

Course Description

In this interdisciplinary graduate course, we will explore the hyphens of activist-academic, activist-artist, activist-professional, and activist-lived experience.

We will examine different ways of thinking about academic knowledge production in relation to the interconnected struggles for example racial, disability justice and food sovereignty, and housing justice. Grounded in the premise that neutrality is complicity, this course challenges students to embrace their positionality—acknowledging that we come with different identities that shape the ways we engage with activism, scholarship, and public dialogue.

Learning alongside activist-scholars, community organizers, artists, graduate students will critically reflect on methodologies, ethics, and practices for connecting academic research with diverse communities and publics. The class will include conversation and interactive workshops with people from different fields and sectors who have collaborated to advocate for housing, food, racial and disability justice.

We will explore various modalities for knowledge translation and community engagement, such as digital storytelling, policy interventions, satire and theatre, and engaging with media.

This course is hybrid. We will meet online from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm except for the following dates: **in person on July 21, July 28, and August 7.**

Depending on the group's interests, there might be optional visits to Lower Mainland organizations on July 25, August 1 and August 8. A pre-course survey will be circulated to gauge interest in different possible visits.