

CGS 122: Advanced Topics - Feminism in Transnational and World Cinema

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For both feminists and film studies the discourse of the transnational has promised to disrupt hegemonies that divide fields and ideas into national units, encouraging thinking through flows, relations and circuits. Conjuring worlds, especially through projects of world-building, has similarly offered an important strategy for responding to and resisting oppressive structures in cinema and beyond. However, to speak of “transnational” or “world” cinemas also raises associations with the film festival, the auteur, governmental funding streams, oppositions between the West and the rest - often the very structures that exclude, marginalize and reinforce norms and hierarchies in cinema. This course will investigate these contradictions, asking both how feminism may be at odds with and necessary for transnational and world cinemas.