# COURSE INFORMATION GUIDE CHYS 4P02: PEER CULTURES

**Important**: The information contained in this guide is not equivalent to the course syllabus. It is intended to provide students with more information about scheduled courses than is provided through the undergraduate calendar. Keep in mind that it is prepared well in advance of the final courses preparation and merely provides an early idea about course objectives, content, and structure. In some cases this guide may be based on a previous year's course and not be reflective of the coming year's offering. Do not purchase texts or acquire readings based on the information guide.

**Instructor:** Dr. Rebecca Raby

## **Course Description:**

This course examines the formation of peer cultures, their location within a wider social context and their role in the lives of children and youth. We will investigate various sociological understandings of peer relations and youth cultures and address the relationship between peers and identity. We will address how children and youth are involved in creating culture: within wider structural conditions; but also influencing such structural conditions as well. This course will highlight the importance of peer relationships in childhood and youth, including their pleasures and their challenges.

#### **Course Objectives:**

- To review the history of scholarship on youth cultures
- To identify peer cultures as created by young people through social interaction
- To locate this cultural creation within wider structural conditions and inequalities
- To evaluate the role of peer cultures in the construction of subjectivity
- To engage personally and/or theoretically with course material in the final assignment.

### **Course Evaluation:**

- A) Book review (20%)
- B) Short essay: personal application or theoretical engagement (20%).
- C) Group presentation, including write-up (20%)
- D) **Lecture participation** (15%): Includes attendance, participation and quality of participation
- E) Final Exam, open book (25%)

#### **Additional Information:**

This course will be using turninin.com although an alternative is available for students who request it.

The course texts will be a reading package and a book that students choose from a selection for the book review.