FEMINISM: CONCEPTS AND THEORIES

PROF.MATHANGI KRISHNAMURTHY

Department of Humanities and Social Sciences IIT Madras

INTENDED AUDIENCE: Undergraduates, Graduates, Undergraduate Instructors, General Audience

COURSE OUTLINE:

This course will evaluate the rise and trajectory of the feminist movement and explicate concepts surrounding feminism. We will look at the ways in which feminism has developed, its organization around questions of gender, its mandate, and its contemporary import. We then open out the course into questions of feminist theory. Through case studies, literature, ethnography, and theory, we will examine why such analysis matters and why it is critical to our everyday lives.

ABOUT INSTRUCTOR:

Prof. Mathangi Krishnamurthy is Assistant Professor of Anthropology at the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT Madras. She holds a PhD in anthropology from The University of Texas at Austin, and was an Andrew W.Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. Her areas of interest include the anthropology of work and gender, medical anthropology, urban studies, globalization, and affective labour. Her new book "1-800-Worlds: The Making of the Indian Call Centre Economy" published by OUP in 2018 chronicles the labour practices, life-worlds, and media atmospheres of Indian call centre workers, and locates them within the socio-political context of the new Indian middle classes

COURSE PLAN:

Week 1: Introduction, History and Vocabulary

Week 2: Key Concepts - 1

Week 3: Key Concepts - 2

Week 4: Key Concepts - 3

Week 5: The Three Waves of Feminism

Week 6: The Feminist Body

Week 7: Feminism and Work/ Labour

Week 8: Indian Feminism

Week 9: Feminism in Film and Theatre

Week 10: Popular Culture, Social Media and Feminism

Week 11: Gender, queer theory, and post-structuralism

Week 12: Learnings and conclusions