





Women and Gender Studies (WGST) 332

Women and Unions (Revision 3)

Status: Replaced with new revision, see the [course listing](#)  for the current revision 

Delivery mode: [Individualized study online](#) 

Credits: 3

Areas of study: Arts or Social Science

Prerequisites: None. [LBST 200](#) or [LBST 202](#) is recommended.

Precluded: WGST 332 is a cross-listed course—a course listed under 3 different disciplines—[LBST 332](#), [SOCI 332](#). WMST 332. (WGST 332 cannot be taken for credit if credit has already been obtained for WMST 332, LBST 332 or SOCI 332.)

Challenge: WGST 332 has a challenge for credit option.

Faculty: [Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences](#)





Overview

Women and Unions is about women's paid and unpaid work. It is about women's struggles against the gendered division of labour, and the discrimination and exclusion that come with it. It is also about women's struggles against employers who take advantage of women's subordinate position in labour markets and about the fight that union sisters had, and still have, inside the labour movement to be heard and recognized as equals by their union brothers. The main focus of this course is on women and unions in Canada, but it also puts women's struggles into a historical and global perspective.


Outline

- Unit 1: Introduction—What Is “Women and Unions” About and Why Study the Topic?
- Unit 2: “A Change Is Gonna Come”—Transformations of Work in Postwar Canada and the Making of a New Women's Movement
- Unit 3: “Union Maids”—Equity Struggles and Union Renewal
- Unit 4: “At the Purchasers' Option”—Unions, Housework, and Globalization


Evaluation


To **receive credit**  for WGST 332, you must complete four written assignments and achieve an overall grade of **D (50 percent)**  or better for the entire course. Your final grade is determined by a weighted average of the grades you receive on these assignments for credit. The weightings for each assignment are as follows:


Activity	Weight
Assignment 1: Short Essay	5%
Assignment 2: Book Review	25%
Assignment 3: Equity Struggles, Housework, and Globalization	45%
Assignment 4: Reflective Essay	25%
Total	100%

To learn more about assignments and examinations, please refer to Athabasca University's [online Calendar](#) .

Materials

Federici, S. (2020). *Revolution at point zero: Housework, reproduction, and feminist struggle*. Oakland, CA: PM Press.  (Print)

Foley, J. R., & Baker, P. L. (Eds.). (2009). *Unions, equity, and the path to renewal*. Vancouver: UBC Press.  (Print)

Sangster, J. (2010). *Transforming labour: Women and work in post-war Canada*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press.  (Print)

All other course materials are online.

Challenge for credit

Overview

The challenge for credit process allows you to demonstrate that you have acquired a command of the general subject matter, knowledge, intellectual and/or other skills that would normally be found in a university-level course.

Full information about [challenge for credit](#) can be found in the Undergraduate Calendar.

Evaluation

To **receive credit** for the WGST 332 challenge registration, you must achieve a grade of at least **D (50 percent)** on the examination.

 [Challenge for credit course registration form](#)

Important links

- › [Academic advising](#)
- › [Program planning](#)
- › [Request assistance](#)
- › [Support services](#)

Athabasca University reserves the right to amend course outlines occasionally and without notice. Courses offered by other delivery methods may vary from their individualized study counterparts.

Opened in Revision 3, February 28, 2018

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