Course: "Gender, Sexuality, and the Law"
Ryerson University
Department: Criminal Justice and Criminology
Leisure guide by Jordan Patterson

Course goals:
- Critical analysis of issues related to diverse ethnic backgrounds, sexual orientations, immigration statuses, socio-economic levels, and disabilities in the context of the law
- Second-year undergraduate course – mostly young readers
- May not have diverse life experiences
- Strong sense of social justice: care about societal issues
- Careers in law enforcement, social work, or the legal system

Leisure guide:
- Introduces students to a variety of human experiences (e.g., poverty, disability, immigration)
- Supplement academic readings by vivid and engaging narratives
- Allow students to live the stories of others vicariously
- Develop empathy and compassion for people who are in spaces with the law, or failed by the system, or disadvantaged by their familial or socio-economic background, etc.

WHAT IS RA IN ACADEMIC LIBRARIES?
- NOT the development of course subject guides
- Does NOT build on librarians’ subject expertise
- Builds on the analysis of courses through the medium of stories
- Relies on the contribution of literary creations to an understanding of scientific disciplines
- Does NOT look for a direct subject match between courses and fiction
- Looks for the potential connection of a fictional work to the learning process and the future professional image of students

WHY OFFER RA IN ACADEMIC LIBRARIES?
"In a complex world, the ability to participate fully in societal decisions on global warming, genetic engineering, foreign policy, and other issues may be contingent on being able to stay with and focus on ideas in a way fostered by reading, and more specifically by avid reading, for pleasure."
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