GENDER AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Introduction

The first part of this seminar will examine some of the “first generation” literature that has developed feminist critiques of, and feminist perspectives on, various theoretical approaches in the discipline of international relations. Drawing on a variety of feminist perspectives, the seminar will address the question as to whether international relations theories are gendered and, if so, how this might affect their explanations and understandings of, and prescriptions for, the conduct of world politics. In subsequent sections issues central to the discipline, such as war, peace, security, global governance, human rights and economic globalization will be addressed through feminist lenses. In each section, methodologies developed by IR feminist scholars to investigate these issues will be examined. Emphasis will be on “second generation” empirical case studies - IR feminist research that has used “first generation” feminist theoretical frameworks to understand gendered, and often unexplored, dimensions of these issues.

Seminar Requirements

Two review essays                      20% each
Research paper                            40%
Seminar participation                  20%

Review essays: These are short papers (5-7 double-spaced pages) critically analyzing the readings from a particular week. All students must write on selected readings from weeks 4 and 5 (conversations and critiques). This essay will be due on March 2. The other essay may be written from readings from a week of the student’s choosing. Choices about the topic for the second essay must be made in writing by February 23 at the latest. This essay will be due one week following the week chosen.

Research paper: Students are expected to write a research paper of approximately 20 double-spaced pages on a topic of their choice. Alternatively, students may choose to write two shorter papers of approximately 10 pages each. In the case of the second option, each will count for 20% of the grade. In the case of the first option, the paper is due on May 4. In the case of the second option, the first paper is due on March 30 and the second on May 4. Students should consult with the instructor before writing their research paper(s).
Seminar participation: Students are expected to attend all classes and participate actively each week in class discussions of the required readings. Participation will include several short book reports. This is an important component of the grade. In the final session (April 27), students will make a brief presentation on their research paper.

**Academic Integrity**

It is each student’s responsibility to understand and uphold the university’s standards of academic integrity, guidelines for which are available in the University Student Conduct Code in the ‘SCampus. Examples of academic integrity violations include “the submission of material authored by another person but represented as the student’s own work, whether that material is paraphrased or copied in verbatim or near-verbatim form” and “improper acknowledgement of sources in essays or papers.” Failure to uphold these standards will result in appropriate sanctions which may include an “F” for the course.

**Readings**

Required books are available for purchase in the USC bookstore. These books are also on reserve in the Leavey library. Other readings, indicated by an asterix, are on electronic reserve through the library Ares reserve desk. Occasionally readings will be posted on the Blackboard. In weeks where readings are heavy, different readings may be assigned to different students.

**Books Available for Purchase**


Seminar Outline

Introduction: January 12

I. CONCEPTUAL AND THEORETICAL ISSUES

1. Introduction to Gender, Feminist Theories and Feminist Epistemologies (January 19 & 26)

*R. Tong, Feminist Thought, ch.1.


Recommended:

Evelyn Fox Keller, Reflections on Gender and Science. Yale University Press, 1985
2. **Conversations and Critiques Across Theoretical and Methodological Divides: Gender, Feminism and International Theory** (February 2 and 9)

J. A. Tickner, *Gendering World Politics*, Introduction and ch. 1


*B. Locher and E. Prügl, “Feminism and Constructivism: Worlds Apart or Sharing the Middle Ground?” *International Studies Quarterly* 45: 111-129 (2001)*

M. Zalewski, “Distracted Reflections on the Production, Narration, and Refusal of Feminist Knowledge in International Relations,” ch. 3 in Ackerly, Stern and True


T. Jacoby, “From the Trenches: Dilemmas of Feminist IR Fieldwork,” ch. 8 in Ackerly, Stern and True.

C. Sylvester, “Bringing Art/Museums to Feminist International Relations,” ch. 10 in Ackerly, Stern and True

**Recommended:**

Hans Morgenthau, *Politics Among Nations*

Kenneth Waltz, *Theory of International Politics*

NO CLASS FEBRUARY 16.

II. GLOBAL GOVERNANCE, GLOBAL ECONOMY AND DEVELOPMENT

1. **Engendering International Organization, Social Movements and Human Rights**  
   (February 23)

   Tickner, *Gendering World Politics*, ch. 4


   E. Prügl, *The Global Construction of Gender: Home-Based Work in the Political Economy of the 20th Century*

   Recommended:
   S. Whitworth, *Feminism and International Relations*.

   FIRST REVIEW ESSAY DUE MARCH 2

2. **Engendering Economic Development and Globalization**  
   (March 2 and 9)

   Tickner, *Gendering World Politics*, ch.3
   L. Beneria, *Gender, Globalization, and Development*
Recommended:

I. Bakker and S. Gill, *Power, Production and Social Reproduction*
M. Marchand and J. Parpart, eds., *Feminism, Postmodernism, Development*, Routledge, 1995
V.S. Peterson, *A Critical Rewriting of Global Political Economy*
Marilyn Waring, *If Women Counted*

SPRING BREAK MARCH 16

III. THE POLITICS OF WAR, PEACE, AND SECURITY

1. Gendering the State and Nation (March 23)

*J.A. Tickner, “Identity in International Relations Theory,”* ch.8 in Y. Lapid and F. Kratochwil, *The Return of Culture and Identity in IR Theory*


B. D’Costa, “Marginalized Identity: New Frontiers of Research for IR?” ch. 7 in Ackerly, Stern and True


J. Maruska, “When are States Hypermasculine?” ch. 12 in Sjoberg, *Gender and International Security*
Recommended:

M. Zalewski and Jane Parpart, eds., *The “Man” Question in International Relations*, Westview, 1998

FIRST RESEARCH PAPER DUE FOR STUDENTS CHOOSING TWO PAPER OPTION (MARCH 30)

2. **Gendered Perspectives on Conflict and Security** (March 30 and April 6)

   Tickner, *Gendering World Politics*, ch.2

   *C. Cohn, "Wars, Wimps and Women," ch.10 in M. Cooke & A. Woollacott, eds.,
   *Gendering War Talk*


   A. Kronsell, “Methods for Studying Silences: Gender Analysis in Institutions of Hegemonic Masculinity,” ch.6 in Ackerly, Stern and True


   L. Sjoberg, *Gender and International Security*, chs.1, 2, 4, 5, 9, 12

   C. Enloe, *Globalization and Militarism*

Recommended:


CONFERENCE APRIL 9 AND 10

**Gendered Perspectives on Peace and Peacebuilding** (April 13 and 20)

*C. Sylvester, "Some Dangers in Merging Feminist and Peace Projects," ch. 10 in
Sylvester, *Feminist International Relations: An Unfinished Journey*

READINGS CONTINUE ON THE NEXT PAGE

L. Sjoberg, *Gender and International Security*, chs.7, 8, 10, 13

S. Whitworth, *Men, Militarism and UN Peacekeeping*

Recommended:


IV. CONCLUSIONS AND STUDENT RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS (April 27)