

SOAN*3240 Gender and Global Inequality I
Fall 2021
University of Guelph -- Department of Sociology and Anthropology

Instructor: Prof. Lisa Kowalchuk
Class Location: MacKinnon Rm 121 (still tentative)
Class Time: 10:00 to 11:20 am
Office location: MacKinnon Rm 645
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Office Hours: Wednesdays 2:30 to 5:00, by appointment via Zoom or MS-Teams

Course description:

This course undertakes a cross-national, local to global examination of gender-based inequalities in access to fundamental freedoms, rights, and social rewards. We look at how these are shaped by globalization in the economic, cultural, and political realm, and how they are affected by colonization and by the ongoing actions of states, corporations, and civil society (non-state) groups. We explore wide-ranging harmful effects of rigid gender roles, including their linkage in some cases to armed conflict and criminal violence, and to disasters such as climate change and the COVID-19 pandemic. A significant portion of our lectures will focus on actions by groups striving to challenge rigid gender norms, to the benefit of both women and men. Geographically our focus will encompass countries across a range of income levels, including Canada and the U.S., and a number of countries in the Global South. Throughout the course we will clarify the meanings of some building block concepts such as intersectionality, essentialism, cultural relativism, feminism, masculinities, hegemonic masculinity, gender-based violence, and social movements.

Format of delivery

Each week, the Thursday weekly lecture will be delivered remotely via Zoom, and the Tuesday weekly lecture will be delivered in-person on campus. No audio recordings will be made of either lecture, but power-points for each lecture will be posted shortly before or after each lecture.

Evaluation Scheme (subject to modification)

Quizzes on the readings	20%
Mid-term exam	30%
Article review assignment	15%
<u>Final take-home exam:</u>	<u>35%</u>
Total	100%

Required Readings

- A set of readings (journal articles and book chapters) available online via ARES.
- Two films available for streaming from the library (ARES).