

Theme 3 Gender, Race, Indigeniety

- Objectives
- To help students understand how the intersections between race and gender are shaped in different contexts;
 - To critically analyze the political, social, cultural and economic implications of oppression, in the form of racism and sexism, and assess the resistance strategies that organized women have developed in response to them;
 - To develop an understanding of the social and political significance of indigeniety and its forms of reproduction.
- Focus questions
- Why is it important to understand the questions of race and identity to understand gender issues? How do gender, race, identity intersect? Are there differences between the "North" and "South" in this regard? How do critical approaches to gender issues have the potential to complement, or clash, with given political indigenous projects?
- Relevant cases
- Please see our bibliographic guide on **Indigenous Women in the New Millennium**. It contains a narrative text, links to articles and a bibliography with abstracts. ([link](#))
 - An invaluable resource in this regard is the book **La Doble Mirada: voces e historias de mujeres indígenas latinoamericanas** (*The Double Gaze: voices and stories of indigenous women of Latin America*), an anthology of writings by indigenous women and analyses some of the most prominent issues within the indigenous women's movement in Latin America today. It is edited by Martha Sanchez of ANIPA, Mexico. The authors discuss the nature of their struggles from their specific local contexts in Bolivia, Chile, Ecuador, Guatemala and Mexico.

If you are interested in the Spanish version, please write to us at ishd@yorku.ca. Our hope is to make this book available more widely to Spanish and English-language readers alike. It is an invaluable resource for the classroom and for practitioners seeking to understand how indigenous women are challenging prevailing colonial institutions and patriarchal tendencies within the indigenous movement as a whole.

Illustrative readings

Anzaldúa, Gloria (1999). **Borderlands/La Frontera: The New Mestiza** (2nd edition). Aunt Lute Books. Pp. 75-113; and Poems in Sections III, pp. 161-74, and VI, pp. 213-225.

Curiel, Ochy, “Pour un féminisme qui articule race, classe, sexe et sexualité: Interview avec Ochy Curiel (République Dominicaine)”, **Nouvelles Questions Féministes**, Vol. 20, No. 3, 1999: 39-61.

Hernández Castillo, Rosalva Aída; Suárez-Navaz, Liliana, “Borders and the development panacea in Mexico and Spain: Reflections from post-colonial feminisms”, **Revista Liminar**, Mexico, 2004.

Leo-Rhynie, Elsa, Patricia Mohammed, Catherine Shepherd, (1999). **Gender in Caribbean Development: Papers Presented at the Inaugural Seminar of the University of the West Indies**, Women and Development Studies Project, Canoe Press, Kingston, Jamaica, (entire book is available online through Questia, membership required).

Mama, Amina. 1995. **Beyond the Masks: Race, Gender and Subjectivity**. New York: Routledge

Montecino, Sonia (1997). “Spoken Word: Writings about gender, identity and "mestizajes", Facultad de Ciencias Sociales: Universidad de Chile, **Creatividad Feminista**, Santiago. ([link](#))

Monture-Angus, Patricia. (1995). “Organizing Against Oppression: Aboriginal Women, Law and Feminism,” in **Thunder in my Soul: A Mohawk Woman Speaks**, Fernwood, pp, 169-188.

Zerai, Assata. 2000 “Agents of Knowledge and Action: Selected Africana Scholars and their Contributions to the Understanding of Race, Class and Gender Intersectionality”, **Cultural Dynamics** 12(2): 182-222.