POLS W3626
Gender and International Relations

Spring 2013
Department of Political Science
Columbia University

603 Hamilton Hall
Tuesday and Thursday 4:10PM-5:25PM

Instructor:
Dr. Eric Blanchard (eb2784@columbia.edu)
Office hours: Tuesday 2:30-3:30 PM, Thursday 12-1 PM, and by appointment
Office: 742 International Affairs Building
Phone: (212) 854-8841

Graduate Assistant:
Johannes Hemker (jzh2104@columbia.edu)
Office hours: Tuesday, 11:30AM-1:30PM, and by appointment in Avery Library Café

I. Course Description, Objectives and Requirements:

“Gender and International Relations” is a course designed as a comprehensive introduction to a way of analyzing and researching global politics and international relations that takes gender seriously as an analytic category. The course is particularly concerned with the ways in which gender is implicated in the construction of international relations—how this affects the foreign policies of states and the security of people—and what this means for the actions of other actors in world politics, such as non-governmental organizations (NGOs), international organizations (IOs), and social movements.

During the semester, we will explore the ways that global issues impact women's and men’s lives, but we will also become theoretically savvy, exploring various feminist and non-feminist approaches to the study of gender, femininity and masculinity in world politics. In familiarizing ourselves with multiple approaches to the study of gender in international politics, we will attempt to better understand just how “gender matters” in many facets of international relations such as war and peace, foreign policy, economics, security, activism, the environment, development, and human rights. Additional topics we will investigate in-depth include nationalism and identity, human security, post-war reconstruction, “trafficking,” and technology and the information revolution. By the end of the course, students should be able to better critique foreign policies and global governance by understanding their gendered formulations, implementations, and consequences.

Class sessions will mix lecture and discussion. In class discussion, students will have the opportunity to hone their critical thinking skills and practice articulating their informed views. To this end, students are expected to come to all class sessions ready to discuss the assigned
readings, and raise thoughtful questions about these readings, prior readings, or lecture points. Because exams will test knowledge of both lecture materials and texts, it will be impossible to succeed in the course without regular attendance. A midterm (25%) and final (30%) will be the only exams. Students will also prepare a journal comprised of 10 entries and totaling approximately 20 pages, and counting for 30% of the grade. The journal, which should be an ongoing project throughout the semester, must be completed and submitted by May 6 at 5PM.

**Grading:**
- Participation, classroom exercises 15%
- Midterm exam 25% (March 12)
- Writing Assignment/Journal 30% (due May 6)
- Final exam 30% (May 14)

**Readings** (texts on order at the Book Culture Bookstore, West 112th St., NYC, and on reserve at Butler library):


**Classroom policies:**

**Policies:**

*In the classroom:*
Please be sure to help the instructor maintain a collegial atmosphere necessary for learning by keeping comments civil and respectful and being attentive to the contributions of your instructor, graduate assistants, and your fellow students. The lectures and discussions in this class will demand the full use of your undivided cognitive abilities; therefore, the use of laptops is discouraged. Before we start class, please discontinue the use of and stow all portable electronic communication and entertainment devices and be sure your device is in an off-position or silent (*not vibrating*) mode. Messaging, tweeting, texting, chatting, hacking, multiplayer gaming, social networking, bargain shopping, portfolio managing or using electronic devices in *any manner* that distracts from classroom activities will not be tolerated, and WILL result in a lowered participation grade (for example, students texting in class will have their attendance grade lowered by 1% per occurrence and may be asked to leave if they are disruptive). Audio or video recording of class sessions is not allowed without explicit permission from the instructor.

*Outside the classroom:*
Check CourseWorks for important messages, assignments, and updates. I recommend that students keep open communication lines with me particularly regarding factors that have an
effect on their performance as students; the best way to reach me is through email, however please understand the instructor (and teaching assistant) will not (necessarily) be responding immediately to messages sent after 9pm or on weekends/holidays. I will only excuse emergency medical absences upon the presentation of verifiable, appropriate medical or other documentation if such requests are presented to me in a timely manner. If you should need to make exam arrangements with the Office of Disability Services, inform me as early as possible. Please do not expect travel plans to be a legitimate excuse for missing class. I will consider writing letters of recommendation for students who have taken a minimum two courses with me with at least an A- average.

Notes on written work:
*All written work should be neat—free of spelling and grammatical errors, double-spaced, pages numbered, 12 pt font with 1 inch margins with a word count—and utilize appropriate citation practices. Please make use of the Writing Center: http://uwp.columbia.edu/writing-center/.
*It is strongly suggested that assignments accord with the citation practices and reference standardization found at www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/home.html, or a similar style guide. Author-date style is preferred. Students are also advised to consult a helpful guide to research papers, such as The Craft of Research by Wayne C. Booth, et al. (University Of Chicago Press), or Stephen Van Evera’s Guide to Methods for Students of Political Science (Ithaca. NY: Cornell University Press).
*Written work must be submitted by the relevant deadline, both as a hard copy to my box in Room 710, International Affairs Building, and as an electronic attachment submitted to polsw3626@gmail.com. Late work will be penalized one half grade for each day late (A to A-, etc.). Yes, this includes weekends.

Academic Integrity
All students are expected to understand and abide by the principles of academic integrity established by Columbia University. The full statement on academic integrity is available at www.college.columbia.edu/faculty/resourcesforinstructors/academicintegrity/statement. All cases of academic dishonesty will result in the application of academic sanctions and/or the referral of the matter to the Office of Judicial Affairs and Community Standards. Please see www.studentaffairs.columbia.edu/judicialaffairs/process/process#sanctions for more information on sanctions for academic misconduct. A useful primer on plagiarism and how to avoid it is at: http://www.unc.edu/depts/wcweb/handouts/plagiarism.html. Contact the instructor with any questions.

II. Schedule (*indicates the item can be found on Courseworks)

Week One: Recognizing gender in world politics
January 22: Introduction
No assigned readings. Please read syllabus carefully.
**January 24: Finding Nimo**

**Week Two: Gender, biology, and the evolution of world politics**
**January 29: Could women run the world?**

**January 31: Biology and the war system**

**Week Three: Introducing feminist approaches**
**February 5: Lenses and ladders**

**February 7: Feminism and International Relations**

**Week Four: Gender in historical perspective**
**February 12: Gendering history**


Recommended:

**February 14: Gender and U.S. foreign policy**

**Week Five: Is gender a synonym for “women”?**

**February 19: Recognizing masculinity**
2. Enloe, ch. 7 “All the Men are in the Militias, All the Women are Victims,” *The Curious Feminist*, pp. 99-118.

**February 21: Masculinities (hegemonic and hyper)**

**Week Six: The analysis of gender in world politics**

**Feb 26: Epistemologies and their consequences**
1. Peterson and Runyan, ch. 2 “Gendered Lenses on World Politics,” *GGI* pp. 76-100.
Recommended:
*Rosemarie Tong, “Multicultural, Global, and Postcolonial Feminism,” in Feminist Thought: A

Feb 28: Tools for the analysis of gender and IR

Optional:
*R. Charli Carpenter, “Gender Theory in World Politics: Contributions of a Nonfeminist

Week Seven: Security and Global Order
March 5: Security, nationalism and identity

Recommended:

March 7: Looking at global order with a gendered lens
2. Peterson and Runyan, ch. 3 “Gender and Global Governance,” GGI pp.103-42.

Week Eight: Security, continued

March 12 **MIDTERM EXAM**

March 14 Human and environmental security
1. *Nicole Detraz, “The Genders of Environmental Security,” in Sjoberg, ed. Gender and

**SPRING BREAK, March 18-22**
Week Nine: Economic security and human rights

March 26: Trafficking and slavery

Recommended:

March 28: Global political economy

Week Ten Economics, continued and military service

April 2: Economic security and restructuring

Recommended:

April 4: Women and gays in the military
1. *Carol Cohn, “‘How Can She Claim Equal Rights When She Doesn't Have to Do as Many Push-Ups as I Do?’: The Framing of Men's Opposition to Women's Equality in the Military,” Men and Masculinities 3 (2000), pp.131-151.

Recommended:

**Week Eleven** Military service and sexual violence

**April 9: Constructing Military Forces and Armed Oppositions**

**April 11: Sexual violence in war**

Recommened:

**Week Twelve** Peace and post-conflict

**April 16: Peace Making, Peacekeeping**

**April 18: “After” war: post-conflict reconstruction**
Recommended:

**Week Thirteen** The war on terror and the post-9/11 world

**April 23: War on terror**

**April 25: Post 9/11**

**Recommended:**

**Week Fourteen:**

**April 30: Gender and change**
1. Peterson and Runyan, ch. 6 “Gendered Resistances,” in GGI, pp.231-262.

**May 2: Wrap-up**

**JOURNALS DUE BY 5PM May 6 to Blanchard mailbox IAB 710, and electronically to polsw3626@gmail.com**

**FINAL EXAM:** Tuesday May 14, 4:10-7PM, PROJECTED
(please consult [http://registrar.columbia.edu/content/final-exam-schedule](http://registrar.columbia.edu/content/final-exam-schedule) for updates)
W3626 Gender Journal Assignment Guidelines

Students are to prepare journals consisting of 10 entries (no more than 2 pages each or 500 words maximum), totaling approximately 20 pages. The journals, which should be an ongoing project throughout the semester, must be completed and submitted together by May 6, SPM and will count for 30% of the final grade.

The main idea of the assignment is give you the chance to pull together class materials in new ways, exploring the world using what you’ve learned (concepts, theories, arguments, etc.). Thus you are expected to deploy your critical thinking skills to apply and reflect upon what you’ve learned, not just report news or summarize class readings. You’ll be evaluated on the quality of your analysis and commentary on events/issues in the “real world” and how skillfully you draw upon course materials, so summary should be kept to a minimum. If you have further questions, please visit instructors in office hours.

Rules:
1) Analyze an outside source Each entry must draw upon A) two course readings and B) one outside media/news report, selected from appropriate sources such as The New York Times, The Washington Post, The Economist, other reputable news sources or even academic journals or chapters. Students may occasionally substitute analysis of an “event,” such as an on-campus (or web) lecture, film viewing, reading, or comparable source instead of B above (news/media item) (see me if you have questions). Of course, the issues and events you analyze should relate to course topics and have a distinct international dimension. See us with any questions about sources for B.

2) Include an appendix In addition to the 20 pages of entries, you must attach an appendix that includes printouts of all the articles referenced in the journal. The appendix must be turned in with the hard copy, but need not be submitted electronically. If you attend an event, include a program or flyer from the event in appendix.

3) Be comprehensive as possible Journals must draw from at least six different weeks as labeled on the syllabus. You may only draw upon one set of readings for a class unit (i.e., the readings for one class session like March 26 “Trafficking and slavery”) twice (at most) in the course of writing your journal. Make sure your entries cover the entire time period of the semester (i.e. don’t analyze outside articles/events that all occur near end of semester).

4) Cite properly You can cite syllabus items with just name, date, and page number, i.e., (Hudson, 2005: 160). Other sources/materials used should be listed in a citation/bibliography or in footnotes. Check syllabus for proper citation guidelines.

5) Submit properly Please secure your journal together neatly before submitting it as a hard copy to my mailbox and as electronic file to polsw3626@gmail.com. Remember: submission of electronic file and hardcopy is mandatory, and unfastened sheets will be returned without grade.

**Previews**
I am willing to look over and return with comments (not grade) one journal entry (hard copy) per student if I have the entry by class on Feb 21. This is completely voluntary, but may be helpful for students who want to check if they are on the right track and then have the opportunity to rewrite the entry. Remember to attach a print out of your news article to the draft entry. After Feb. 21, I will not be offering assessments or granting re-writes.