

PROFESSOR/INSTRUCTOR: Dr. AJ Withers

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OFFICE: AQ 5098

OFFICE HOUR:

COURSE TIME AND LOCATION: Tuesdays & Thursdays 10:30 – 13:20; AQ 5018

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Property impacts every aspect of our lives and how we live them. Myriad social practices and relations inform its design and distribution. Sexual and gender politics are ever present in relation to property yet often rendered invisible. Beginning from the imposition of private property as central to the Canadian process of colonization, this course examines major themes in relation to the ownership of people, animals, land and things within the Canadian settler state.

In this course, we unpack ideas of land and property and their implications. Divided into three sections: (1) Histories and their Present Consequences, (2) Contemporary Properties and their Consequences, and (3) Resistances, we examine themes including settler colonialism and dispossession, enslavement and the “ownership” of other humans, resource extraction, gentrification, public space, big data and intellectual property, property crime, drug possession, reproduction and social movements. This course will consistently attend to how property intersects with gender, sexuality, Indigeneity, race, disability and class, including how property is used to uphold oppressive social relations.

EDUCATIONAL GOALS:

For more detailed information please see the GSWS website:

http://www.sfu.ca/gsws/graduate/courses/Educational_Goals.html

