Name of Course: Feminist Methodologies

The final paper (12-13 pages) will begin with an articulation of the student’s research paradigm or epistemological commitments\* (3-4 pages):

Drawing on course readings and other sources as necessary, articulate your epistemological commitments and explore how these commitments inform your research interests and relate to particular theories/concepts that resonate with you and that you are thinking of using in your graduate research. Consider how your epistemological commitments and theoretical influences shape the kinds of research questions you are interested in pursuing, the kinds of knowledge claims you are able to make, and your role/s and responsibilities as a knowledge producer.

For the remainder of the paper, students are required to develop a critical analysis on a topic of their choice that is relevant to the ideas and concepts explored in course readings. Throughout, they should indicate how this analysis is informed by their epistemological commitments.

Students may focus and structure the final paper in a way that will advance their own learning about, and/or interests in, research methodology. For example, students may wish to: (i) focus on a particular methodological issue in their final paper (e.g., reflexivity, sampling, power in the research process, the politics of interpretation); (ii) explore in a reflective paper how their thinking about methodology has been informed, challenged, or otherwise transformed throughout the course (reflective papers must still be critically and theoretically engaged and include research and sources from both inside and outside of the course); or (iii) explore the methodological approach that they would like to take in their own (current or potential future) research projects, with the aim of articulating how this approach links to the student’s chosen theoretical location and the assumptions that inform that location. This is not an exhaustive list; alternatives should be discussed with the course instructor.

Papers must integrate and/or be informed by one or more themes covered in the course. Students are expected to draw on both required course readings as necessary and to **conduct research beyond the course readings** in order to develop their analysis on their specific topics.