

## **Gender and Migration (2 credit course)**

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### **Course Description:**

Increased migration is one of the most discussed aspects of present-day globalization. Whereas women have always migrated, nowadays they comprise the majority of migrants. Yet the reports about migration – both in the media and within academia – are still often gender-blind. In this course, the impact of gender on migration - for instance in the possibilities and reasons men and women have/had to migrate - will be explored. Vice versa, we will look at the impact of migration on gender systems and relations. In addition, we will explore how age, ethnicity and class interact with gender in shaping the meanings of migration for different groups of women. An analysis of the migration of Black women to Italy, for instance, highlights the way in which white middle and upper-class women's "emancipation" is made possible by the domestic services performed by Black women migrants. Also, attention will be paid to the strengths and resourcefulness shown by immigrant women, individually and collectively, in coping with personal and cultural change.

The course will start with a critical survey of mainstream migration studies – critical with respect to their gender-blindness. We will then read examples from the new scholarship about women, gender and migration (historical and sociological), including the migration histories of a number of groups (in particular Jews from Eastern Europe to the USA and Israel) and recent literature about globalization and gender. The last two sessions will be dedicated to examples of what is called "forced migration," including the traffic in women from Eastern Europe and elsewhere to Western countries.

### **Course Requirements:**

\* An important requirement is your active and informed participation in class. This depends on a good preparation by reading the literature and thinking about it. In addition, you must always bring at least one question about the required reading with you to class.

\* In order to help you prepare your thoughts for class and develop your writing skills, you must write five short weekly reaction papers (about which more during the first class). *Make sure always to add your name, the date, the title of the course, and the literature the reaction paper is about.*

\* Preparation of at least one class discussion (to be explained further).

\* A term paper of about 10 double spaced pages. You are required to hand in the title of your paper and a short abstract (100-200 words) by the sixth class. The abstract describes the topic, the central question of the paper and the resources (literature, websites) that will be used. Your paper is due by the last class.

**Course Grading:**

1) active participation in class, and five reaction papers	30 %
2) preparation of class discussion(s)	20 %
3) term paper	50 %

**Terminology:**

Required reading: must be read by everyone.

Additional reading: serves as basis for the oral presentation.

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***Part I: The Meaning of Migration and its Treatment in Mainstream Scholarship***

**WEEK 1: Introduction to the Course**

Required reading:

- William H. McNeill, 'Human Migration: A Historical Overview', in: Idem and Ruth S. Adams (ed.), *Human Migration. Patterns and Policies* (Bloomington and London 1978) 3-19.

- W.A.V. Clark, *Human Migration* (Beverly Hills etc. 1986) 21-28 and 74-91.

**WEEK 2**

Required reading:

- Jan Lucassen and Leo Lucassen, 'Migration, Migration History, History. Old Paradigms and New Perspectives', in: (ed.), *Migration, Migration History, History. Old Paradigms and New Perspectives* (Bern etc. 1997) 9-38.

Additional reading:

- Caroline Brettel and James Hollifield, *Migration Theory: Talking Across Disciplines* (Routledge 2000) 1-26 (Introduction).

## ***Part II: Women, Gender and Migration: Theory and Method***

### **WEEK 3**

#### Required reading:

-M. Morokvasic, 'Birds of Passage are also Women', *International Migration Review* vol. 18, no. 4 (1984) 886-907.

- Christiane Harzig, 'Women Migrants as Global and Local Agents: New Research Strategies on Gender and Migration', in: Pamela Sharpe (ed.), *Women, Gender and Labour Migration. Historical and Global Perspectives* (London and New York 2001) 15-28.

#### Additional reading:

- Maxime Schwartz Seller (ed.), *Immigrant Women* (Philadelphia 1981) 3-22

### **WEEK 4**

#### Required reading:

- Eleonore Kofman et. al., *Gender and International Migration in Europe. Employment, Welfare and Politics* (London and New York 2000) Ch. 2: Gender and Migration Theory, 21-43.

- Sylvia Chant and Sarah A. Radcliffe, 'Migration and Development: the Importance of Gender', in: Sylvia Chant (ed.), *Gender and Migration in Developing Countries* (London and New York 1992) 1-29.

#### Additional reading:

- Sylvia Chant, 'Conclusion: Towards a Framework for the Analysis of Gender-Selective Migration', in: *Ibidem*, 197-206.

### **WEEK 5: Various Methods Used in Gender and Migration Research**

#### Required reading:

\* - life histories: P.R. Pessar, 'Sweatshop Workers and Domestic Ideologies: Dominican Women in New York's Apparel Industry', *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research* 18 no.1 (1994) 127-142.

\* - participant observation: N. Kibria, 'Power, Patriarchy, and Gender Conflict in the Vietnamese Immigrant Community' [in the USA], *Gender and Society* 4 no.1 (1990) 9-24.

#### Additional reading:

Lena Inowlocki and Helma Lutz, 'Hard Labour. The "Biographical Work" of a Turkish Migrant Woman in Germany', *European Journal of Women's Studies* 7 (2000) 301-319.

### ***Part III: Specific Themes and Groups***

#### **WEEK 6: Gender and Jewish Migration from Russia around 1900**

Required reading:

- Kathie Friedman-Kasaba, *Memories of Migration. Gender, Ethnicity, and Work in the Lives of Jewish and Italian Women in New York, 1870-1924* (New York 1996) Ch. 2: "Why Did We Have to Leave?" The Shifting Patterns of Jewish Women's Lives in Russia at the Turn of the Century, 31-62

additional reading:

- H. Diner and B. Benderly, *Her Works Praise Her. A History of Jewish Women in America from Colonial Times to the Present* (New York 2002) 135-158.

**ALSO: You hand in the TITLE of your TERM PAPER and a one-page ABSTRACT**

#### **WEEK 7 Russian Women Migrants in Israel**

Required reading:

- L. Remennick, "'Women with a Russian accent' in Israel. On the Gender Aspects of Immigration', *The European Journal of Women's Studies* 6 (1999) 441-461.

+ **FILM: *Ramleh*** (58 minutes) about the lives of three women in Ramleh, Israel, in 1999-2001, among them a recent immigrant from Russia, Svetlana, and her two daughters.

#### **WEEK 8: Gender, Migration, and Globalization Processes**

Required reading:

- A. Phizacklea, 'Migration and Globalization: a Feminist Perspective', in K. Koser and H. Lutz, *The New Migration in Europe* (London: MacMillan 1998) 21-38

- Nana Oishi, 'Gender and Migration: An Integrative Approach'. Working paper No. 49, Center for Comparative Immigration Studies, Univ. of California-San Diego, 2002

Additional reading:

- Ilse Lenz and Helen Schwenken, 'Feminist and Migrant Networking in a Globalising World. Migration, Gender and Globalisation', in: I. Lenz et al (ed.), *Crossing Borders and Shifting Boundaries. Vol. II: Gender, Identities and Networks* (Opladen 2002) 147-178.

## **WEEK 9 Europe's Domestic Workers**

### Required reading:

- Bridget Anderson, 'Servants and Slaves: Europe's Domestic Workers', *Race Class* 39 no. 1 (1997) 37-49.

- Jacqueline Andall, *Gender, Migration and Domestic Service. The Politics of Black Women in Italy* (Aldershot 2000) Introduction, 1-22 and Conclusion, 286-293.

### Additional reading:

- Graziella Parati, 'Looking through Non-Western Eyes: Immigrant Women's Autobiographical Narratives in Italian', in: Gisela Brinker-Gabler and Sidonie Smith (ed.), *Writing New Identities. Gender, Nation, and Immigration in Contemporary Europe* (Minneapolis and London 1997) 118-142.

- Marina Orsini-Jones and Francesca Gattullo, 'Migrant Women in Italy: National Trends and Local Perspectives', in: Floya Anthias and Gabriella Lazaridis (ed.), *Gender and Migration in Southern Europe. Women on the Move* (Oxford and New York 2000) 125-144.

## **WEEK 10: Aspects of Gender and Migration in Present-Day Europe**

### Required reading:

- Helma Lutz, 'The Limits of European-ness: Immigrant Women in Fortress Europe', *Feminist Review* (Autumn 1997) no. 57, 93-111.

- M. Morokvasic, 'Transnational Mobility and Gender: A View from Post-Wall Europe', in: M. Morokvasic et al (ed.), *Crossing Borders and Shifting Boundaries Vol. I: Gender on the Move* (Opladen 2003) 101-133.

### Additional reading:

Helma Lutz, 'The Long Shadows from the Past. The New Europe at a Crossroad', in: I. Lenz et al (ed.), *Crossing Borders and Shifting Boundaries. Vol. II: Gender, Identities and Networks* (Opladen 2002) 57-73.

## **WEEK 11: Forced Migration (1): The Traffic in Women**

### Required reading:

- Sietske Altink, *Stolen Lives. Trading Women Into Sex and Slavery* (London and New York 1995) 1-40.

- Kevin Bales, 'Because She Looks like a Child', in: B. Ehrenreich and A. Russell Hochschild (ed.), *Global Woman. Nannies, Maids and Sex Workers in the New Economy* (London 2003) 207-229.

- IOM International Organization for Migration, *Trafficking and Prostitution: the Growing Exploitation of Migrant Women From Central and Eastern Europe* (Budapest 1995) 4-23.

Additional reading:

- Jo Doezema, 'Ouch! Western Feminists' "Wounded Attachment" to the "Third World Prostitute"', *Feminist Review* (spring 2001) no. 67, 16-38.

- Global Alliance Against Traffic in Women, *Partners in Change. Stories of Women's Collectives* (2002) 23-25, 31-33, 41-45, 47-50 (stories about Nepal, North Vietnam, Calcutta (India) and Java (Indonesia)).

## **WEEK 12: Forced Migration (2): Gender and Refugees**

Required reading:

Doreen Indra, 'Not a "Room of One's Own". Engendering Forced Migration Knowledge and Practice', in: Idem (ed.), *Engendering Forced Migration. Theory and Practice* (New York and Oxford 1999) 1-22.

Parin Dossa, 'Reconfiguring the Question: "Who is a Refugee?"'. Coming to Voice, Coming to Power: One Woman's Story', *Pakistan Journal of Women's Studies: Alam-e-Niswan* vol. 9 No.1 (2002) 27-55.

Also at the last session:

- You hand in your **TERM PAPER**
- We draw general conclusions about 'Gender and Migration'
- Evaluation of the Course

\* All the titles marked with \* were reprinted in, and taken from, Katie Willis and Brenda Yeoh (ed.), *Gender and Migration* (Cheltenham, UK and Northampton, MA, USA 2000).