

NEW 240Y - INTRODUCTION TO EQUITY STUDIES

2016-2017

Lectures - Thursday 3:00pm-5:00pm, Room 159, Lash Miller

Tutorials -Thursday 1:00pm-2:00pm, Wetmore Hall 51A

Thursday 2:00pm-3:00pm, Wetmore Hall 51A, 51B, 52

Thursday 5:00pm-6:00pm, Wetmore Hall 51A, 51B, 52

Note: Tutorials begin Thursday Sept 29

COURSE INSTRUCTORS:

First Term: June Larkin, 416-978-8282, june.larkin@utoronto.ca

Office Hours: Wednesday, 1pm-3pm, Room 2034, Wilson Hall, New College

Second Term: Stan Doyle-Wood

Office Hours: Friday, 1pm-3pm, Room 137 New College, 45 Willcocks St.

TEACHING ASSISTANTS

Joe Curnow, Leadership, Higher, and Adult Education, OISE/UT

Safia Gahayr, Social Justice Education, OISE/UT

Laura Kwak, Social Justice Education, OISE/UT

PROGRAM ASSISTANT: Nancy Crawley, Room WE133, 978-5404, nc.programs@utoronto.ca

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This interdisciplinary course is a study of social justice issues in local and global contexts. It provides a foundation to the field of equity studies by introducing major concepts, historical perspectives, key debates and community responses to inequity. Through weekly course readings and first-hand accounts of activists and community organizers we will examine ongoing and new forms of inequity and various approaches to social change. Topics will include the origins of inequities, critical anti-racism, global labour patterns, economic restructuring, gender variance, disability studies, food security and the politics of resistance.

The course is divided into two sections:

- 1) Theoretical and Historical Perspectives on Equity
- 2) Equity, the Marginalization of Difference and the Politics of Resistance

COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The specific learning objectives of this course are that students will come to understand:

- the key concepts, texts and theories in the field of Equity Studies
- the construction of inequities historically and in contemporary times
- the ways inequities operate at the individual, symbolic and structural level
- the construction of social justice arguments through close engagements with scholarly and popular material
- the socially transformative value of equity studies knowledge and practice

Just don't say in the years to come that you would have lived your life differently if only you had heard this story. You've heard it now. - *Thomas King*

Another world is not only possible, she is on her way. On a quiet day, I can hear her breathing.
— *Arundhati Roy*

ACCESSIBILITY STATEMENT

We all learn in different ways. If you have a disability/health consideration that may require accommodation, please feel free to approach me and/or contact Accessibility Services as soon as possible. Accessibility Services works with students confidentially and does not disclose any disability-related information without their permission. Accessibility Services can be reached by phone at 416-978-8060, by email at accessibility.services@utoronto.ca, or on-line: <http://www.studentlife.utoronto.ca/as>

STUDENT COURSE COMMUNICATION: All students are assigned a *mail.utoronto.ca* or *utoronto.ca* email address which is to be used for Blackboard (see below) and general program or course communication.

COURSE MATERIALS: The course syllabus, reading list, readings, assignments, announcements and selected course material will be posted on Blackboard. To access the course website, go to the UofT portal login page at <http://portal.utoronto.ca> and log in using your UTORid and password. Once you have logged in to the portal using your UTORid and password, look for the **My Courses** module, where you'll find the link to the course website.

Please check your Blackboard course website regularly for announcements and additional course materials. Powerpoint slides from each lecture will be posted on Blackboard following the weekly class.

Available at the New College Library 20 Willcocks St. All course readings are also available on a USB stick in the New College library on 2 hour reserve.

ASSIGNMENTS AND EVALUATION	<u>VALUE</u>	<u>DUE DATE</u>
Short Essay (3 pages, excluding biblio)	10%	Nov 3, 2016
First Term Exam	25%	Official Exam Period
Website Essay (4-5 pages, excluding biblio)	20%	Feb 16, 2017
Extra-curricular Activity (1 page, excluding biblio)	5%	Mar 23, 2017
Second Term Exam	30%	Official Exam Period
Tutorial Writing Activities (including two weekly summaries) & Participation	10%	One Reading Summary each term - on-going participation

Bonus Mark	<u>Value</u>	<u>Due Date</u>
Response to feedback from the short essay: Term 1	1%	One week after the assignment is returned in tutorial

Please note: Assignments submitted electronically will **not** be accepted without prior arrangement with the instructor or tutorial leader. You **must** have a copy of all assignments you submit.

DESCRIPTION OF ASSIGNMENTS

You are encouraged to make use of the office hours of the professor, the writing instructor and the tutorial instructors to discuss assignments.

Due: Tutorial, Nov 3, 2016 (2-3 pages, double-spaced, excluding bibliography)

Short Essay - This assignment is designed to help you understand basic concepts of equity and the possibilities for social change. With reference to the course material, primarily the course readings, write a short essay using the following instructions:

Choose one article you found particularly useful in addressing inequity /inequities. Begin your essay by summarizing the article (what is the article about?) What equity issue/issues are addressed in the article? Identify and describe at least two equity concepts that are relevant to the article. *(Be sure to reference the relevant course readings when describing the concepts)*. What is the value of the approach/approaches to equity taken in the article?

Please note: Reference to the course readings must be provided for full credit. Further guidelines for the assignment and a list of articles that can be used for the assignment will be made available in class and then posted on Blackboard. You will have an opportunity to do a practice assignment in tutorials. (Total Value: 10%)

Due: To be scheduled in the regular fall exam period

First Term Exam – The exam will consist of terms and short essay questions on issues addressed in **Section I: Theoretical and Historical Perspectives on Equity**. You will be expected to integrate information from course readings, lectures and/or tutorials in formulating your answers. **Questions will be handed out in class Nov 24.** (Total value: 25%)

Due: Tutorial, Feb 16, 2017 (4-5 pages, double-spaced, excluding bibliography)

Website Essay – To give you an opportunity to work with different modes of text, you will select and analyze a website and a publication [from the website] on an equity issue addressed in **Section II: Equity, the Marginalization of Difference and the Politics of Resistance**. Details of the assignment and a list of approved websites will be handed out in class. (Total value: 20%)

Due: Mar 23, 2017 (1 page, double-spaced)

Extra-curricular Activity – To get you to apply your learning outside of class you will participate in an equity activity for at least two hours outside of regular class time. Activities can be on or off campus and may include community events, lectures, volunteer work, conferences, student activism, rallies and survey research with the Daily Bread Food Bank. Although one class will be allotted for this activity, you may do the activity at any time. You will submit a one-page report that includes a description of the activity, a discussion of the relevance of the activity for equity and a summary of your contributions. (Total value: 5%)

Due: To be scheduled in the regular exam period

Second Term Exam – Similar to the fall exam, you will define terms and answer short essay questions on issues addressed in **Section II: Equity, the Marginalization of Difference and the Politics of Resistance**. You will be expected to integrate material from the course materials in formulating answers. **Questions will be handed out in the final class, Mar 30.** (Total value: 30%)

Tutorial Writing Activities (including two weekly summaries) & Participation - In tutorials you will get credit for attendance, oral participation, completion of writing activities and active involvement in small and large group discussions. You will also get credit for bringing news stories or other items of relevance to our attention and for volunteering for various activities in tutorial and lecture.

Tutorial writing activities will include two summaries of the weekly readings: one for each term, *for 2% of your tutorial mark*. You will choose a week from each term and write a one page double-spaced (approximately 250 words) summary that addresses the following questions:

1. What are the key themes addressed in the readings?
2. What equity terms/concepts do the authors use?
3. What is your most significant take-away (i.e., learning) from this week's readings?

In answering the questions, reference the appropriate author/s. For example, do a number of authors address the same theme? Does one author address a different theme?

The reading summaries must be emailed to your TA before the tutorial for the week you have chosen to summarize the readings. The summaries will be used to generate tutorial discussions. You will get full credit for your summary if you answer all three questions. Additional instructions and practice for the reading summaries will be provided in lecture and/or tutorials. (Total value: 10%)

Bonus mark

Due: One week after the short essay assignment (due Nov 3, 2016) is returned in tutorial
Response to feedback from the short essay: Term 1 - You are invited to write a brief statement (250 words maximum) that describes how you will use the feedback provided on your short essay to improve the quality of your future assignments in the course. This is not a required assignment but those who submit the statement will receive a bonus mark. (Total value: 1%)

POLICIES

Re-marks – According to university regulations, re-marks can only be considered within one month of the assignment return date. Requests must be submitted in writing to the appropriate marker and, in making the case for a remark, you must refer to the answer key or sample papers on reserve in the library or the coordinators office.

Email: All students are required to follow the university policy of having a valid UofT email address and checking their account on a regular basis (at least once every 24 hours). We will occasionally send emails to students through blackboard to update you about our course and tutorial formats. In email communication to your TA or course instructor, **please include 'NEW240Y' in the subject heading**. In your use of email, you are required to follow the rules of email etiquette laid out in <http://www.enough.utoronto.ca/computeruse/etiquette.htm>

Late Penalty - A penalty of 2% per day (including weekends) will be applied for course assignments. ***Extensions will be granted only under exceptional circumstances and must be discussed with the instructor or tutorial leader prior to the deadline.*** Written documentation is required.

Academic Integrity/Plagiarism – Please familiarize yourself with the University of Toronto's *Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters*
<http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/Assets/Governing+Council+Digital+Assets/Policies/PDF/ppjun011995.pdf> for information on what constitutes academic misconduct and the process and penalties for committing an academic offense.

From the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters: *It shall be an offence for a student knowingly: to represent as one's own any idea or expression of an idea or work of another in any academic examination or term test or in connection with any other form of academic work, i.e. to commit plagiarism.* Please review the document "How Not to Plagiarize"
<http://www.utoronto.ca/writing/plagsep.html>

Grading - The Faculty of Arts and Science has outlined the following criteria for letter grades:

A (Excellent): Strong evidence of original thinking; good organization, capacity to analyze and synthesize; superior grasp of subject matter with sound critical evaluations; evidence of extensive knowledge base.

B (Good): Evidence of grasp of subject matter, some evidence of critical capacity and analytic ability; reasonable understanding of relevant issues; evidence of familiarity with the literature.

C (Adequate): Student who is profiting from his/her university experience; understanding of the subject matter; ability to develop solutions to simple problems in the material.

D (Marginal): Some evidence of familiarity with subject matter and some evidence that critical and analytic skills have been developed.

E (Inadequate): Evidence of familiarity with only some subject matter; presence of some critical and analytic skills.

F (Wholly Inadequate): Little evidence of even superficial understanding of subject matter; weakness in critical and analytic skills; with limited or irrelevant use of literature.

TOPICAL SYLLABUS - NEW 240Y - 2016-2017

FIRST TERM

SECTION I THEORETICAL AND HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVES ON EQUITY

Sept 15	Introductory and organizational lecture
Sept 22	Equity Studies: Terms, Concepts and Ideological Frameworks

Tutorials Begin Sept 29, 2016

Sept 29	The Social and Historical Construction of Inequity
Oct 6	Colonialism, Imperialism & Global Inequity
Oct 13	World Food Day
Oct 20	Racism in Canada: History and Representation
Oct 27	Critical Perspectives on Anti-Racism

ASSIGNMENT#1- Short Essay ***Due Nov 3, 2016***

Nov 3	Equity, Globalization and Structural Adjustment
Nov 10	Local Economic Restructuring and Social Assistance
Nov 17	Gender and Sexuality: Gender and Sexuality: Rights and Resistance
Nov 24	Indigenous Nations in Canada: Resisting the Colonial State
Dec 1	Equity and Social Protest

ASSIGNMENT #2 – First Term Exam ***To be scheduled in the regular fall exam period***

SECOND TERM

SECTION II:

EQUITY, THE MARGINALIZATION OF DIFFERENCE AND THE POLITICS OF RESISTANCE

Jan 5	Introduction
Jan 12	Equity, Food/Income Security, Research for Social
Jan 19	Equity and 'National Security'
Jan 26	Equity and Disability
Feb 2	Equity and the Process of Racialization: Part 1: The Racialization of Space
Feb 9	Equity and the Process of Racialization Part 2: Media and Representation

ASSIGNMENT #3 – Website Essay Due – Feb 16, 2017

Feb 16	Social Regulation and the Praxis of Resistance
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Feb 23 READING WEEK - NO CLASS

Mar 2	Violence Against Women
Mar 9	Equity, Education and Critical Transformation
Mar 16	Community Service Week – No Class

ASSIGNMENT #4 – Community Service Assignment Due – Mar 23, 2017

Mar 23	Space, Location and Resistance
Mar 30	Reflexion/Review

ASSIGNMENT #5 – Second Term Exam To be scheduled in the formal exam period