COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides an introduction to understanding the gendered dimensions of armed conflict and its aftermath. The course will introduce students to gender theory and how it may be applied to understanding issues of security and the dynamics of armed conflict and peacebuilding. The course will provide a grounding in selected thematic issues relevant to the study of gender and conflict such as gendered frames for understanding militarism and combatancy, gender-based violence related to conflict, humanitarian response, and gendered approaches to post-conflict processes, such as transitional justice measures. The course is designed to combine theoretical and practice-based approaches to issues of gender and conflict, drawing from interdisciplinary theoretical and policy resources, as well as case studies from differing situations of armed conflict globally.

1. GOALS OF THE COURSE

The course broadly aims to provide an introductory grounding to an understanding of gender and gender equality and how these issues relate to contexts of armed conflict. The specific goals are to:

• provide an introductory overview of the intersection between concepts of gender and gender equality with contexts of armed conflict;
• equip participants with knowledge of how and why gender relations and dynamics are of significance in examining and understanding contexts of armed conflict;
• examine progress and setbacks in advancing gender equality relative to issues of international security, conflict and peace.

2. LEARNING OUTCOMES

As a result of completing this course, participants will:

• gain skills in critically analyzing key thematic issues related to contexts of armed conflict from a gender and feminist perspective;
• develop competency in undertaking a "gender analysis" of key issues of international political concern;
• become familiar with key international instruments that have been developed to advance gender concerns relative to issues of international peace, security and conflict;
• garner skills in applying critical thinking to the reading and discussion of assigned documents and gain improved library/online research skills.

3. **READINGS**

The following core resources will be used:

• Laura Sjoberg. *Gender, War and Conflict*. Malden, USA: Polity Press, 2014
  This book is available electronically through Gelman library website.


**COURSE OUTLINE AND READINGS**

**PART I: Introduction to Gender, Gender Equality and its Relevance to Armed Conflict**

**Week 1, January 13th: Introduction**


**Week 2, January 20th: What is Gender? What is Armed Conflict?**

• *Ch. 1: Introducing Gender, War and Conflict* in Laura Sjoberg, Gender, War & Conflict
• Lawrence, Adria. *Ch. 1: Introduction* in Erica Chenoweth and Aria Lawrence (eds), *Rethinking violence: states and non-state actors in conflict*. Cambridge, MA: Mit Press. 2010 [Available Electronically on Gelman website. [Read to pg. 16 only]

**Week 3, January 27th: Exploring the Intersection of Gender and Armed Conflict**

• Read
• Ch 2: Where are the women?, Ch. 3: Where are the men? and Ch. 4: Why men and women are not enough in Laura Sjoberg, Gender, War & Conflict

• Read pages 1-12, Gender as an Analytical Framework in Understanding and Addressing Armed Conflict and Gender and the Impact Of Armed Conflict in Dyan Mazuranza, Keith Proctor. Occasional Paper: Gender, Conflict and Peace, Oct. 15, 2013

Accompanying Book:

• Chs. 1, 2, 3, 4, What is the What

Week 4, February 3rd: Gender and Security

Read


Accompanying Book:

• Chs. 5, 6, What is the What

To Do:

Skim through and become familiar with the general content and structure of the following international frameworks:

• UN Security Council Resolution 1820 (2008)
• UN Security Council Resolution 1888 (2009)
• UN Security Council Resolution 1960 (2010)
• UN Security Council Resolution 2106 (2013)
• UN Security Council Resolution 2122 (2013)
• UN Security Council Resolution 2242 (2015)
[Available here: http://www.peacewomen.org/security_council_monitor/]
PART II: Thematic Appraisals of Gender and the War Project

Week 5, February 10th: Militarism, Masculinities and the Making of Combatancy

Read


Accompanying Book:

- Chs.7, 8, 9, What is the What

Week 6, February 17th: Gender and Violent Actors in Conflict

Read

- Sjoberg, Laura and Caron Gentry. Reduced to Bad Sex: Narratives of Violent Women from the Bible to the War on Terror, International Relations, 2008, 22: 5-23.

Accompanying Book:

- Chs. 10, 11, 12, What is the What

Week 7, February 24th: Gender-Based Violence in Armed Conflict

Read

- Gottschall, Jonathan. Explaining Wartime Rape. The Journal of Sex Research; 2004, 41, 2; ProQuest Health and Medical Complete, pp. 129-135
• Swaine, Aisling. *Beyond Strategic Rape and Between the Public and Private: Violence Against Women in Armed Conflict*. Human Rights Quarterly, 37, 2015

**Accompanying Book:**

• *Chs. 13, 14, What is the What*

**To Do:**

Skim through and become familiar with the general content and structure of the following international policy framework:


**Week 8, March 2nd: Humanitarian Response**

**Read**

• Kristin S. Scharffscher. *Disempowerment through disconnection: Local women’s disaster response and international relief in post-tsunami Batticaloa*. Disaster Prevention and Management Vol. 20 No. 1, 2011

**Accompanying Book:**

• *Chs. 15, 16, What is the What*

**PART III: Thematic Appraisals of Gender and the Post-Conflict Context**

**Week 9, March 9th: Peace and Peacebuilding**

**Read**


• Zohra Moosa, Maryam Rahmani & Lee Webster. From the private to the public sphere: new research on women’s participation in peace-building. Gender and Development, 21:3, 2013

Accompanying Book:

• Chs. 17, 18, What is the What

Week 10, March 23rd: Transitions and Transitional Justice

Read:


Accompanying Book:

• Chs. 19, 20, 21, What is the What

Week 11, March 30th: Case Study: Northern Ireland

Read:


Accompanying Book: Ch. 22, 23 What is the What
**Week 12, April 6th [open – your choice!]**

I leave this open in order to discuss and determine together any additional key thematic issues, tools or country contexts that you wish to cover in the course, or whether you like to further discuss one of the issues already covered in more depth.

**Week 13, April 13th: Armed Conflicts as If Gender Mattered**

**Read**

- Ch. 5: Redefining War, Understanding Gender and Ch. 6: Wars as if gender mattered in Laura Sjoberg, *Gender, War & Conflict*
- UNDP. *Gender Approaches in Conflict and Post-Conflict Situations*.

**Accompanying Book:**

- Chs. 24, 25, 26, *What is the What*

**Week 14, April 20th: Presentations and Conclusions of the Course**

[ENDS]