POL336 WOMEN, POLITICS AND GLOBALIZATION

Level
Three

Semester Taught
One

Credit Value
20

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Description

This module analyses how various different processes associated with globalization, such as the restructuring of trade and production, are gendered. In particular it examines the impact of globalization on gender relations in different contexts and on different groups of women as well as the roles played by different women in constructing globalization. It begins by asking whether there are such things as universal women's rights and whether feminism is a western concept. The next section of the module examines processes such as the restructuring of trade and production and at how they are gendered as well as the ways in which international migration is gendered – focusing for example on the growth of domestic work and sex trafficking. The final section of the module examines the political responses to globalization both in terms of women’s organizing and political strategies to increase women’s representation within institutions such as quotas and gender mainstreaming. Empirical material will come from both the first and third worlds, global institutions such as the UN and World Bank as well as case studies of the activities of the transnational women’s movement.

Objectives

This module aims to provide an understanding of how processes of globalization are gendered and the politics of gender in a globalizing world. By the end of the module students will be able to:

- Demonstrate knowledge of the different approaches to the gendered analysis of globalization and the politics of gender in a globalizing world;
- apply conceptual tools to analyse gendered processes of globalization and the politics of gender in a globalizing world in particular cases and regions;
- demonstrate appropriate cognitive, communicative and transferable skills, including understand complex concepts and theories, utilising primary and secondary sources and deepening the capacity for independent learning.

Organisation

Twelve two-hour weekly seminars to be held on Thursdays 11.10-13.00 in Elmfield Room G12.

Requirements

- Attendance at seminars;
- Presentation of seminar assignments;
- Participation in seminar discussions;
- Submission of two paper copies of one essay of 3000 words maximum must be handed in on Thursday 6 December 2007 by 12.00noon. In addition an electronic copy must also be submitted via MOLE by the same deadline.
- Completion of one 2-hour examination

Assessment

- Essay: 50%
- Exam: 50%

Essay Titles and Other Assessment
Students are required to give one seminar presentation from PART TWO of the module and to write an essay on a topic from the PART ONE of the module.

**Essay Titles**

Essays should be written on one of the seminar topics from PART ONE of the module. Either use a seminar question or devise your own question on that topic or another theme relevant to the module. Essay titles should only be designed in consultation with the module leader.

**Study Hours**

For a twenty-credit module, about twelve hours per week of private study are normally expected. (For guidance on study techniques see the Undergraduate Handbook.)

**General Regulation**

Students should refer to the current Department of Politics Undergraduate Handbook for guidance on essay writing and other academic skills, for details of marking criteria, and for rules governing submission of assessed work and attendance. Please note that students are required to perform satisfactorily in all components of assessment (all elements of assessed coursework and examinations) before credits can be awarded for a module.

**Seminar Attendance**

Attendance at seminars is compulsory. It is your responsibility to ensure that you sign the attendance sheet. Where possible, if you are unable to attend a seminar you should attempt to inform Sarah Archibald in advance.

**Seminar Presentations**

There will be group presentations on part 2 of the module. These will be allocated prior to reading week.

**Recommended Reading**

This is a long list, in part to give the opportunity to read around the subject and to provide reading to complement subject matter on other modules.

There is no set text for this module but there are number of useful introductory books and articles that are also useful throughout the module

**General/Introductory Reading**


D Aguilar and A Lacasama (eds) 2004 *Women and Globalization*, Humanity Books


**Useful Website Links**

- [www.un.org/womenwatch](http://www.un.org/womenwatch) Gateway to UN information and data on women worldwide
- [www.unifem.undp.org](http://www.unifem.undp.org) United nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) website
- [www.un-instraw.org](http://www.un-instraw.org) UN International Institute for Research and Training for the Advancement of Women
- [www.bridge.ids.ac.uk](http://www.bridge.ids.ac.uk) Bridge Gender and Development database maintained at the University of Sussex (reports on gender and trade etc)
- [http://topics.developmentgateway.org/gender](http://topics.developmentgateway.org/gender) Development Gateway section on gender
- [www.ipu.org](http://www.ipu.org) Interparliamentary Union website with information on women in parliaments
- [www.idea.int](http://www.idea.int) International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance. Big project on gender and politics particularly quotas

**SEMINARS**

**Seminar Topics**

**PART ONE**

Week One: Globalization, Feminism and Women’s Rights  
Week Two: Approaches to the study of gender and globalization

**Processes of Globalization and their Governance**

Week Three: Economic Processes: Restructuring Industrial Production and Trade  
Week Four: Economic Processes: Restructuring Agriculture, Finance and Services  
Week Five: Seminar Eight: Global Movements of People: Migration and Trafficking  
Week Six: Economic Governance
Week Seven: NO SEMINAR Reading Week

PART TWO
Politics of Gender in a Globalizing World
Week Eight: Outside Global Institutions: Women’s Transnational Organizing
Week Nine: Outside Global Institutions: Women’s Transnational Organizing
Week Ten: Inside Institutions: Women’s Representation and Quotas
Week Eleven: Inside Institutions: Gender Mainstreaming and State Feminism

Week Twelve: Conclusion and Review

Seminars and Reading

PART ONE
Seminar One: Globalization, Feminism and Women’s Rights: exploring the themes and concepts in the Module

Themes
What is Globalization? (What are the key differences between different approaches to globalization such as critical IPE and more mainstream ones?)
Are women’s rights universal?
Is feminism a western concept?

Reading
V Moghadam, 2005, Globalizing Women, early chapters
J A Tickner, 2001 Gendering World Politics
Special Issue on Women and Human Rights, 2007 Review of International Studies, 33, 1, (articles by Guerrina and Zawelski, Steans and Howard)
R Cook (ed) 1994 Human Rights of women: national and International perspectives
C Mohanty et al (eds), 1991, Third World Women and the Politics of Feminism,

Non Gendered Analyses of Globalization
B Gills (ed) 2000, Globalization and the Politics of Resistance, Palgrave
Seminar Two: Approaches to the Study of Gender and Globalization

Most of the analyses of gender and globalization have come from either IR or gender and development (GAD and WID). What are the differences between gendered analyses of globalization informed by WID, GAD and International Relations (IR)?

Key reading

International Relations
M Marchand, Gendered Representations of the Global: Reading/Writing Globalization in Stubbs and Underhill (eds), Political Economy and the Changing Global Order 2nd ed

WID, GAD etc
S Rai, 2002, Gender and the Political Economy of Development, chapter on gender and development
G Waylen, 1996, Gender in Third World Politics, chapter on development.

Processes of Globalization and their Governance

Seminar Three: Economic Processes: Restructuring Industrial Production and Trade

What has been the impact of the global restructuring of industrial production on gender relations and different groups of women? What role have women played in the global restructuring of production and trade and what has been their response?


G. Standing, 1999, Globalization through Flexible Labour: A theme revisited, *World Development*, 27, 3. See also:


Seminar Four: Economic Processes: Restructuring Agriculture, Finance and Services
What has been the impact of the restructuring of agriculture, finances and services had on gender relations and different groups of women? What role have women played in the restructuring and what has been their response to it?


**Seminar Five: Global Movements of People: Migration and Trafficking?**

How are global processes of migration and trafficking gendered? In what ways are women and women affected differently by migration and trafficking?


K Chang and L Ling, 2000, ‘Globalization and Its Intimate ‘Other’: Filipina Domestic Workers in Hong Kong’, In Marchand and Runyan (eds). *Gender and Global Restructuring*

S Jolly and H Reeves, 2005, Gender and Migration: Overview Report, Bridge Cutting Edge Pack, IDS, Sussex, Available at: www.bridge.ids.ac.uk/reports/CEP-Mig-OR.pdf.


Articles on migration, trafficking and prostitution by L Augustin, J Outshoorn, G Kligman and S Lemonelli, 2005, in Social Politics, 12, 1.

Special Issue on Trafficking and Slavery, 2002, Gender and Development, 10, 1.


R S Parrenas, 2000, Migrant Filipina Domestic Workers and the international division of reproductive labour, Gender and Society, 14, 4.

R-C Lain 2003, ‘Maid or Madam: Filipina Migrant Workers and the Continuity of Domestic Labour, Gender and Society, 17, 2.


Seminar Six: Economic Governance

How are the institutions of economic governance (IMF, World Bank etc) and their policies (eg structural adjustment programmes) gendered?


S Rai, 2004 ‘Gendering Global Governance’ International Feminist Journal of Politics, 6, 4,


WEEK SEVEN: READING WEEK - NO SEMINAR

PART TWO
Politics of Gender in a Globalizing World

Seminars Eight and Nine: Outside Global Institutions: Transnational Women’s Movements

What are transnational women’s movements? What different kinds of movements can you identify? What impact have they had?


MM Ferree and A Tripp (eds) 2006, Global Feminism: Transnational Women’s Activism, Organizing and Human Rights,


Special issue on gender and civil society, 2003, International Journal of Feminist Politics, 5, 2,


M Keck and K Sikkink, 1998, Activists Beyond Borders (section on violence against women)


R O’Brien et al, 2000, Contesting Global Governance: Multilateral Institutions and Global Social Movements, CUP. (chapter on women and the world bank)


Seminar Ten: Inside Institutions: Representation and Quotas

Women’s movements have pressed for the increased presence of women in political spaces including elected bodies. This week we will examine the arguments in favour of quotas for women in order to increase the representation of women in political institutions. What impact have quotas had?


Critical Perspectives on Gender and Politics, 2005 ‘Gender Quotas 1’, *Politics and Gender*, 2, 1.

Critical Perspectives on Gender and Politics, 2006 ‘Gender Quotas 2’, *Politics and Gender*, 3, 1.

IDEA, 2005, *Women in Parliament: Beyond Numbers*, Available from www.idea.int/publications/wip2 (also see IDEA website for their project on women and quotas which has a global database of quotas for women)

M Htun and M Jones, 2002, ‘Engendering the right to participate in Decision-making: Electoral Quotas and Women’s Leadership’ in N Craske and M Molyneux (eds) *Gender and the Politics of Rights and Democracy in Latin America*.


**Seminar Eleven: Inside Global Institutions: Gender Mainstreaming**

What is gender mainstreaming? What impact has it had as a strategy to ensure that gender issues are taken into account in global institutions?


E Prugl and A Lustgarten, 2006, ‘Mainstreaming Gender in International Institutions’, in Jaquette and Staudt (eds), *Women and Gender Equity in Development Theory and Practice*.


**Seminar Twelve: Conclusion and Review**