Instructor: Helen Fielding (Philosophy/Women’s Studies)
Class time: Friday, 10:00am -1:00 pm
Room SH2348
Phone 59-661-2111 x 84548
Email: hfieldin@uwo.ca
Office Hours: TBA and by appointment

Course Description:
In this course we will trace some of the earlier roots of feminist phenomenology as well as place the movement within its contemporary dynamic emerging—with a number of new publications in this area that we will draw upon. This will mean situating this intellectual movement in relation to the poststructuralist feminist tradition with which it is allied, and material feminism with which it critically intersects. We will also consider its intersections with sexuality, race and disability. Ultimately, we will critically explore how Feminist phenomenology can open up an interrelational ontology, offering not only the account of embodied experience for which it is usually recognized, but also the ways in which embodied perception underlies the production of knowledge and grounds politics and ethics.

Course Objectives
This course will enable students to:

- Develop an understanding of feminist phenomenology in the context of feminist theorizing more generally
- Understand and apply a feminist phenomenological approach
- Recognize some ethical issues raised by feminist phenomenologists
- Develop critical thinking and writing skills

Course Materials
- Mariana Ortega, In-Between: Latina Feminist Phenomenology, Multiplicity and the Self (SUNY 2016)
- Copies of articles will be made available at the Theory Centre

Evaluation
- Short essay 25% (6-8 pages) due Feb. 16
- Final Essay 40% (13-15 pages) due April 27
- Participation 15%
- Conference presentation 20% (April 13, 9am-2pm)
Short essay: Students will provide a contextualized phenomenological description or a textual analysis. This essay may be drawn on for the final essay if students wish.

Final essay and Conference Presentation: Students will develop a feminist phenomenological theme that focuses on their individual areas of interest in consultation with the instructor—this theme will be presented as a conference presentation April 13th. Students will present on their theme for 10 minutes and there will be 5 minutes for discussion of each paper.

Participation:
Two to three times during the semester each student will lead a small group of 3 or 4 students to come up with a question from the day’s material to bring back to the group to discuss. Students will be graded on leading the small group, and on participation in the small groups across the semester. This entails keeping up with the readings each week.

Statement on Academic Offences
Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:
http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

Support Services
Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/ for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Statement of Recognition
“Western University is situated on the traditional land of the Anishinaabeg, Haudenosaunee, Lenape and Attawandaron peoples who have longstanding relationships to the region of southwestern Ontario and the City of London. In close proximity to Western, there are 3 local First Nations communities: the Chippewas of the Thames First Nation, Oneida Nation of the Thames, and Munsee Delaware Nation. In the region of southwestern Ontario, there are 9 First Nations and a growing Indigenous urban population. Western recognizes the significant historical and contemporary contributions of local and regional First Nations and all of the Original peoples of Turtle Island (North America) to the development of Canada.”