



**Institute for  
Social Justice**

**ACU**  
AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY

AUGUST 22 - SEPTEMBER 2 | 10AM - 1PM

**POSTGRADUATE SEMINAR:  
DECOLONIZING  
FEMINISM**

LEVEL 2, 7 MOUNT STREET, NORTH SYDNEY

Register to attend 

More information [isj.acu.edu.au](https://isj.acu.edu.au) 

## DECOLONIZING FEMINISM

**What are the possibilities for an inclusive transnational feminist politics in the 21st century? How can feminists respond to continuing regimes of colonization, racialization, and imperialism, and resist the assumption that western culture provides the model of gender justice?**

### INTENSIVE 2-WEEK POSTGRADUATE SEMINAR

**When:**

August 22 -  
September 2  
10am - 1pm

**Where:**

Level 2,  
7 Mount Street,  
North Sydney

**Instructors:**

Linda Martin Alcoff,  
Kiran Grewal,  
Allison Weir

This two-week seminar will explore new approaches to questions of gender justice and gender theory, including Indigenous and Islamic feminisms, postwestern perspectives, and postsecular, postcolonial, and transnational feminisms. We will discuss and analyze links between gender orders and colonial conquest and settlement, changing patterns of violence against women, and racializing discourses and knowledge regimes, to challenge dominant

understandings of knowledge and law, agency and politics.

We will also discuss new strategies for solidarity and resistance, including alliances between secular and spiritual feminisms, Indigenous and settler feminisms, and local and transnational movements, to consider ways to build solidarities across differences, and to create genuinely democratic theories and politics of transformation.

# SCHEDULE



**AUGUST 22**

Introduction



**AUGUST 26**

“Do Muslim Women  
Need Freedom?”



**AUGUST 31**

Contemporary Feminist  
Challenges: Sexual and  
gender-based violence



**AUGUST 23**

The Question of Gender  
– Colonial and Decolonial  
understandings



**AUGUST 29**

Islamic feminisms



**SEPTEMBER 1**

Co-optation: the uses and  
misuses of feminism  
in other processes of  
domination



**AUGUST 24 & 25**

Intersectionalities



**AUGUST 30**

Indigenous feminisms



**SEPTEMBER 2**

Transnational  
Feminism?

## INSTRUCTORS



**ALLISON  
WEIR**

Allison Weir is a social and political philosopher. Her work focuses on intersections of gender, sexuality, class, ethnicity, "race," and religion in the development of individual and collective identities, and on the relation of identity to agency and freedom, power and solidarity. Her work is interdisciplinary, in the areas of feminist theory, queer theory, critical theory, critical race theory, poststructuralism, postcolonial theory, 19th and 20th century continental philosophy, and history of philosophy. She is currently working on a project exploring and developing diverse non-dominant conceptions of freedom, including indigenous, Africana, Islamic, Buddhist, yogic, feminist, and queer conceptions, to consider how these relate to practices of decolonization and struggles for global justice. Allison Weir is the author of *Identities and Freedom* (Oxford 2013) and *Sacrificial Logics: Feminist Theory and the Critique of Identity* (Routledge 1996).



**KIRAN  
GREWAL**

Kiran Grewal is a senior research fellow at the Institute for Social Justice. Her current work focuses on the everyday practices and understandings of human rights and international law in postcolonial and post-conflict settings. She has worked as a scholar, legal practitioner and human rights advocate in the areas of sexual violence, torture, war crimes and crimes against humanity in Sierra Leone, Kosovo, Sri Lanka and Nepal. Prior to this her research looked at the relationship between feminist and anti-racist politics in France and Australia. Kiran is the author of two books, both published in 2016: *The Socio-Political Practice of Human Rights* (Routledge) and *Racialised Gang Rape and the Reinforcement of Dominant Order: Discourses of Gender, Race and Nation* (Routledge).



**LINDA MARTÍN  
ALCOFF**

Professor Linda Martín Alcoff joined the Institute for Social Justice as a Professorial Fellow in 2015. She is Professor of Philosophy at Hunter College CUNY. She was President of the American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division, for 2012-2013, and has also served on its Executive Committee, Nominating Committee, Program Committee, Committee on the Status of Women, and as Chair of the Committee on Hispanics/Latinos. She also served as CoDirector of SPEP (the Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy) from 1997-1999.

Her writings have focused on social identity and race, epistemology and politics, sexual violence, Foucault, Dussel, and Latino issues in philosophy. Linda Alcoff is the author of *The Future of Whiteness* (Polity 2015) *Visible Identities: Race, Gender and the Self* (Oxford 2006), which has won the Frantz Fanon Award in 2009, and *Real Knowing: New Versions of the Coherence Theory* (Cornell 1996), as well as numerous anthologies, collections, and articles.