

**Political Science 513 / Women's Studies 513  
Women, Government, and Public Policy  
Spring 2008**

Ohio State University

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M/W 2:30-4:18PM in Smith Lab 1042  
Off. Hrs: M/W 12-1PM or by apptmt  
2036 Derby Hall, 154 N. Oval Mall

**Course Description**

How is public decision making “gendered”? Why and how do some laws and policies affect women and men differently? Why aren’t there more women in government around the world? We will address these and related questions from a global perspective. Our time in class will be divided between lecture and discussion, with an emphasis on your participation.

**Course Requirements**

There are six requirements for this class.

- 1) Attendance. Any unexcused absence from class deducts one percentage point from your overall grade. You may miss *two days* without penalty (no excuse necessary); additional absences are permitted only with medical documentation or in case of family emergency.
- 2) On two occasions, we will be doing activities in class that require extra preparation on your part. These two homework assignments will be posted on Carmen. They are due on the date on which they are noted. (E.g., the assignment listed under 4/28 is due in class 4/28). Together they constitute 15% of your overall grade.
- 3) An 8-page paper (35% of your grade). This paper is a critique of one reading on the syllabus. Whichever reading your paper addresses, this paper is due on Wednesday, May 28. 1/3 of a letter grade will be deducted for each day a paper is late. Emailed paper submissions will not be graded. If you would like me to look at a draft of your paper, you must submit that draft to me by Wednesday, May 21.

**\*\* more information about the above assignments (#2-3) will be distributed in class\*\***

- 4 & 5) You will take one midterm and one final exam (each is 25% of your grade, respectively). Re-scheduling the midterm or the final exam is only permitted in situations of your illness (doctor’s note required) or a family emergency.
- 6) I expect that you will do the reading assigned for each class. Both your participation in class and your success on the course assignments (including exams) depend upon this preparation. Lectures are not a replacement for reading, and vice versa. This course requirement is not explicitly graded, but I reserve the right to administer “pop quizzes” if I believe that students are not reading consistently. If I were to administer reading quizzes, they would be included in the exam portions of your grade.

**Grading Scale**

93 and above=A	92-90=A-	89-87=B+	86-83=B
76-73=C	72-70=C-	69-67=D+	66-60=D
		59 or below=E	

### **Academic Honesty**

I expect all of the work you do in this course to be your own. I will tolerate absolutely no cheating or plagiarism (using someone else's words or ideas without proper citation). I will report any cases of cheating or plagiarism to the university committee on academic misconduct, and they will be handled according to university policy. If you have any questions about what constitutes plagiarism, please ask me to explain.

### **Disability**

If you need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability, you should contact me to arrange an appointment as soon as possible. At the appointment we can discuss the course format, anticipate your needs, and explore potential accommodations. I rely on the Office for Disability Services for assistance in verifying the need for accommodations and developing accommodation strategies. If you have not previously contacted the Office for Disability Services, I encourage you to do so.

### **Course Materials**

1) The following required book will be on sale at bookstores in the university area (SBX, Long's, etc) and available on reserve at Sullivant Library (@ High & 15<sup>th</sup> Ave). Chapters from this book will *not* be available on the course Carmen website, so you will need to purchase it.

Pamela Paxton and Melanie M. Hughes (2007) *Women, Politics, and Power: A Global Perspective*. Pine Forge Press.

2) PS513 has a Carmen course website, where required materials for class have been made available. Please contact me immediately if you are unable to access and print from the course website so that we can arrange an alternative format for these materials, as you are still responsible for preparing them for class. The website can be accessed from the URL <http://carmen.osu.edu>, where you should sign in using your usual OSU log-in and password.

### **Course Schedule**

NOTE: WPP = Women, Politics, and Power; [C] = Carmen

Monday, March 24: **Introduction to the class & assignments**

**Part I: What are gender and gendered interests?**

Wednesday, March 26: **What is gender?**

Reading:

-Simone de Beauvoir (1949) Selections from *The Second Sex* [C]

-Judith Squires (1999) Selections from *Gender in Political Theory* [C]

Monday, March 31: **What are interests, and what are gendered interests?**

Reading:

- Virginia Sapiro (1981) “What Makes Interests Interesting?” [C]
- Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels (1955 edition, 1848 original publication)  
Selections from “The Communist Manifesto” [C]

**Part II: “Equality” and “Difference”**

Wednesday, April 2: **Equality and difference**

Reading:

- Judith Squires (1999) Selections from *Gender in Political Theory* [C]

Monday, April 7: **Intersectionality**

Reading:

- Jane Mansbridge and Katherine Tate (1992) “Race Trumps Gender: The Thomas Nomination in the Black Community” *PS: Political Science and Politics*. 25:488-492 [C & available via JSTOR]

**Part III: Women and elections**

Wednesday, April 9: **Women and suffrage**

Reading:

- WPP Chapter 2: Women Struggle for the Vote (p.29-62)
- (1907) “The Present Status of Woman Suffrage.” *Harper’s Weekly* [C]

Monday, April 14: **Women and voting**

Reading:

- IDEA (International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance) - some voter-turnout data from a variety of countries (data over time)  
[http://www.idea.int/gender/vt\\_by\\_country.cfm](http://www.idea.int/gender/vt_by_country.cfm)
- Ronald Inglehart and Pippa Norris (2000) “The Developmental Theory of the Gender Gap: Women’s and Men’s Voting Behavior in Global Perspective.” *International Political Science Review*. 21(4):442-463. [C & available via JSTOR]

**Part IV: Women and political leadership**

Wednesday, April 16: **Women as candidates**

Reading:

- WPP Chapters 4-5: Explaining the Political Representation of Women

Monday, April 21: **Women in elected office**

Reading:

- WPP Chapter 7: Do Women Make A Difference?
- Jane Mansbridge (1999) “Should Blacks Represent Blacks and Women Represent Women? A Contingent Yes” *Journal of Politics* 61(3):628-657 [C & available via JSTOR]

Wednesday, April 23: **\*\*IN-CLASS MIDTERM\*\***

(Please refer to course requirements above for policy on missing/re-scheduling the exam)

Monday, April 28: **Case study activity**

*Assignment #1 due today*

Today we're doing a case study activity about gendered leadership styles. More information about this activity and assignment (#1) will be discussed in class.

Reading in preparation for activity:

- Alice Eagly and Mary Johannesen-Schmidt (2001) "The Leadership Styles of Women and Men" *Journal of Social Issues* 37(4):781-797 [C & available via JSTOR]

## **Part V: Women and the state**

Wednesday, April 30: Introduction to women and the state

(no reading assigned)

Monday, May 5: **Women and health**

Reading:

- Sue Tolleson-Rinehart (2005) Chapter 9 ("Women Get Sicker; Men Die Quicker: Gender, Health Politics and Policy") in *Gender and American Politics: Women, Men, and the Political Process* [C]
- News piece TBD

Wednesday, May 7: **Women and social welfare policies in the U.S.**

Reading:

- Marieka M. Klawitter (1994) "Who gains, who loses from changing U.S child support policies?" *Policy Sciences* 27:197-219 [C & via JSTOR]

Monday, May 12: **Women and social welfare policies in the U.S., cont'd**

Reading:

- Kent Germany (2007) Chapter 11 ("Women, Welfare, and Political Mobilization") in *New Orleans After the Promises: Poverty, Citizenship, and the Search for the Great Society* p.224-245 [C]

Wednesday, May 14: **Women and social welfare policies in the communist world**

Reading:

- Donna Harsch (2007) Selections from *Revenge of the Domestic: Women, the Family, and Communism in the German Democratic Republic* [C]
- Additional reading TBD

Monday, May 19: **Case study activity**

*Assignment #2 due today*

Today we're doing a case study activity. More information about this activity and assignment (#2) will be discussed in class.

**Wednesday, May 21: Gendered violence**

*If you would like me to look at a draft of your critique paper, today is the deadline for submitting it.*

Reading:

- the World Health Organization on gendered violence  
<http://www.who.int/gender/violence/en/> (please look over this webpage)
- Nilda Rimonte (1991) “A Question of Culture: Cultural Approval of Violence Against Women in the Asian-Pacific Community and the Cultural Defense” *Stanford Law Review* 43:1311-1326. [C & available via Oscar]

**\*\*Monday, May 26: Memorial Day (University holiday / no class)\*\***

**Wednesday, May 28: Women and war**

*Your critique papers are due today.*

Reading:

- Joshua Goldstein (2001) Selections from *War and Gender* [C]
- Background document on women and the selective service in the U.S.  
<http://www.sss.gov/wmbkgr.htm>

**Wednesday, June 4, 1:30-3:18PM: \*\*FINAL EXAM\*\***

The final exam will take place in our regular classroom. Please note the different time!

(Please refer to course requirements above for policy on missing/re-scheduling the exam)