Gender Mainstreaming in Canada: Implications of the 2018 ‘Gender Equality’ Budget

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9:00am – 4:30pm

Summary (Abstract)
Since its election, the Trudeau government has made promises to promote gender equality and integrate “gender in the budget priority-setting process” (Budget 2018). Furthermore, the government has now introduced a “Gender Results Framework”. But what does this all mean? To better understand the implications of the 2018 ‘Gender Equality’ budget, it is necessary to explore the foundations on which it was derived and the strategies that currently exist that actively promote gender equality (i.e. gender mainstreaming).

Gender mainstreaming (GM) is a globally accepted strategy for promoting gender equality. Formally adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing 1995), GM recognizes that women and men are differentially affected by policies and its aim is to integrate such knowledge into all dimensions of decision-making. In the last decade, much debate has ensued at the international level regarding GM, its efficacy and future utility.

This workshop will situate GM in the field of critical policy studies and gender and governance literature. It will review GM developments to date in Canada and beyond, including unique strategies and approaches that have emerged more recently within governments and international organizations. Students will have the opportunity to apply the knowledge gained in the workshop to a specific sector or policy area, in a jurisdiction of their choice, to explore the transformative change that GM (and its outgrowths) can have on how policy issues including budgets, are framed, analyzed and responded to.
Outline

9:00 - 11:00  Introduction: Gender Mainstreaming:
  - History
  - Development
  - Debates

11:00 - 11:15  Coffee Break

11:15 - 12:00  Challenges to Gender Mainstreaming:
  - Mainstreaming Equality
  - Intersectionality

12:00 - 1:30  Lunch

1:30 - 2:45  Case Studies:
  - GBA+ in Canada
  - GM and its outgrowths in UK, Sweden, Colombia, and South Africa

2:45 - 3:00  Coffee Break

3:00 – 4:30  Operationalizing Approaches and Tools in Real Life Policy Issues:
  - Group Work and Presentations

Required Readings*


*If you are registered for non-credit and are unable to locate the readings, please contact us at wssr@concordia.ca