

**SS 2519 – War & Gender**  
**Summer 2008**

**INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

**Instructor:** Dr. Steve Gardiner  
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**COURSE INFORMATION**

Meeting Time: M, T, W, TH 14:00 – 15:40  
Meeting Place: A-16

**Description.** It is doubtful that there are two concepts at once as thoroughly studied and at the same time as little understood as war and gender. The causes of these misunderstandings are multiple and complex, but not least among them is the pervasive tendency to naturalize both, placing them virtually out of bounds to systematic investigation. This naturalization, moreover, tends to short circuit any attempt to think war and gender together as belonging to a single system of social organization.

This course will introduce students to the study of both war and gender not as separate phenomena, but as components of an increasingly global war system that shapes the social production of gendered persons, which in turn shapes the ways in which both individuals and societies understand, promote, resist, prepare for and wage war.

**Course Objectives.** By completing the required readings and assignments students will:

- (1) Deepen their understanding of the complex theoretical issues—category construction, biological vs. cultural determinism, binary thinking, naturalizations and reification to name a few—that shape our (mis)understanding of gender;
- (2) Acquire a basic historical understanding of the role that gendered modes of thinking and war have played in the construction of modern nation-states;
- (3) Develop an understanding of the ways in which war is gendered and gendered thinking is implicated in the contemporary system of war and peace in the United States and Pakistan.

**Requirements and Expectations**

**Attendance/Participation.** Regular attendance in this course is required. Class participation is an important aspect of the course and in-class commentary on the written work of your peers will be a key component of the course. If you are having health or personal problems that impact your ability to attend, please come and see me during my office hours or make an appointment to see me as soon as possible so that we can make appropriate arrangements. I will call on students randomly to answer questions or offer opinions. I know that not everyone is equally comfortable speaking in front of a group, but doing so is an essential life skill—I don't require that you be brilliant or even comfortable, just that you do the reading and speak up.

**Group Work.** Early in the semester you will be assigned to a working group with whom you will work over the course of the semester. Groups will be responsible for providing written feedback to group members on their reading précis.

**Readings:** All course readings are required unless explicitly marked as optional.

**Civility.** Many of the topics addressed in this course may raise strong feelings. No matter the topic, I expect you to respect each other, to refrain from interrupting someone who is speaking, and from dismissing anyone's opinion out of hand. Comments and questions should be limited to the matter under discussion and under no circumstance reflect on the person responded to.

**Non-Discrimination.** In accord with institutional policy, there will be no discrimination in this course on the basis of race, ethnicity, sex/gender, ability/disability, religion/spiritual beliefs or class. Your political beliefs and moral values will not be considered relevant for purposes of grading and evaluation—though see civility above.

**Late Assignments.** Assignments must be turned in on time in the manner specified. Except by prior arrangement or under emergency circumstances, I will grade late work a minimum of 10% lower.

## Academic Dishonesty

Students are responsible for knowing University policy on plagiarism and related issues—e.g., cheating on exams—and will be held accountable for violations. Please see pages 11 – 14 of the LUMS statement on Values and Ethics regarding Academic Integrity.

## Assignments and Grading

Students will be graded primarily on written work, including (1) two reflection papers which will require students to compare, contrast and analyze the work of two of the assigned authors (each worth 15% of the course grade), (2) a term paper due near the end of the quarter, which will be worth 50% of the grade. The remaining 20% will be derived from (3) group presentations and (4) class participation.

**1. Reflection Paper.** This paper, worth 20% of your course grade, will require you to critically compare, contrast, or synthesize the work of two or more texts you have read for the course. Reflection papers should be approximately 1500 – 2000 words in length and will be graded for insight, theoretical comprehension, and conceptual depth as well as style and logical organization. Due date: July 1.

**2. Term Paper.** Each student will write a research paper on a topic of his or her own choice provided that it relates to the course them regarding the intersection of war and gender. This could be a detailed study of gender in a particular conflict, a theoretical discussion of

gendered discourses in the military, or even, with the permission of the instructor (and a plan I consider viable), preliminary fieldwork (e.g. interviews) with military personnel or veterans. I will provide detailed guidance on selecting and narrowing topics.

### Grading and Due Dates for Each Component

Term Paper Segment	Due Date	Weight
General topic	23 June	2.5%
Thesis/Detailed topic	26 June	2.5%
Annotated Bibliography	3 July	5%
Outline	7 July	5%
First Draft	14 July	10%
Second Draft	18 July	n/a
Final Draft	25 July	25%

3. Group Presentations. Over the course of the quarter, you will be required to present various findings, analyses and other pieces of work—done both in and out of class. These assignments, of which there will be at least 4, will be worth 20% of your course grade.

4. Class participation, including attendance, will account for 10% of your course grade.

### Grading Summary

Reflection Paper	20%
Term Paper	50%
Presentations	20%
Participation	10%

### Course Readings

Readings not included in the course Reading Package will be made available via electronic reserves, through the course home page. CP = Course Packet; ER = Electronic Reserve.

Boose, Lynda. 1993. Techno-Muscularity and the “Boy Eternal”: From the quagmire to the Gulf. In *Gendering War Talk*, Eds. Miriam Cooke and Angela Woollacott, 67 – 108. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Butler, Judith. 2004. *Undoing Gender*. London: Routledge. (Selections)

Cohen, Carol. 1993. Wars, Wimps, and Women: Talking Gender and Thinking War. In *Gendering War Talk*, Eds. Miriam Cooke and Angela Woollacott, 227 – 248. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

- Cooke, Miriam. 1993. Woman, Retelling the War Myth. In *Gendering War Talk*, Eds. Miriam Cooke and Angela Woollacott, 177 – 204. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Connell, R. W. 2005. *Masculinities*, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed. Berkeley: University of California Press. (Selections.)
- Connell, R. W. 1987. *Gender and Power*. Stanford, Calif.: Stanford University Press. (Selections)
- Eley, Geoff. 2000. Culture, Nation, Gender. In *Gendered Nations: Nationalisms and Gender Order in the Long Nineteenth Century*. Eds. Ida Bloom, Karen Hagemann, and Catherine Hall, 27 – 40. Oxford: Berg.
- Goldstein, Joshua S. 2001. *War and Gender*. Cambridge University Press. (Selections).
- Hagemann, Karen. 2000. A Valorous Volk Family: The Nation, the Military, and the Gender Order in Prussia in the Time of the Anti-Napoleonic Wars, 1806–15. In *Gendered Nations: Nationalisms and Gender Order in the Long Nineteenth Century*. Eds. Ida Bloom, Karen Hagemann, and Catherine Hall, 179 – 206. Oxford: Berg.
- Rosenberg, Stanley. 1993. The Threshold of Thrill: Life Stories in the Sky over Southeast Asia. In *Gendering War Talk*, Eds. Miriam Cooke and Angela Woollacott, 44 – 66. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Rubin, Gayle. 1975. The Traffic in Women: Notes on the “Political Economy” of Sex. In *Toward an Anthropology of Women*, ed. Rayna R. Reiter, 157 – 210. New York: Monthly Review Press.

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Class/Date	Topic/Reading	Notes
16 June Monday	No class	Session will be rescheduled for later in the quarter
1. 17 June Tuesday	1. Class admin, syllabus and expectations 2. What is Gender? 3. What is War?	Note that I will be taking attendance from this day.
	<b>Reading:</b> None	
2. 18 June Wednesday	1. Gender and Power 2. Conceptualizing a Research Paper	
	<b>Reading(s):</b> (1) Connell 1987, Gender and Power, (selections)	
3. 19 June Thursday	1. Masculinity	1 <sup>st</sup> Group Presentations: Theories of Gender
	<b>Reading(s):</b> (1) Connell 2005, (selections)	
4. 20 June Friday	<b>Film:</b> Full Metal Jacket	Rescheduled class session
	<b>Reading(s):</b> n/a	
5. 23 June Monday	1. War & Gender	General topic due
	<b>Reading(s):</b> (1) Goldstein, War & Gender (selections)	
6. 24 June Tuesday	1. War & Gender 2	2 <sup>nd</sup> Group Presentations: Goldstein's Hypothesis
	<b>Reading(s):</b> (1) Goldstein, War & Gender (selections)	
7. 25 June Wednesday	1. War & Gender 3	
	<b>Reading(s):</b> (1) Butler, Undoing Gender, (selections)	
8. 26 June Thursday	1. Research Paper Discussion—1 on 1 meeting with me	Thesis/Detailed Topic Due - Individuals and groups to meet with me to discuss their proposals during class time
	<b>Readings(s):</b> (1) Goldstein, War & Gender, (selections)	
9. 30 June Monday	1. Military Service and Identity	
	<b>Reading(s):</b> (1) Rosenberg, 1993, The Threshold of Thrill, 44-66; (2) Boose 1993, Technomuscularity, 667 - 108	
10. 1 July Tuesday	1. Family and War	Reflection Paper Due
	<b>Readings(s):</b> (1) Hageman, Valorous Volk Family, 179-206; (2) Cooke, Woman, Retelling, 177-204	
11. 2 July Wednesday	Film: 300	

	Reading(s): n/a	
12. 3 July Thursday	1. The Traffic in Women	Annotated Bibliography Due class
	Reading(s): Rubin, Traffic in Women, 157-210	
13. 7 July Monday	1. The Nation and Gender	Outline Due
	Reading(s): (1) Eley 2000, 27-40; (2) Anderson, Imagined Communities, (selections)	
14. 8 July Tuesday	1. Language, Gender and War	3rd Group Presentations: Gender Policing
	Reading(s): (1) Cohen, 1993, Wars and Whimps, 227-248	
15. 9 July Wednesday	Film: Battle of Algiers	
	Reading(s): n/a	
16. 10 July Thursday	1. War and Sexual Violence	
	Reading(s): TBA	
17. 14 July Monday	Film: Platoon	First Draft Due
	Reading(s): n/a	
18. 15 July Tuesday	1. Student Presentations	4th Group Presentations: Research
	Reading(s): n/a	
19. 16 July Wednesday	1. Student Presentations	4rd Group Presentations: Research Findings
	Reading(s): n/a	
20. 17 July Thursday	1. Student Presentations	4rd Group Presentations: Research Findings
	Reading(s):n/a	
Final Exam	No Exam	Final Draft of Term Paper Due, 25 July 2008