

Special Topics in Women's Studies

Women's Studies 301

Section: D100

Term: 2009 Fall

Instructor: Dana Claxton

Discussion Topics: Aboriginal womens art making varies from visual, performance, media and traditional methods. Their practices have shaped new contemporary art discourses and created new classifications of what aboriginal art is. Through re/creating aboriginal female identity and other concerns through subverting systems of power and control, aboriginal women artists have exhibited a cultural force within the walls of Canadas public institutions.

This course will discuss concepts of aboriginality in the context of cultural production and contemporary art. Key discussions for the class are to identify and determine what visual conversations and discourse/s are taking place within the art works. The class will read, identify and discuss themes and issues that contemporary aboriginal artists are engaged with.

During the semester, we will invite a guest speaker and hopefully view an exhibition.

Grading: Attendance and Class Participation\x0920% Students are expected to attend all classes and engage in discussion.

Group Work\x0920% Students will work in pairs to present on required readings.

Mid Term Exam\x0930% In class written exam - 10 questions - each answer must be 50 to 100 words.

Term Paper Essay\x0930% 3000 words. Double space, 12pt. Research paper on an artist of their choice or any one of the required readings. Both essays should deeply examine the central issues and expand on the critical analysis and intent of the artist or text.

Required Texts: Robert Houle, Daina Augaitis, Kathleen Ritter (2008) Rebecca Belmore Rising to the Occasion. Vancouver Art Gallery.

Custom Courseware available at the SFU bookstore.

Recommended Texts: n/a

Materials/Supplies:

Prerequisite/Corequisite: Six units in Womens Studies including WS 101 and/or 102.

Notes:

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