

**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 4: 24.02.22 (5-6pm)

Led by Professor Maria Tsouroufli



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.

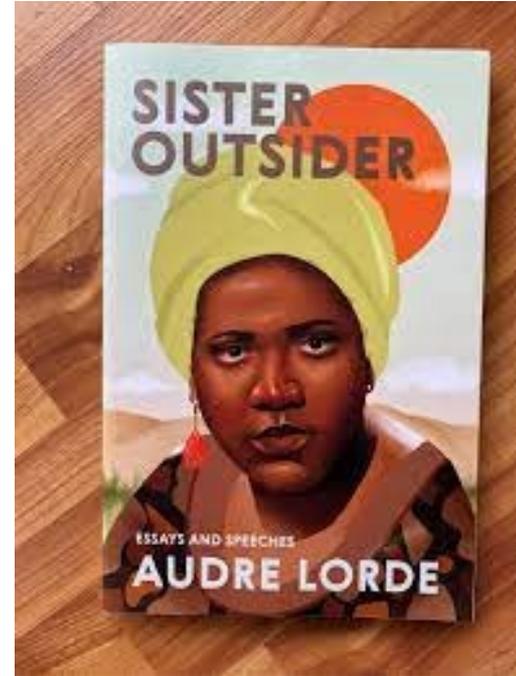
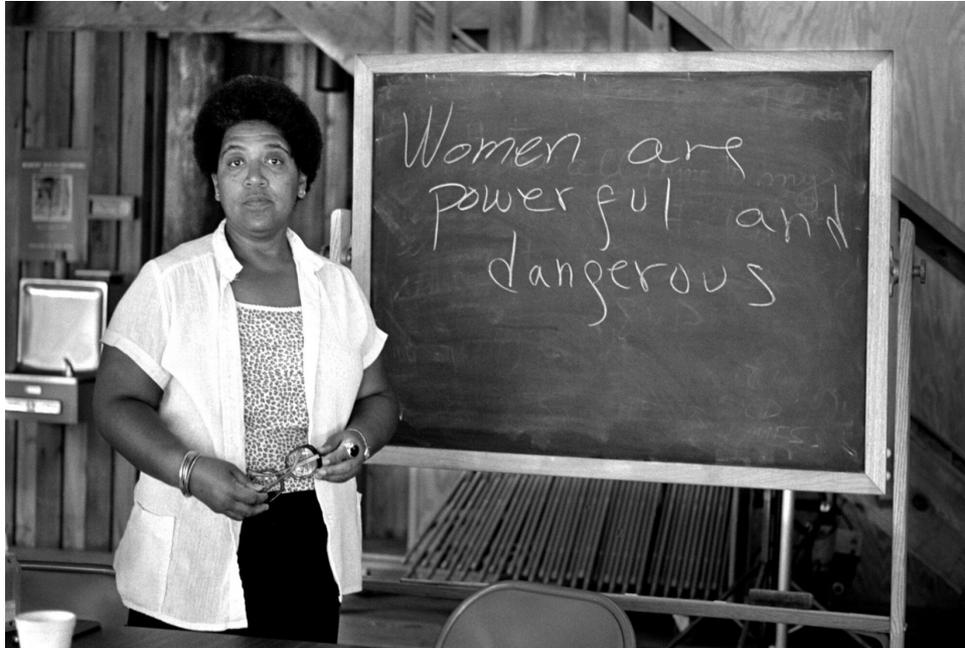
- **Zoom link:**
<https://bruneluniversity.zoom.us/j/97896081315>
Meeting ID: 978 9608 1315; Passcode: 1372024688

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?

Why Audre Lorde and this book?

- Book: Lorde, A. (1984). *Sister Outsider*. Crossing Press: USA
- Why have I chosen Lorde's book paper for the fifth session?
- Available as ebook in the Brunel library



Reading Session 5: Why Audre Lorde and this book?

24 February 2022

'Black, lesbian, moth, warrior, poet' AL

Foreign, othered, outsider, Rum/Unan warrior, survivor, writer/fighter MT

'I disagree with you so I must destroy you... The false notion that there is only a particular amount of freedom that must be divided among us... Instead of joining together to fight for more we quarrel between ourselves for a larger slice of one pie' (p.22)

'The dichotomy between the spiritual and the political is false' p.25

'The erotic functions for me in several ways and the first is in providing the power which comes from sharing any pursuit with another person. The sharing of joy... ' P. 25

My academic life as herstory of *'self-policing of emotional conduct'* (Zembylas, 2018)

'How white racism ... In terms of self-image , in terms of confusion about loyalties. In terms of identifying with the oppressor.' P. 44

Reflections, connections and questions raised through this reading

Prompts:

1. How did you feel during and after reading this book?
 2. What appeals to you (or not) in A. Lorde's work?
 3. Is there something you particularly connected to in this book?
- **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

- 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 March and other sessions in this series.

March **Reading session 6**: 31st March 2022

Led by: Dr Giuliana Ferri

Reading TBC – keep an eye on the website.