

Intimate Archives: On Feminist Movements & Emotions

Course Flow

1. Personal Archives

Week #1 Introduction: How do we define Archives? What is Intimacy?

Introducing the concept of archives and investigating how feelings, emotions, and desires are assumed to be private and personal experiences, and their influence on politics and notions of social belonging and intimacy.

Week #2 Digital Archives: What Archives do we Already have?

Discussing our digital footprint as already existing archives.

Reading: *I asked Tinder for my data. It sent me 800 pages of my deepest, darkest secrets.*

Week #3 Our Personal/Bodily Archives I

Investigating the body as an archive.

Reading Sara Ahmed's *Feminist Killjoy* and a poem by Audre Lorde.

Week #4 Our Personal/Bodily Archives II

Reading Sara Ahmed's *The Promise of Happiness* and watching *The Alphabet of Feeling Bad*.

Guest Speaker TBA

Week #5 On Love, Intimacy and Longing

Writing on love and reading Lauren Berlant's introduction of *Cruel Optimism* and a poem by Mary Oliver.

Week #6 What Happens to the Heart?

Reading José Esteban Muñoz's *Cruising Utopia* and Adrienne Rich's *Twenty-One Love Poems*.

One-Week Break

2. Movements Archives

Week #7 What did our Feminist Elders do with their 'bad 'Feelings?

Reading excerpts of *This Bridge is Called my Back*

Guest Speaker TBA

Week #8 On Contemporary Feminist Movements I

Participants present a contemporary movement of their choice.

Reading *Letters from Memory* (أرشيف المرأة والذاكرة).

Week #9 On Contemporary Feminist Movements II

Learnings from different campaigns with a focus on the abortion campaign and decolonizing feminist knowledge production efforts.

Guest Speaker TBA

Week #10 Can We be Hopeful?

Reading excerpts from Saaidiya Hartman's *Wayward Lives Beautiful Experiments: Intimate Histories of Riotous Black Girls, Troublesome Women and Queer Radicals*.

Week #11 What Feminist Politics do to our Love, Friendship and Partnerships?

Exploring the act of writing letters in relation to movements.

Week #12 Concluding Remarks