

The University of Victoria, Department of Gender Studies  
Spring 2021

## **GNDR 349 Topics in Film, Literature and Cultural Production: Queer and Trans Cultural Production**

### **Contact info:**

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### **Course Description:**

Queer and trans writers and artists have long been responsible for shifting the cultural landscapes of life writing and documentary. In this practice-based course, we will examine how writers and non-fiction artists validate, deepen, and disrupt well established histories, genres and genealogies of knowledge about gender and sexuality both in the academy and in the arts.

### **Objectives:**

This course is designed to encourage students to think outside the bounds of common academic practice, toward more creative and community-based projects and potentials. Students will be expected to engage a variety of texts with visiting guest artists and to imagine spaces of learning which far exceed the campus or classroom.

### **Key Readings for course:**

Texts include (but are not limited to) Alison Bechdel's *Fun Home*, Janet Mock's *Redefining Realness*, Maggie Nelson's *The Argonauts*, Julietta Singh's *No Archive Will Restore You*, Vivek Shraya's *I'm Afraid of Men*, Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha's *Care Work*, Allyson Mitchell and Dierdre Logue's *Feminist Art Gallery*, Chris Vargas' *Museum of Transgender Hirstory and Art*, films by Thirza Cuthand, and the *Transgender Archives* at UVic.

### **Evaluation:**

Process-based assignments – all of which differently prioritize active engagement, participation and collaborative presentation – lead students to the creation of their own creative work and/or archival project.