

SOAN*4230 Gender and Global Inequality II
Winter 2022
University of Guelph -- Department of Sociology and Anthropology

Instructor:	Prof. Lisa Kowalchuk
Class Location:	TBA
Class Format:	“Blended”
Class Time:	Tuesday and Thursday 10:00 to 11:20 am (Tuesday face to face, Thursday by Zoom)
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Office:	MacKinnon 645
Office Hours:	Thursdays 2:30 to 4:00, virtual

Course description

What kinds of health-focused programs and initiatives devised by development assistance institutions can achieve improvements in health, gender justice, and empowerment in disadvantaged communities or with disadvantaged groups? What is the impact of grassroots initiatives including social movements, led by members of disadvantaged communities? Can these two types of actions connect?

Answering these questions requires understanding how these concepts – health, gender justice, and empowerment – are defined and applied in practise. We also pay attention to numerous social determinants of health including the quality and accessibility of health-care, access to means of earning a livelihood, societal norms about femininity and masculinity, and exposure to interpersonal and structural violence.

Themes of the readings and seminar discussion will include: cultural relativism and universalism as philosophical approaches to assessing, intervening, and allying; sexual and reproductive health; interventions with men focusing on masculinities and health; micro-credit programs for women; and colonization, Indigenous health, and gender in Canada. Geographically, about half of the assigned readings and audio-video materials focus on countries of the global south, and the remainder focus on affluent countries of the global north.

The assessment methods – assignments – will include an exploratory research paper on a topic related to the major themes of the course.

Required Readings

- ❖ Several chapters in Dworkin, Shari L, Monica Gandhi, and Paige Passanno (Eds.). 2017. *Women’s Empowerment and Global Health: A Twenty-First Century Agenda*. University of California Press. (available as an e-book at the University of Guelph library, to be made available online via ARES and Courselink.

- ❖ A set of readings (journal articles and book chapters) and films available online via ARES and Courselink.

Evaluation (subject to modification before course starts)

Participation (in class and online)	15%
Presentation (individual or paired)	10%

Readings analysis (4)	40%
Film review	10%
<u>Exploratory Research paper</u>	<u>25%</u>
Total:	100%