Tuesday Talks

PRESENTS

Dr. Akanksha Misra

Department of Gender and Women's Studies

Speaking on

"Blood, Medicine, and The Body as Archive: Feminist Ruminations on Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome"

Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome (PCOS) is a menstrual condition experienced by as much as 15% of the menstruating population, but remains grossly under addressed, especially in relation to wider social and economic factors such as poverty, abuse, and racial and national differences. In this talk, Dr. Misra discusses how awareness and treatments of this condition, as with most conditions affecting women and/or menstruating people, have been shaped by colonial, heteropatriarchal, and capitalist medical discourses of gender and body normativity and how her own current project seeks to decolonize these approaches to menstrual health. By questioning what constitutes a 'normal' gendered body, and how we distinguish between our bodies and our environment, she further invites us to think about what a more inclusive, feminist approach to PCOS, menstrual health, and medicine more generally might look like, on this campus and beyond. This will be a highly interactive talk (don't worry, no personal questions asked!) with lots of time for Q&A. Trigger Warning: There will be references to violence, childhood abuse, and trauma.



If you wish to be a speaker on this lecturer series, pleases contact Kristin Short, ext. 3150.