

Research Essay (35%)

There will be one research essay assignment. Students may choose a topic of their liking as long as the topic is relevant to the course and approved by the instructor. Final papers should be **8 pages** in length (double-spaced) with standard font, margins, and paragraphing. Works cited must include at least 6 academic sources including one 2018 or 2019 reference and include course readings that are related to the topic.

E-mail

I will try to answer emails within two business days. I welcome e-mail queries and comments. All students are required to have a valid Lakehead e-mail address. It is your responsibility to maintain your e-mail address in good working order. The University expects you to correspond with me through your official e-mail address, and not through a commercial e-mail account.

Failure to receive important class announcements and messages from me because of a faulty e-mail account (for example, an account which screens out my e-mails as junk mail; bounced messages because of overloaded caches) are not legitimate excuses.

Forwarding your Lakehead email to a Hotmail, Gmail, Yahoo or other type of e-mail account is not advisable. In some cases, messages from your Lakehead addresses sent to Hotmail, Gmail or Yahoo accounts are filtered as junk mail, which means that e-mails from me may end up in your spam or junk mail folder.

Accessibility

Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a disability/health consideration that may require accommodations, please feel free to approach me, and/or Accessibility Services. The sooner you let us know your needs the quicker we can assist you in achieving your learning goals in this course.

Essays

You are to complete a research essay on the topic of your choosing. The goal of each essay is to provide a clear, concise response (argument) to the research question backed by rational consideration of the evidence.

Summarize your response (argument) in a sentence or two – the thesis statement – and appear in the first paragraph of your essay. Be explicit. The

reader should be clear on what you are arguing. Assume an educated reader. Do not spend more than a few paragraphs providing background information. Focus on providing information that advances your argument. While the balance of the paper will defend your argument, you should also acknowledge counterarguments and seek to demonstrate that your argument is superior.

Formatting bibliographies, references

The written assignments will all be double-spaced in 12pt Times New Roman font with standard margins. Essays should be free of spelling and grammatical errors. They must include appropriate citations and complete bibliography.

Include a title page with your name, the date, the course number, and my name. In completing the written assignments, students must cite all facts and figures that are not common knowledge and must cite all ideas that are borrowed from other authors. Students must use a recognized standard format correctly in their bibliographies, references, and footnotes. Failure to do so will result in substantial penalty in calculating your assignment grade.

The University takes instructional offences (including plagiarism) very seriously. Please make sure that you are familiar with the regulations regarding instructional offences. Also, it is not acceptable to submit the same assignment in two different courses.

Late Penalties

Assignments are due on the dates specified in the course outline. Unless arrangements have been made, late papers will be subject to a penalty of 2% a day including weekends.

Schedule

Week 1: Syllabus Review & Gender, Feminism and Political Science

Tuesday, January 7

1. Hawkesworth, Mary. 2005. "Engendering Political Science: An Immodest Proposal" *Politics and Gender*, Volume 1, Issue 1, pp. 141-156.

Thursday, January 9

1. Tolley, Erin. 2017. "Into the Mainstream or Still at the Margins? 50 Years of Gender Research in the Canadian Political Science Association" *Canadian Journal of Political Science*, Volume 50, Issue 1, pp. 143-161.
2. MacDonald, Fiona. 2017. "Knocking Down Walls in Political Science: In Defense of an Expansionist Feminist Agenda" *Canadian Journal of Political Science*, Volume 50, Issue 2, pp. 411-426.

Week 2: Understanding Intersections of Race, Gender, and Politics

Tuesday, January 14

1. *Intersectionality* Chapter 1 "What is Intersectionality"
2. Contrapoints: What is Gender?
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b_uEXzqW43c

Thursday, January 16

1. *Intersectionality* Chapter 2 "Intersectionality as Critical Inquiry and Praxis"

Week 3: Understanding Intersections of Race, Gender, and Politics

Tuesday, January 21

1. *Intersectionality* Chapter 3 "Getting the History of Intersectionality Straight"
2. Contrapoints: Pronouns
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9bbINLWtMKI>

Thursday, January 23

1. *Intersectionality* Chapter 4 "Intersectionality's Global Dispersion"

Week 4: Understanding Intersections of Race, Gender, and Politics

Tuesday, January 28

1. *Intersectionality* Chapter 5 “Intersectionality and Identity”
2. Contrapoints: America – Still Racist
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GWwiUIVpmNY>

Thursday, January 30

1. *Intersectionality* Chapter 6 “Intersectionality, Social Protest and Neoliberalism”

Week 5: Understanding Intersections of Race, Gender, and Politics

Tuesday, February 4

1. *Intersectionality* Chapter 7 “Intersectionality and Critical Education”
2. Contrapoints: Gender Critical
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1pTPuoGjQsI>

Thursday, February 6

1. *Intersectionality* Chapter 8 “Intersectionality Revisited”

Week 6: The Persistence of Patriarchy

Tuesday, February 11

1. *The Big Push* Preface and Chapter 1 “Pink Pussy Hats vs. Patriarchy”
2. Contrapoints: TERFS
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AQPWI7cEJGs>

Thursday, February 13

1. *The Big Push* Chapter 2 “Syrian Women Resist Peace Table Patriarchy”

Week 7: Reading Week NO CLASSES!

Tuesday, February 18

Thursday, February 20

Week 8: The Persistence of Patriarchy

Tuesday, February 25

1. *The Big Push* Chapter 3 “When Carmen Miranda Returns”

Thursday, February 27

1. *The Big Push* Chapter 4 “Tourism and Complicity”

Week 9: The Persistence of Patriarchy

Tuesday, March 3

2. *The Big Push* Chapter 5 “Patriarchal Forgetting”

Thursday, March 5

1. *The Big Push* Chapter 6 “A Flick of the Skirt”

MARCH 6

LAST DAY TO DROP COURSES

Week 10: The Persistence of Patriarchy

Tuesday, March 10

1. *The Big Push* Chapter 7 “A Winding Road to Feminist Consciousness”
2. *The Big Push* Chapter 8 “Cafeteria Ladies”

Thursday, March 12

1. *The Big Push* Chapter 9 “Patriarchy is not Invincible”

Week 11: Being a “Man”

Tuesday, March 17

1. Faludi 1: The Son, The Moon, and The Stars

Thursday, March 19

1. Faludi 2: Nothing but Big Work

Week 12: Being a “Man”

Tuesday, March 24

1. Faludi 3: Girls have all the Power
2. Contrapoints: Men
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S1xxcKCGljY>

Thursday, March 26

1. Faludi 4: A Good Dawg will Always Remain Loyal

Week 13: Being a “Man”

Tuesday, March 31

1. Faludi 5: Where am I in the Kingdom
2. Contrapoints: Incels
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fD2briZ6fB0>

Thursday, April 2

1. Faludi 9: Man in a Can
2. Final Thoughts and Discussion