"Fight Like a Woman": Women Confronting Violence Across the Americas

A Global Humanities Learning Community, combining Introduction to Women's Studies (WMST 101) and Argumentation and Research (ENGL 102) Dr. Lucinda Grinnell and Dr. Leah Sneider



Enduring Questions of the GHI Learning Community:

• What history and issues connect and separate women across the Americas?

• What are the roots of gender violence in patriarchy and global colonialism?

• How are women across the Americas organizing for social justice?

Description:

"Fight Like a Woman" focuses on how people in the Americas (Latin America and North America) are confronting genderbased violence. Students explore local histories and experiences of Indigenous and Latina women in the Americas, as well as study social movements that transcend borders. They examine histories and contemporary experiences of women

throughout the Americas who confront gender, sexual, military, and environmental violence. The students will participate in a Global Classroom by virtually connecting to and learning with a class at the University of El Salvador.

Approach: We examine the social construction of gender and dimensions of social, economic, cultural, historical, and political processes on people (women, men, trans*) in global contexts.

Concepts/Key terms:

*Intersectionality * Feminisms * Gender-based social movements * Colonialism * Transnationality * Cultural Rhetorics * Decolonial Methodologies

Global Student Learning Outcomes:

Students will:

- Explain several global perspectives on masculinity and femininity within diverse cultural systems;
- Identify the effect of global and local institutions, ideas, and processes on Latina and Indigenous women in the Americas;
- Compare gender-based issues and rights struggles in the Americas;
- Synthesize different perspectives on social justice in the face of possibly highly emotional and uncongenial differences.

Assignments:

- Reflect in writing on gender and the body
- Research current events as they relate to the theme of Women Confronting Violence Across the Americas,
- Study an organization that works on issues of gender-based violence in the Americas,
- Propose a solution to an issue of gender-based violence in the Americas.