This project brings new knowledge to the participants who are asked to bring conscious awareness to their experiences, as well as informing them of the concept of intersectionality as a practice. Most of the featured UBCO students do not have a background in Gender and Women Studies, or have not taken any courses that have discussed intersectionality, and so they are now able to use it as a tool to reflect on their lives. I also learned to be very self-reflexive in the project. I reflected on how I was communicating my project to others, giving direction but ensuring I did not influence my participants answers. I also analyzed my life and my interactions with others, what privileges I have and how I am similar or different. The purpose of the collage is to create an intriguing and accessible way for people to observe and learn about different intersections. In observing other people’s responses my hope is that you also think about the intersections in your life and how they give you privilege, or cause oppression.
I am young white, middle class female. I recognize the privilege that I have and the challenges that I do not face because of these titles. Being born and raised in Canada, I am fortunate to live in such a good country and am allowed greater freedom to express myself. I am a straight, cisgender female never having to experience the fear of not being accepted on the basis of my sexual orientation. I attend university and I am in my third year of a nursing degree. I have the financial stability and opportunity to achieve this higher education. I live with a physical disability which makes me vulnerable to preconceived notions about what people think that means and being thought of as less capable. I am aware that there is discrimination and disadvantages that I do and do not face simply because of who I am.
How intersectionality effects me.

I am a woman who enjoys working out. In the past it was not surprising when a man would pester me to use the squat rack or bench press. Also, I couldn't help but notice that the male:female ratio was significantly unbalanced. Thankfully there is now more females in the gym to support and encourage each other as well as less people ushering me off the equipment.

( I would also like to point out that I don't waste half of my workout taking selfies while hogging equipment.

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Kelowna, B.C.
B.Sc Psychology & Biology minor
Fourth year
Female
Heterosexual
Caucasian (European Canadian)
Intersectionality affects my life in both positive and negative aspects everyday. Positively, I am fortunate to be a well educated young woman in an economically stable country. I have many opportunities for personal and career growth because of how my different social structures favour me. Negatively, some structures such as race and mental wellness make success in daily life difficult. Though they are both aspects of structures that I am aware of in my day to day life, I try to only observe them instead of let them control my emotions and decisions.

Hometown: Kamloops, BC
Major: International Relations
Year: 2
Gender Identity: Female
Sexual Orientation: Heterosexual
Race: Noxalk - Indigenous
I am a cisgender white male. I immigrated to Canada at the age of 13. From Germany.
I'm a first year Ecology student.

As a result of all the privileges I enjoy, I feel that intersectionality does not make itself felt in my everyday life.

I try my best to be aware of how the privileges I enjoy in day-to-day life shape my perceptions and apply them constructively and in a way that does not only benefit myself and others in the "intersectional class" as mine.
Intersectionality, as curated by Kimberlé Crenshaw, enables me to see how oppression can affect my daily life. For one, I am constantly reminded of my race, as a Black British woman, I constantly feel the need to prove myself and work unbelievably hard to match my other peers. I am also reminded of the double effects of my oppression; I acknowledge that I am at a disadvantage based on my gender and race/ethnicity. Second, I know when I perform or take part in any work or academia I might be the underdog or underestimated. Thirdly, intersectionality draws attention to my unique individual position within spaces, although I am black and that affords me less privilege, I have enough money to pursue an education that privileges me over some other black females. Intersectionality reminds me not only of my oppression but reflects on how I present myself as a black woman, often the archetype of the ‘ghetto’ or the ‘baddie’ or ‘trap queen’ are stereotypes that I am conscientious of; because I know that to navigate within a white hetero-normative world, I need to be far removed from those archetypes, to be taken seriously. Judith Butler put it well when she discussed gender as inherently performed, I would take it a step further and say that race can be performed too. I am performing a version of ‘blackness’ that will allow me to be taken seriously while also maintaining my Black British identity.