





Women and Gender Studies (WGST) 401

Contemporary Feminist Theory (Revision 4)

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. **WGST 201** is strongly recommended.

Precluded:

WMST 401. (WGST 401 cannot be taken for credit if credit has already been obtained for WMST 401.)

Challenge:

WGST 401 has a challenge for credit option.

Faculty:

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences 

Overview

Women's and Gender Studies 401: Contemporary Feminist Theory is intended to offer both an overview of feminist theories and women's movements in Canada and elsewhere in the world and a critical discussion of varieties of feminism as they pertain to issues such as gender violence, reproduction, work, families, and sexuality. The course and the readings in the course attempt to recognize the differences among women according to factors such as class, race, sexual orientation, citizenship, and physical ability. It is hoped that the course indicates the tremendous changes that have come about with respect to issues in feminist theory in the last 50 years or so.

Outline

- Unit 1: Introduction to Feminist Theory: Canadian and Global Perspectives
- Unit 2: Women's Movements Around the World
- Unit 3: Work
- Unit 4: Sexuality
- Unit 5: Reproduction
- Unit 6: Gendered Violence


Evaluation

To **receive credit** [↗](#) for WGST 401, you must complete four assignments and achieve a minimum grade of **D (50 percent)** [📄](#) or better on each assignment.


The weighting for each assignment are as follows:

Activity	Weight
Review Quiz	10%
First Short-essay Assignment	30%

Activity	Weight
Second Short-essay Assignment	30%
Research Essay	30%
Total	100%

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

Materials

This course either does not have a course package or the textbooks are open-source material and available to students at no cost. This course has a **Course Administration and Technology Fee** , but students are not charged the Course Materials Fee.

Digital course materials

Links to the following course materials will be made available in the course:

`#{resourceReference}`

All course materials are accessed online. They include scholarly articles, commentary by course authors Dr. Cathy Bray and Dr. Asma Sayed, study questions, and other materials.

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 401 challenge registration, you must achieve a grade of at least **B (75 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 4, January 10, 2013

Updated March 13, 2025

View [previous revision](#) [↗](#)
