THE DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES PRESENTS:

**Feminist Research Speaker Series**

**WINTER 2021: ON FEMINIST & QUEER RESISTANCE TO THE COLONIAL-CARCERAL STATE**

**VALENTINE’S DAY WITH FEMINISM: VIRTUAL SCREENING OF CRIMINAL QUEERS**
**DIRECTED BY ERIC STANLEY AND CHRIS VARGAS, IN COLLABORATION WITH METRO CINEMA!**

Spend Valentine’s Day with Feminism this year, and treat yourself to a virtual screening of Criminal Queers (dir. Eric Stanley and Chris Vargas, 2013, 60 mins). Following a courageous cabal of underground queers fighting to emancipate their leader, trapped in prison for a bogus crime, Criminal Queers weaves appearances from abolitionist activists Angela Y. Davis and Miss Major into a fictional, campy world of queer insurrection. Criminal Queers grows our collective liberation by working to abolish the multiple ways our hearts, genders, and desires are confined. For more info, visit: criminalqueersfilm.net.

**CLICK HERE TO REGISTER NOW - FREE AND OPEN TO ALL.**

**ANTI-COLONIAL ABOLITION AND CREATIVE EXPRESSION: WORLDMING THE ABOLITIONIST NOW**
**FREE LANDS FREE PEOPLES**

This interactive workshop will introduce participants to the idea of anti-colonial penal abolition and its connections to creative expression as a tactic of “imagining otherwise.” An anti-colonial abolitionist lens foregrounds and illuminates how the prison system supports settler colonialism and obscures Indigenous justice traditions. Abolitionist creative expression, through music, movement, writing, art, and more, acts as a means to imagine and move into worlds without and beyond prisons, policing, and colonialism.

**Free Lands Free Peoples** is an Indigenous-led anti-colonial penal abolitionism group based in amiskwaciwâhkahikan, Treaty Six and Métis territory. We do popular education and solidarity work in an often hostile socio-political context, inside and outside prison.

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**DECOLONIAL FEMINIST PRAXIS AND THE CASE OF KASHMIR**
**ATHER ZIA (UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN COLORADO)**

Join Dr. Ather Zia (University of Northern Colorado) for a seminar on feminist resistance to the colonial occupation of Kashmir by the Indian state. We will read and discuss excerpts from Dr. Zia’s book Resisting Disappearances: Military Occupation and Women’s Activism in Kashmir, as well as other works. This seminar will be moderated by Kashmiri Canadian social justice activist Dr. Idrissa Pandit.

**Dr. Ather Zia** is a political anthropologist, poet, short fiction writer, and columnist. Dr. Zia is the author of Resisting Disappearances: Military Occupation and Women’s Activism in Kashmir (June 2019) and co-editor of Can You Hear Kashmiri Women Speak (Women Unlimited 2020), Resisting Occupation in Kashmir (Upenn 2018) and A Desolation called Peace (Harper Collins, May 2019).

**Dr. Idrissa Pandit** is an independent scholar activist. Dr. Pandit has served in a variety of academic and administrative leadership positions in Kashmir, the United States, and Canada, most recently as Associate Professor and Director of the Studies in Islam program at the University of Waterloo. She is a member of the Kashmir Scholars Consultative Action Network, a global group of scholars from across disciplines.

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**CONSTELLATIONS OF CARCERALITY: BLACK WOMEN AND SEXUALIZED STATE VIOLENCE IN CANADA**
**STEPHANIE LATTY (UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO)**

This talk investigates the archives of three cases of the strip-searching of Black women and girls in Canada. In so doing, this talk argues that state-sanctioned sexualized violence done to Black women and girls’ bodies is pivotal in the formation and operation of Canada as a white settler colonial nation state. Using a Black feminist perspective, this talk explores and intervenes in Canada’s disavowal of gendered anti-Black violence and attends to the need to abolish the carceral systems impacting Black women and girls.

**Stephanie Latty** is a writer, scholar and educator. Currently, she is a Doctoral Candidate in the Collaborative Women and Gender Studies program in the Department of Social Justice Education at the University of Toronto, and a Professor in the Community Worker program at George Brown College. Stephanie’s co-authored publications have appeared in the Critical Ethnic Studies Journal and as a book chapter in The Lauryn Hill Reader.

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The Feminist Research Speaker series is generously supported by the Department of Women’s and Gender Studies, the Kule Institute for Advanced Study, Intersections of Gender, Dr. Yasmeen Abu-Laban (Canada Research Chair in the Politics of Citizenship and Human Rights) Dr. Chloe Taylor, and Dr. Dia Do Costa.

**ALL EVENTS ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.**