THE UNIT

‘The personal is political,’ say feminists. More recently, it has been added that the ‘private is global’ as well. This unit will consider where women are in international practice and its theorization, and what it means to bring gender into the frame of international relations and its study. The unit will examine various concerns raised by feminists and the implications of these issues for global politics and International Relations (IR). These concerns will range from the theoretical (such as questions of difference or similarities among women in their experience of world politics and the problem this presents for theorizing women in IR) to the practical (issues such as war, nationalism, the international economy, globalisation and human rights).

METHODS

The following methods will be used:

- Lecturing
- Listening and speaking in discussion
- Seminar presentation
- Essay writing

OBJECTIVES

- To examine the implications for International Relations theory of taking feminism seriously.
- To illustrate what feminist approaches contribute to our understanding of issues in world politics.
- To understand the implications of identity and difference and the universal and the particular in the theorization and practice of feminism/s in International Relations.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- The ability to deploy gender as a category of analysis in relation to issues in global politics and International Relations.
- Knowledge of basic literature applying feminist theory and concepts to the study of global politics.
- Understanding and recognizing the gendered character of everyday practices of foreign policy and world politics.

REQUIRED WORK

- 1 oral presentation
- 1 assessed essay

2 local credits:
Presentation: 10 minutes
UNIT READINGS:

Each week’s seminar will proceed on the assumption that you have completed ONE of that week’s **required** reading and ONE of that week’s **supplementary** reading.

Most of the books are available in the University libraries. To make it easier for you to get hold of the readings, I have compiled a folder with copies of all of the most important chapters and articles. You can find this folder in the Department of Political Science just outside Jaana Sälekari’s office. The articles are not to be taken outside the Department. You can read or photocopy them at the Department, but please make sure that you return the copies to the folder as soon as possible.

TOPICS

**Lectures**
1. Feminisms and International Relations: What’s at Issue (1)?
2. Feminisms and International Relations: What’s at Issue (2)?

**Seminars**
3. The Gendering of War, Security and Military Studies
4. Gender, Development and International Political Economy
5. Gender, Race and (Post)Colonialism
6. Gender and Nationalism
7. Gender and Globalisation
8. Women’s Rights/Human Rights
9. Transnational Feminism
10. Theories of International Relations: To Supplement or Radically Revise?

SCHEDULE OF SEMINARS

WEEK 1

LECTURE: FEMINISMS AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS: WHAT’S AT ISSUE (1)?

**Questions:** Why feminisms? Why gender? What is the difference in focusing on gender in contrast to focusing on women?

**Literature**


WEEK 2

LECTURE: FEMINISMS AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS: WHAT’S AT ISSUE (2)?

Questions: How and on what levels does IR marginalise women and gender?

Literature

Peterson and Runyan (1999)
‘Gender as a lens on world politics,’ in *Global Gender Issues*, pp. 21-68.

Enloe, C.
‘The Personal is International’ and ‘On the Beach: Sexism and Tourism,’ in *Bananas, Beaches, and Bases*, pp.195-201, 19-41.

*Alternatives* (1993)
Special issue on Feminists Write International Relations, 18:1.

*The Morning After: Sexual Politics at the End of the Cold War* (Berkeley: California UP)


Peterson, V. Spike (1992)

Pettman, J. J. (1996)


Tickner, J. A. (2001)
*Gendering World Politics* (New York: Colombia University Press) Ch 1.

‘Where is Woman in International Relations? “To Return as a Woman and Be Heard”’ *Millennium* 27 (4)

Some relevant websites:


*Feminist Majority Foundation Online:* [http://www.feminist.org](http://www.feminist.org)

*International Women’s Websites:* [http://research.umbc.edu/~korenman/wmst/links_intl.html](http://research.umbc.edu/~korenman/wmst/links_intl.html)
Learning outcome: To appreciate the very different concerns of feminist international relations scholars from their mainstream colleagues and in particular the feminist focus on the relationship between the personal and the global.

WEEK 3: THE GENDERING OF WAR, MILITARISM AND SECURITY STUDIES

Questions: How have women become associated with peace and men with war? What are the dangers of such theorising? Have traditional definitions of security provided women with security? In the light of these questions, has the growth in the number of female soldiers and military personnel furthered feminist aspirations?

Required reading:
Cohn, C (1987)
‘Sex and Death in the Rational World of Defence Intellectuals,’ Signs 12:4 687-718.

Peterson and Runyan

Enloe, C.
‘Base Women,’ in Bananas, Beaches and Bases, pp. 65-92.

Supplementary Reading:
On war and militarism:

‘Masculinist Practices and Gender Politics: The Operation of Multiple Masculinities in International Relations’ in M. Zalewski and J. Parpart (eds.) The ‘Man’ Question in International Relations (Oxford: Westview) 28-53.

Kelly, L. (2000)

Niva, S. (1998)
   *Women, War and Peace*. Available at
   http://www.UNIFEM.org/resources/assessment/index.html

Sharlach, L. (2000)
   ‘Rape as Genocide: Bangladesh, the Former Yugoslavia and Rwanda’ in *New Political Science* 22 (1) 89-102.

Yuval-Davis, N. (1997)
   *Gender and Nation* (London: Sage) Ch 5

On security:


Grant, R (1992)

Peterson, V. Spike (1992)

   ‘Some Dangers in Merging Feminist and Peace Projects,’ *Millennium* 19:1 493-509

Tickner, J. A. (2001)

Some relevant websites:

   Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom http://www.wilpf.org/
   Women, State, Culture ….: http://k.mihalec.tripod.com
   Genocidewatch: http://www.gendercide.org
   Greenham Common: http://news.bbc.co.uk/hi/english/uk/newsid_514000/514492.stm
   Be Active Be Aware: http://www.babe.hr/eng

Seminar presentation: Explore the relationship among war, militarism, and gendered ideology.

Learning outcome: To become familiar with feminist thinking on war and militarism. To understand and be able to apply feminist critiques of ‘masculinism’.

WEEK 4: GENDER, INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY AND DEVELOPMENT
Questions: What are the roles and positions of women in the global political economy? Have either the discipline of IPE or the economic policies of states, global financial regimes, and institutions taken sufficient account of gender issues?

Required reading:
Peterson and Runyan
   *Global Gender Issues*, pp. 130-162, 193-211, 228-240.

Enloe,

Supplementary reading:
Afshar Haleh (ed.) (1991)

   *Feminism/Postmodernism/Development* (London: Routledge, 1995)

Momsen, J. H. & Kinnaird, V. (eds.) (1993)
   *Different Places, Different Voices: Gender and Development in Africa, Asia and Latin America* (London: Routledge)

Steans, J. (1999)

Tickner, J. A. (2001)

Waylen, G. (1997)

   *Gender in Third World Politics* (Buckingham: Open University Press).

White, S. (1999)

Whitworth, S. (1994)


Some relevant websites:

   *Association for Women in Development*: [http://www.awid.org](http://www.awid.org)
**Women in Development NET Work:** [http://www.focusintl.com/widnet.htm](http://www.focusintl.com/widnet.htm)

**Empowering Widows in Development:** [http://www.oneworld.org/empoweringwidows](http://www.oneworld.org/empoweringwidows)

**Gender and Sustainable Rural Development: A Resource Directory:** [http://xel.stfx.ca/coady-library/intro.htm](http://xel.stfx.ca/coady-library/intro.htm)

**Novartis Foundation for Sustainable Development:** [http://www.foundation.novartis.com/women_development.htm](http://www.foundation.novartis.com/women_development.htm)

**Seminar presentation:** Discuss the role(s) and positions of women in either the global political economy or in processes of development.

**Learning outcome:** An appreciation of the limitations of conventional approaches to political economy in assessing both the economic contributions and the economic needs of women.

**WEEK 5: GENDER, RACE AND (POST)COLONIALISM**

**Questions:** Identify the mutually defined identity stereotypes produced by the interconnecting colonial rankings of race (including ‘whiteness’), gender and sexuality. To what extent are these hierarchies ingrained in contemporary world politics and global political economy?

**Required reading:**


**Supplementary reading:**

*The Dynamics of “Race” and Gender: Some Feminist Interventions* (London: Taylor & Francis).

Chatterjee, P. (1993)  

*At the Edge of International Relations: Postcolonialism, Gender and Dependency* (London & New York: Printer) Introduction and Chapter 1

‘Bridging International Relations and Postcolonialism’ in *Alternatives* 19 pp371-397.

Special edition on Colonial/Postcolonial Worlds, 49 (1995)


Paolini, A. J. (1999)

Some relevant websites:
Muslim women’s homepage: http://www.jannah.org
Afrol.com: http://www.afrol.com/Categories/Women/msindex.htm
Arab Women Connect: http://www.arabwomenconnect.org/english/main.html
Women’s Issues – 3rd World: http://women3rdworld.about.com/newsissues/women3rdworld/?once=true&

Seminar presentation: Critically assess the relationships between colonialism, race, and gender.
Learning outcome: To understand the global intersections between race and gender in historical context.

WEEK 6: GENDER AND NATIONALISM

‘As a Woman, I have no country’ Virginia Woolf

Questions: What gender ideologies and stereotypes are embodied in forms of nationalism? How do such ideologies connect with practices such as systematic rape in the Bosnian war?

Required reading:
Enloe
‘Nationalism and Masculinity,’ in Bananas, Beaches, and Bases, pp. 42-64.

Peterson and Runyan
Supplementary reading:


Special edition on Nationalisms and National Identities, 44.

Jayawardena, K (1986)  
*Feminism and Nationalism in the Third World* (London: Zed).


Peterson, V. Spike (1999)  

Radhakrishnan, R. (1992)  

Yuval-Davis, N. (1997)  

Seminar presentation: Critically assess the relationship between gender and nationalism.
Learning outcome: To critically evaluate the phenomenon of nationalism from feminist perspectives.

WEEK 7: GENDER AND GLOBALISATION

Questions: Is globalisation a gendered construct? How does global restructuring affect gender and how does gender affect global restructuring? Identify the different experiences of different groups of women.

Required reading:


Pettman, J. J. (1999)  

Supplementary reading:

‘Gender and Globalisation’ in K. Gibson & J. Graham(eds.) *The End of Capitalism (as we


Marchand, M, and Runyan A, S, (eds.)
Gender and Global Restructuring: Sightings, Sites and Resistances (London: Routledge) see Introduction and Conclusion.

Peterson, V. Spike (2002)
‘Rewriting (Global) Political Economy as Reproductive, Productive and Virtual (Foucauldian) Economies’ in International Feminist Journal of Politics 4 (1).


Seminar presentation: Identify the gendered consequences of the discourse of globalisation.

Learning outcome: To develop an understanding of the complexity of the multiple and contradictory gendered consequences of globalization.

WEEK 8: WOMEN’S RIGHTS/HUMAN RIGHTS

Questions: What are the central issues concerning human rights for feminists? How might one go about addressing problems like women’s reproductive rights or female circumcision?

Required reading:


Supplementary reading:
Bhabha, J. (1999)  

Bunch, C. (1990)  


Women’s Rights, Human Rights: International Feminist Perspectives (NY: Routledge)

Peterson, V. Spike (1990)  
‘Whose rights? A Critique of ”Givens” in Human Rights Discourse,’ Alternatives 15


Some relevant websites:

CEDAW – Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women  
http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/

CSW – Commission on the Status of Women  
http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/csw/

Universal Voices: Online Human Rights Internet Guide, section on women:  
http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/CIS/humanrights/hrwomen.html

Women’s Caucus for Gender Justice:  
http://www.iccwomen.org/

Women’s Human Rights Net:  
http://www.whrnet.org/issues.html

Women’s Human Rights Resources (DIANA):  
http://www.law-lib.utoronto.ca/Diana/

Seminar Presentation: Critically assess the relationship between human rights and women’s rights.

Learning outcome: To understand the normative debates about the different bases for rights-claims and to assess the potential that rights discourses offer for feminist politics.

WEEK 9: TRANSNATIONAL FEMINISM

Questions: What are the prospects and pitfalls for transnational feminist organising?

Required reading:

Eschle, C. (2001)  
Global Democracy, Social Movements and Feminism (Oxford: Westview Press). Ch. 6
Enloe

“Just Like One of the Family”: Domestic Servants in World Politics,’ in Bananas, Beaches and Bases, pp. 177-194.

Activists Beyond Borders: Transnational Advocacy Networks in International Politics (Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Press).

Supplementary reading:

The Challenge of Local Feminisms: Women’s Movements in Global Perspective (Boulder: Westview).

Brah, A. (1992)

Butler, J. (1990)
Gender Trouble: Feminism and the Subversion of Identity (London: Routledge).

Mohanty, Chandra (1991)

O’Gorman, E. and Jabri, V. (1999)

Zalewski, M. (1994)
‘The Women/”Women” Question in International Relations,’ Millennium 23:2


Some relevant websites:


European Women’s Lobby: http://www.womenlobby.org/index2.htm

Seminar Presentation: Explore the tensions between poststructural deconstruction of gender and transnational feminism. Critically assess the difficulties that universalising produces within feminisms.

Learning outcome: To understand the significant of the category of ‘difference’ within current feminist theories and to consider the implications of difference for global feminisms.
WEEK 10: THEORIES OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS: TO SUPPLEMENT OR RADICALLY REVISE?

Questions: Can IR as a discipline be reformed in feminist terms? How and why have feminists been ghettoised in the discipline of IR?

Required reading:

Keohane, R. O. (1991)  


Supplementary reading:

Alternatives (1993)  
Special Issue: Feminists Write International Relations, 18:1.


Tickner, J. A. (1997)  

Tickner, J. A. (2001)  
Gendering World Politics (New York: Colombia University Press) Ch 5.

Walker, R.B.J. (1992)  


Zalewski, M. (1994)  
‘The Women/’Women’ Question in International Relations,’ Millennium 23:2

**Seminar Presentation:** Critically assess the relationship between feminisms and the discipline of IR.

**Learning Outcome:** To develop an understanding of the relationship between feminisms of various forms and the discipline of international relations.
ADDITIONAL READINGS

**Gender, War and Security**
Thompson, Janna, ‘Women and War,’ *Women’s Studies International Forum* 14:1/2, 63-75.

**Gender, International Political Economy and Development**
Grant, Rebecca, and Kathleen Newland (eds.), *Gender and International Relations* (Milton Keynes: Open University Press, 1991), Chapters 7, 8, 9.


**Gender, Colonialism and Race**


Burton, Julianne, ‘Don (Juanito) Duck and the Imperial-Patriarchal Unconscious: Disney Studios, the Good Neighbor Policy, and the Packaging of Latin America,’ in Andrew Parker, Mary Russo, Doris Sommer, and Patricia Yeager (eds.), *Nationalisms and Sexualities* (NY: Routledge, 1992).


hooks, bell *Ain’t I a Woman: Black Women and Feminism* (London: Pluto Press, 1982)


Stasiulis, Daiva, and Nira Yuval-Davis (eds.), *Unsettling Settler Societies: Articulations on Gender, Race, Ethnicity and Class* (London: Sage, 1995).


**Gender and Nationalism**


**Gender and Globalisation**


Women’s Rights/Human Rights


Signs, Special Issue on Feminism and the Law, 19:4 (1994).


Transnational Feminism


Fraser, Nancy, Justice Interruptus: Critical Reflections on the ”Postsocialist” Condition (London: Routledge, 1997), Chapters 7, 8.


Nicholson, Linda (ed.), Feminism/Postmodernism (London: Routledge, 1990), Chapters 1, 3, 6, 8, 12.


Women’s Studies International Forum, Special Issue on Reaching for Global Feminism 14:4 (1991)

Women’s Studies International Forum, Special Issue on Women in a Changing Europe 17:2/3 (1994)

Women’s Studies International Forum, Special Issue on Links across Differences 19:2 (1996)

**The Relationship Between Feminism and IR**

Grant, Rebecca, and Kathleen Newland (eds.), Gender and International Relations (Milton Keynes: Open University Press, 1991), Chapters 1-4, 10.


Whitworth, Sandra, Feminism and International Relations: Towards a Political Economy of Gender in Interstate and Non-Governmental Institutions (Basingstoke: Macmillan, 1994), Chapters 1, 2.

Whitworth, Sandra, ‘Gender in the Inter-Paradigm Debate,’ Millennium 18:2 (1989)