

**Azadi (freedom):  
Feminist reading group**

Seminar series run as part of the Brunel  
**Education 'Interculturality for diversity and  
global learning'** Research Group

Feminist reading group led by Dr Geeta Ludhra  
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Session 5: 26.05.22 (5-6pm)  
Led by Dr Ourania Filippakou



# Welcome and House-keeping

## 1. Quick reminder from Session 1:

House-keeping: mutual respect, sensitivity and kindness when speaking, and in the chat comments, no recordings being made, hands-up, feeling safe to speak.

Read more about our research group members and activities on the Interculturality website (access links on next slide).

- **Main Research Group Link:**  
[Interculturality for diversity and global learning | Brunel University London](#)
- **Reading Group Link:**
  - **Feminist reading group | Brunel University London**
- **Azadi (freedom): Feminist works by scholars of colour**

This reading group will run on a monthly-basis where sessions will be held on the last Thursday of every month, between 5-6pm to avoid meeting clashes. All sessions will be held over zoom for the first year. Details and updates will be posted on the website.

- **Zoom link:**  
**<https://bruneluniversity.zoom.us/j/97896081315>**  
**Meeting ID: 978 9608 1315; Passcode: 1372024688**

## Reflection questions and prompts for the year:

- To what degree do critical feminist writers of colour and global south feminists working in the North have the ‘freedom’ and ‘safety’ to write about and through their lived ‘truths’?
- What does it mean to write through a critical feminist lens that captures the intersections, nuances and complications of lived experiences?
- How does this month’s writing challenge some of the power dynamics and white mainstream feminist discourses?
- What emotional tolls do feminist scholars of colour and minoritised feminist scholars embody as part of their research and writing experiences?
- How can poetry be used to address feminist issues and silences by scholars of colour and minoritised feminist scholars?

# Angela Davis



“Before the world knew what intersectionality was, the scholar, writer and activist was living it, arguing not just for Black liberation, but for the rights of women and queer and transgender people as well.”

Nelson George, “Angela Davis,” New York Times Style Magazine (October 19, 2020). Online: <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/10/19/t-magazine/angela-davis.html>

## Reading Session 8: Why Angela Davis?

*“Back in the 1970s, Angela Yvonne Davis had one thing on her mind: revolution. She was public enemy number one to some, a beacon of hope to others. When she went on the run from the law charged with the murder of a judge and five counts of kidnapping, newspapers splashed her face across their front pages, naming her one of the FBI’s 10 most-wanted criminals. A few months later, her face was on the T-shirts of young radicals across the world, fighting for her release.”\**

Davis is interviewed in Marin county jail, 1972, for the documentary The Black Power Mixtape.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7SJKktlvIYU&t=1s>

\* Simon Hattenstone, “Angela Davis on the power of protest: ‘We can’t do anything without optimism’”. *The Guardian* (March 5, 2022), Online <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2022/mar/05/angela-davis-on-the-power-of-protest-we-cant-do-anything-without-optimism>

# Intersectionality and Angela Davis

26 May 2022

## Women's March 2017

"This is a women's march and this women's march represents the promise of feminism as against the pernicious powers of state violence. And inclusive and intersectional feminism that calls upon all of us to join the resistance to racism, to Islamophobia, to anti-Semitism, to misogyny, to capitalist exploitation.

"Yes, we salute the fight for 15. We dedicate ourselves to collective resistance. Resistance to the billionaire mortgage profiteers and gentrifiers. Resistance to the health care privateers. Resistance to the attacks on Muslims and on immigrants. Resistance to attacks on disabled people. Resistance to state violence perpetrated by the police and through the prison industrial complex. Resistance to institutional and intimate gender violence, especially against trans women of color.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bzQkVfO9ToQ&t=3s>

# Reflections, connections and questions raised through this reading

## Prompts:

1. How did you feel during and after reading this chapter?
2. What can we learn from the history of the feminist movement?
3. Reading *Women, Race & Class* 40 years on: why this work is still so significant during the Covid-19 pandemic and resurgences in anti-racist and feminist organising?
4. How do you define feminism? What does it mean to you?
5. What can an educator do?

- **Share a key take-home message after today's session?**
- **Has today's session raised a new question or follow-up line of thinking/reading for you?**
- **Do share in the chat if you feel comfortable to.**

# Thank you for attending today

26 May 2022

- On behalf of the Brunel **Education 'Interculturality for diversity and global learning'** Research Group, we encourage you to visit the website and keep up with our research activities and events.
- Full programme on the website: [Feminist reading group | Brunel University London](#)
- Hope to see you in June and other sessions in this series.

## April **Reading session 9:**

Led by: Professor William Spurlin

Reading TBC – keep an eye on the website.