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GOVERNMENT 102: WOMEN AND WAR

Fall 2005

MTh 12-1:15

JEF 400

COURSE DESCRIPTION: As the Clark University web page states, “The First-Year Seminars permit you to explore an academic area in depth and work closely with a faculty member at the outset of your undergraduate studies....each seminar creates an environment conducive to lively discussions and active learning.”

Moreover, this course is part of the International Studies Stream (ISS): “to succeed in contemporary society, students must be familiar with the ways common problems—such as economic growth, immigration, social welfare, environmental regulation—are dealt with differently across the globe. They need to understand the historical, social, and political foundations for these differences, and they need to be able to assess their own societies within an international context.”

That said, this first-year seminar examines the impact of war on women as both victims (i.e. refugees, rape victims) and participants (i.e. warriors) as part of the larger understanding of women’s role in society, both domestic and international society. The course will introduce students to the theoretical approaches in international relations for understanding the connection between gender and war. Various case studies of wars will be explored. Questions to be considered include: How do we understand gender, particularly in conflict situations? Does war affect women and men differently? If so, how? How does militarization and conflict perpetuate patriarchal power arrangements? What can the various case studies tell us about women’s role in society before, during, and after conflict and war?

COURSE REQUIREMENTS: There are four graded assignments for this course: (1) weekly analytical summaries, (2) three reaction papers, (3) a 12-15 page research paper, and (4) an in-class presentation on your research paper.

Participation and attendance in the seminar are mandatory.

Texts: There are five required books for the course available at the Clark University bookstore. The books are also on reserve at the Goddard Library. Readings for each topic should be completed prior to the class session for which they are assigned.

Enloe, Cynthia. *Manuevers*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2000.

Lorentzen, Lois Ann and Jennifer Turpin, eds. *The Women and War Reader*. New York: New York University Press, 1998. (L/T)

Moser, Caroline O. N. and Fiona C. Clark, eds. *Victims, Perpetrators or Actors?* London: Zed Books, 2001. (M/C)

O’Neill, Susan. *Don’t Mean Nothing: Short Stories of Vietnam*. University of Massachusetts Press, 2004.

Tickner, J. Ann. *Gendering World Politics*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2001.

- **Research Paper:** You are required to write a 12-15 page (double-spaced) research paper on a case study analyzing women and war. Importantly, the paper must incorporate the assigned readings. To receive credit you must include footnotes/endnotes and a bibliography. For correct citation information, refer to the handout/booklet and/or ask me. The paper is worth 40% of the course grade. There are several components of the paper with specific deadlines:

Topic approval: September 12 (in class)

Outline with preliminary bibliography (at least five references): October 13 (in class)

Draft of paper: November 23 at noon in JEF 404

Paper due: December 15--NO EXCEPTIONS!

- **Reaction papers (3):** There are three presentations during the semester (see the syllabus for specific dates and topics). You are required to write reaction papers (3-5 pages, double spaced) for each of the presentations. In your papers you need to address the following four points: (a) main theme/argument of the presentation, (b)

evidence provided, (c) whether you found the presentation convincing in terms of women and war (why or why not?), and (d) identify and assess questions you think were (or should have been) raised by the presentation. Basically, you need to “analyze, evaluate, and react” to the speaker(s)! *The papers are due one week after the presentation.*

- **Participation:** As this is a seminar, I will expect significant participation by you, and consequently, you will need to have completed the readings assigned for that day before coming to class. Participation includes asking and answering questions in class, coming to office hours, and generally making yourself known to me. Importantly, you will need to write analytical summaries for each assigned reading and provide 2-3 thematic questions for discussion. *The summaries are due at the end of each class meeting.*
- **In-class presentation on research paper:** you will be required to give a brief (15-20 minute) in-class oral presentation on your research paper. The in-class presentations will be done during the last third of the semester.

Grading distribution:

Analytical summaries of each reading and general participation: 30%

In-class oral presentation of your paper: 15%

Reaction papers (3 x 5%): 15%

Research Paper: 40% (includes meeting the deadlines for topic, outline, draft and submission of final paper)

TOPICS AND ASSIGNMENTS:

August 25: *Introduction*

Students will write a one-page biographical statement about their thoughts on women and war in class.

August 29: *International Relations Theory and Gender*

Tickner, “Introduction”

Tickner, “Troubled Encounters: Feminism Meets IR” (chap 1)

Moser and Clark, “Introduction” (chap 1, M/C)

September 1: *Global Order and the future of IR: Does it include Gender?*

Tickner, “Gender in the Global Economy” (chap 3)

Tickner, “Democratization, the State, and the Global Order: Gendered Perspectives” (chap 4)

Tickner, “Conclusions and Beginnings: Some Pathways for IR Feminist Futures” (chap 5)

September 5—NO CLASS (LABOR DAY)

September 8: *Gender, War and Peace: theoretical debates*

Tickner, “Gendered Dimensions of War, Peace and Security” (chap 2)

Cockburn, “The Gendered dynamics of Armed Conflict and Political Violence” (chap 2, M/C)

Moser, “The Gendered Continuum of Violence and Conflict: An Operational Framework” (chap 3, M/C)

September 12: *Theoretical Debates continued*

Turpin, “Many Faces: Women Confronting War” (chap 1) (L/T)

York, “The Truth about Women and Peace” (chap 2) (L/T)

Carter, “Should Women Be Soldiers or Pacifists?” (chap 4) (L/T)

***Paper topic due**

September 15: *Getting started on thinking about your research paper: Introduction to the Goddard Library*

Library visit—be sure to be at the lobby of the library at 12 noon promptly

September 19: *Introduction to the Militarization of society: Militarization of women’s lives as soldiers, mothers, and more*

Enloe, “How do they militarize a can of soup?” (chap 1)

September 22: *Male Soldiers and their relationships to Women*

Enloe, “The Laundress, the Soldier and the State” (chap 2)

Enloe, "The Prostitute, the Colonel, and the Nationalist" (chap 3)
Enloe, "When Soldiers Rape" (chap 4)
Enloe, "If a Woman is 'Married to the Military,' Who is the Husband?" (chap 5)

September 26: *How women are militarized*

Enloe, "Nursing the Military: The Imperfect Management of Respectability" (chap 6)
Enloe, "Filling the Ranks: Militarizing Women as Mothers, Soldiers, Feminists, and Fashion Designers" (chap 7)

September 29: *The future of women's militarized lives*

Enloe, "Conclusion: Decisions, Decisions, Decisions"

October 3: **Presentation by Professor Cynthia Enloe, Clark University**

October 6: *US women in the military during the Vietnam War: a case study*

O'Neill, *Don't Mean Nothing*, Introduction, Part I and Part II (pp. xi-144)

October 10: **MID-SEMESTER BREAK—NO CLASS**

October 13: **Presentation by Susan O'Neill**

O'Neill, *Don't Mean Nothing*, Part III (pp. 147-252)

***Paper outline due**

October 17: *Nationalism and Identity, Victimization and War*

Rejali, "After Feminist Analyses of Bosnian Violence" (chap 3, L/T)

Lorentzen and Turpin, Part II (chapters 5-7)

Lorentzen and Turpin (chapters 23, 25)

October 20: *Nationalism and Identity, Victimization and war*

Lorentzen and Turpin, Part II (chapters 8-11)

Turshen, "The Political Economy of Rape: An Analysis of Systematic Rape and Sexual Abuse of Women during Armed Conflict in Africa" (chap 4, M/C)

Zarkov, "The Body of the Other Man" (chap 5, M/C)

Meertens, "The Nostalgic Future: Terror, Displacement and Gender in Colombia," (Chap 9, M/C)

October 24: *Women Warriors*

Ibanez, "El Salvador: War and Untold Stories—Women Guerrillas," (chap 8, M/C)

Lorentzen and Turpin, Part III (chapters 12-16)

October 27: **Presentation by Sandy McEvoy, Clark University**

October 31: *Women Warriors*

Lorentzen and Turpin, Part IV (chapters 17-22)

Sharoni, "Rethinking Women's Struggles in Israel-Palestine and in the North of Ireland," (chap 6, M/C)

Butalia, "Women and Communal Conflict: New challenges for the Women's Movement in India," (chap 7, M/C)

November 3: *Women Building Peace*

Lorentzen and Turpin, Part VI (chapters 29-37)

Cordero, "Social Organizations: From Victims to Actors in Peace Building," (chap 10, M/C)

Mulholland, "The Challenge to Inequality: Women, Discrimination and Decision-making in Northern Ireland," (chap 11, M/C)

Moser and McIlwaine, "Gender and Social Capital in Contexts of Political Violence: Community Perceptions from Colombia and Guatemala," (chap 12, M/C)

Krog, "Locked into Loss and Silence: Testimonies of Gender and Violence at the South Africa Truth Commission," (chap 13, M/C)

STUDENT PRESENTATIONS

November 7: *Student Presentations*
November 10: *Student Presentations*
November 14: *Student Presentations*
November 17: *Student Presentations*
November 21: *Student Presentations*

***Draft of paper due 11/23 in JEF 404 at noon**

November 24—NO CLASS (THANKSGIVING BREAK)

November 28: *Student Presentations*
December 1: *Student Presentations*
December 5: *Student Presentations*
December 8: *Student Presentations and Wrap up*

RESEARCH PAPER DUE DECEMBER 15 at NOON in JEF 302