

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICS

POLI M3016 GENDER, MASCULINITY/IES AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Weeks 13-24 2007-2008

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THE UNIT

This unit considers the 'other half' of gender, so that gender is not a synonym for women. The political construction of gender as a power-laden binary will be examined, using sociological and feminist literature on masculinity/ies and a selective look at men's studies. The unit is open to students from a variety of MSc's/MA's. While the focus is on bringing gender and masculinity/ies analysis to the study of international relations, there is also scope for integrating issues and material from other degree programmes into a more general Politics framework. You will need to make sure that your thinking and written work has an *international* dimension.

METHODS

The following methods will be outlined and discussed/used in informal lectures and seminar discussion:

- Essay writing
- Giving a presentation and commenting on student presentations
- Listening and speaking in discussion
- Extraction of meaning from images

UNIT OBJECTIVES

- To develop an understanding of current 'men's studies' and 'masculinities' research
- To develop a complex idea of the different ways that 'gender' is theorised
- To investigate political questions and issues using a fully developed gender 'lens' and an international focus

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Understanding gender as 'ways that sex and sexuality become power relations in society'
- Ability to deploy this conceptualisation in relation to political and international issues.
- Knowledge of principal works in men's studies and sociology of masculinities
- Knowledge of this field of gender studies in relation to feminist theory

SEMINARS

There are ten seminars in the unit (weeks 13-22) of 90 minutes duration (no break). Attendance is compulsory. Seminars provide you with an opportunity, amongst other things, to ask questions about things that you don't understand. Alternatively, you may arrange to see me during my office hours and ask me then. The arrangements for my office hours will be discussed at the beginning of the course. **Remember: you will not get much out of any seminar if you don't prepare for it, and no one else will get much out of you!**

LEARNING HOW TO LEARN

Beyond seminars and essay writing you can practise learning skills related to this unit when you:

- find gender as a binary and hierarchical relation in contemporary political circumstances
- reflect on the way that this produces 'identity', 'normality' and 'truth' in society through naturalising discourses
- consider the silences and exclusions in the way that political 'news' is presented
- think about gender as a regulative ideal rather than as an 'empirical' description
- understand the complex interplay between gender and other hierarchical relations in the politics of masculinity/ies

REQUIRED WORK

- 1 Assessed Essay from the list below as per MSc/Diploma requirements for your degree.
- 1 Seminar Presentation. This must be accompanied by one A4 page of notes from which the talk is given. The format for the talks is given below.

Assessed Essays

There are no seminars during weeks 23 and 24 so that you can concentrate on writing your assessed essays. The question for the essay and the oral seminar presentation must be on different topics. Essay questions will be handed out in class.

Full details about all requirements and rules regarding assessed essays – including length, formatting, submission, pass marks, extensions, feedback, resubmissions, and so on – are in the Departmental Graduate Studies handbook.

CORE TEXTS

You should buy Hooper and Connell, which are both in paperback; all the reading in this section below is on **1-day** SLC in the Library.

Charlotte Hooper [Manly States](#): Masculinities, International Relations and Gender Politics (Columbia, 2001) HQ1090 HOO

Summarises literature on gender identity, masculinities and masculinism in IR, and proposes that IR helps to create as well as reflect masculine identities and hierarchies.

R.W. Connell, [Masculinities](#) (Polity Press, 1995) HQ1090.3 CON

Update on Connell's pioneering work 'Gender and Power' and standard survey of the conceptual history and current state of play of 'masculinity studies'.

You will want to consult the journal [Men and Masculinities](#) available under Journals/Electronic journals when you log into the Library.

The following two collections are also extremely useful; only some of the chapters are in the coursepack:

Harry Brod and Michael Kaufman (eds), [Theorizing Masculinities](#) (Sage 1994) HQ1088 THE
Sociological theorising offering different ways to conceptualise masculinities and gender relations.

Marysia Zalewski and Jane Parpart (eds), [The 'Man' Question in International Relations](#) (Westview, 1998) JX1253.2 MAN

Surveys debates about gender/masculinities question in IR.

REFERENCE WORKS

[Handbook of Studies on Men and Masculinities](#), ed. Kimmel, Hearn and Connell (Sage, 2005) HQ1090 HAN

[Routledge Encyclopedia of Men and Masculinities](#), ed. Flood, Gardiner, Pease and Pringle (Routledge, 2007) on order

'Men's Bibliography', <http://mensbiblio.xyonline.net/>

BACKGROUND READING FOR SEMINARS AND ESSAYS

All the reading below is on SLC or 3-DAY LOAN.

Jill Steans, [Gender and International Relations: An Introduction](#) JX1391 STE

Well-written and accessible intro to gender and IR.

Judith Butler, [Gender Trouble](#) HQ1154 BUT

Foundational postmodern deconstruction of gender. Essential to understand the rethinking of sex/gender concepts and introduction of the concept of 'performativity'.

Lynne Segal, [Slow Motion: Changing Masculinities, Changing Men](#) HQ1090 SEG

Classic survey of literature on the politics of masculinities from a feminist perspective – comprehensive on issues, concise on arguments, and still the best all round introduction.

Harry Brod (ed.), [The Making of Masculinities](#) HQ1088 MAK

Classic collection of men's studies/men's history literature.

Michael S. Kimmel and Michael A. Messner (eds), [Men's Lives](#) HQ1090 MEN

Useful collection of mens studies pieces – including chapters on race issues.

Andrea Cornwall and Nancy Lindisfarne (eds), Dislocating Masculinity: Comparative Ethnographies HQ1090 DIS

Anthropological perspective on multiple masculinities. Includes chapters on race, sexuality, imperialism and Islamic masculinity.

Michael Roper and John Tosh (eds), Manful Assertions: Masculinities in Britain since 1800 HQ1090.7.G7 MAN
Historical text on the making of British Imperial masculinities.

Alan Petersen, Unmasking the Masculine: 'Men' and 'Identity' in a Sceptical Age HQ1090.3 PET
Post-Connell study with postmodern focus. Considers whether studying 'masculinities' is useful.

Tim Edwards, Erotics & Politics HQ76 EDW
Both personal and academic takes on gay male, lesbian, 'straight' men's politics.

John MacInnes, The End of Masculinity: the confusion of sexual genesis and sexual difference in modern society HQ1090 MAC
Criticises Connell et al and the whole notion of masculinity as a tangible concept.

Carol Cohn, 'Sex and Death in the Rational World of Defence Intellectuals', Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society, 12 SLC Issue Desk 912
Pioneering 'constructionist' study of language, gender and 'defence'.

M. Cooke and A. Woolcott (eds), Gendering War Talk HQ1154 GEN
Surveys 'constructionist' accounts of war/violence based on concepts of masculinity. Includes material on the 1st Gulf War.

Joshua S. Goldstein, War and Gender: how gender shapes the war system and vice versa U21.5 GOL
Recent examination of masculinity and the military.

Cynthia Enloe, Bananas, Beaches and Bases HQ1236 ENL
Classic contribution to feminism and IR.

Cynthia Enloe The Morning After: sexual politics at the end of the Cold War HQ1233 ENL
On the history of militarized masculinities.

Cynthia Enloe, 'Bananas, Bases and Patriarchy', in Lynda Kauffman (ed.), American Feminist Thought at Century's End HQ1420 AME
How men produce gendered 'normality'.

Cynthia Enloe, Does Khaki Become You? U21.75 ENL
Further studies on men/women/military issues.

Cynthia Enloe, The Curious Feminist On order
Sharp-witted and short analyses that will make you think!

Joanna Bourke:, Dismembering the male: Men's bodies, Britain and the Great War HQ1090 HOO
An account of the role of men's bodies in the shaping of masculinities in a military context.

Klaus Theweleit, Male fantasies, 2 vols HQ18.G5THE
On the relationship between military violence and misogyny.

John Stoltenberg, Refusing to be a Man HQ1075 STO
Provocative look at politics of male sexuality/violence from a male radical feminist.

Sandra Harding, The Science Question in Feminism Q172 HAR 7
A classic feminist critique of masculinism in the scientific method.

Barbara Ehrenreich, The Hearts of Men HQ1090 HER
Feminist study of US post-war masculinity.

Judith Halberstam, Female Masculinity HQ75.5 HAL
Quite a different take on masculinity -- projected onto the 'wrong' body!

David Campbell, Writing Security: United States foreign policy and the politics of identity E744.CAM
Groundbreaking study of US foreign policy and identity – including gender issues.

Edmund Hall, We can't even March Straight: homosexuality in the British armed forces U21.5 HAL
Surveys 'gays-in-the-military' politics.

Peter Tatchell, We don't want to March Straight U21.5 TAT
Classic of sexual/political liberation.

Kobena Mercer, Welcome to the Jungle E185.86 MER
Black masculinity from a cultural studies perspective.

Paul Gilroy, The Black Atlantic: modernity and double consciousness HT1581 GIL
Anti racist approach to politics of black masculinity.

Robert Morrell (ed.), Changing Men in Southern Africa HQ1090.7.S6 CHA
Contextual collection.

Special Issue of Men & Masculinities on Islamic Masculinities. vol. 5, no. 3. E- journal at
 <http://zerlina.ingentaselect.com/vl=5014095/cl=50/nw=1/rpsv/ij/sage/1097184x/v5_n3/contp1-1.htm> or
 available through library catalogue

Adam Jones (ed.), Men of the Global South: A Reader On order
Intriguing and provocative snapshots.

SEMINAR SCHEDULE

Format: The tutor will be responsible for dividing the time approximately 50:50 between a student presentation, and an informal lecture (with questions and discussion), building on what the student has presented, and what other students have said. Student-presenters MUST have a single side of A4 from which they speak. The ideal student presentation will:

- **answer the question(s) set for the topic**
- **give a critical overview of the reading**
- **introduce political issues drawn from the media, web, other Politics units, and/or personal experience.**

All reading below is from either the required texts (for purchase) or from the coursepack. All students will be responsible for having done all the reading below for each seminar session. The tutor will be asking all students for their informed views. No hiding!

Remember that all seminar sessions include a chance to ask about anything that puzzles you. Additionally, the lecturer and tutor(s) have office hours and are generally willing to help.

Week 13: Introduction and organisation.

Q. What are masculinity and femininity, gender, sex and sexuality? Are all men masculine?

Tutor questions and class discussion. This is an informal lecture linking current theory with student experience.

Learning Outcome: Understand the principal concepts of gender and masculinity studies.

Week 14: Studying Men

Q: What makes a man? Is it his body? Or is gender a performance? Compare Butler and Connell's accounts of the construction of gender identity in relation to men.

R.W. Connell, Masculinities, ch. 2 HQ1090.3 CON

Charlotte Hooper, Manly States: Masculinities, Gender Politics and International Relations, ch. 1 HQ1090 HOO

Judith Butler, Gender Trouble, Preface (1999), Preface (1990), ch. 1 and conclusion HQ1154 BUT

Student presentation(s).

Learning Outcome: Understand sociological and cultural conceptions of 'men' and the debate over the significance of the body in relation to gender.

Week 15: Masculinities

Q: How does masculinity relate to men? What is hegemonic masculinity and subordinate masculinity? How useful is it to talk about masculinities rather than masculinity?

R.W. Connell, Masculinities, chs 3 and 8 HQ1090.3 CON
 Charlotte Hooper, Manly States, ch. 2 HQ1090 HOO
 Michael S. Kimmel, 'Masculinity as Homophobia', in Harry Brod and Michael Kaufman (eds), Theorizing Masculinities, ch. 7 HQ1088 THE

Student presentation(s).

Learning Outcome: Understand how 'coding' relates to ascriptions of gender, and gender-like categories and follow the development of masculinity studies.

Week 16: Masculinism and masculinities in IR

In what different ways can IR be said to be masculinist? What kind of connections exist between international relations and masculine identities?

Charlotte Hooper, Manly States, ch. 3 HQ1090 HOO
 J. Ann Tickner, 'Man, the State, and War: gendered perspectives on national security' in Gender in International Relations: feminist perspectives on achieving global security JX1391 TIC
 Carol Cohn, 'Sex and Death in the Rational World of Defence Intellectuals', Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society, 12:687-718. Issue Desk 912.

Learning Outcome: Understand the ways in which masculinism is hidden in the apparently de-gendered 'subject' and neutral science.

Week 17: Masculinities and Race

Q: Explore the intersections between race and gender in the historic construction of masculine identities How relevant is this to contemporary politics and political structures? Consider in relation to Southern Africa.

Charlotte Hooper, Manly States, pp. 72-5 and 84-6 HQ1090 HOO
 Lynne Segal, Slow Motion: Changing Masculinities, Changing Men, ch. 7 HQ1090 SEG
 Robert Morrell (ed.), Changing Men in Southern Africa, Introduction and Afterword_HQ1090.7.S6 CHA

Student presentation(s).

Learning Outcome: Understand the complex way in which gendered identities are always already racialised.

Week 18: Masculinity Politics

Q: Are men's movements compatible with the politics of either feminism or gay liberation?

R.W. Connell, Masculinities, chs 5-6 and 9 HQ1090.3 CON
 Michael Kaufmann, 'Men, Feminism and Men's Contradictory Experiences of Power' in Brod and Kaufman (eds), Theorizing Masculinities, ch 8 HQ1088 THE
 Tim Edwards, Erotics & Politics, ch 2 HQ76 EDW
 Alan Petersen, Unmasking the Masculine, ch 5 and conclusion HQ1090.3 PET

Student presentation(s).

Learning Outcome: Understand the tensions between feminist theory and practice, gay politics and masculinity politics.

Week 19: Masculinities, Violence and the Military

Q: What is the relationship between masculinities and state violence? How important is the military in shaping masculine identities?

R.W. Connell, Masculinities, ch 4 HQ1090.3 CON

David H.J. Morgan, 'Theatre of War: Combat, the Military and Masculinities', in Brod and Kaufman (eds), Theorizing Masculinities, ch 9 HQ1088 THE

Carol Cohn, 'Gays in the Military', in Marysia Zalewski and Jane Parpart (eds), The 'Man' Question in International Relations, ch7 JX1253.2 MAN

Cynthia Enloe, The Morning After: sexual politics at the end of the Cold War, chs 2-3 HQ1233 ENL

Student presentation(s).

Learning Outcome: Understand gendered definitions of violence and the state and how state violence is part of the construction of gender.

Week 20 Hegemonic masculinity in the Cold War and post –Cold War era

Q: How has hegemonic masculinity in the USA developed since WW2? How have US influenced elite masculinities evolved in the post Cold War era?

Charlotte Hooper, Manly States, chs 4-5 HQ1090 HOO

Barbara Ehrenreich, The Hearts of Men, chs 1, 10, 11 HQ1090 HER

Steve Niva, 'Tough and Tender', in Zalewski & Parpart (eds), The 'Man' Question, ch. 6 JX1253.2 MAN

Student presentation(s).

Learning Outcome To understand what the international dimension brings to the study of masculinities through a case study of US hegemonic masculinity.

Week 21 Hegemonic Masculinity, Islam and the 'War on Terrorism'

Q. How do Islamic masculinities differ from U.S. hegemonic masculinity? What about Israeli hegemonic masculinity? How is the war on terrorism shaping contemporary masculinities or being shaped by competition between them?

Your main reading for this topic will be from news media coverage of recent events.

Background reading:

Deniz Kandiyoti, 'The paradoxes of masculinity: Some thoughts on segregated societies', in Andrea Cornwall and Nancy Lindisfarne (eds), Dislocating Masculinity: Comparative Ethnographies, ch 12 HQ1090 DIS

Graham Dawson, 'The Blond Bedouin: Lawrence of Arabia, Imperial Adventure and the Imagining of English-British Masculinity', in Michael Roper and John Tosh (eds), Manful Assertions: Masculinities in Britain since 1800, ch 6 HQ1090.7.G7 MAN

Harry Brod, 'Some thoughts on Some Histories of Some Masculinities: Jews and Other Others', in Brod and Kaufman (eds), Theorizing Masculinities, ch. 5 HQ1088 THE

Learning outcome: To understand how interaction between different masculinities helps to shape them using a contemporary example with long historical roots. To analyse news media using theoretical tools developed through the course.

Week 22: Overview on Masculinities and International Relations

Q: How do the insights gained from studying masculinities relate to the discipline and practices of international relations? Does international relations help to construct masculine identities?

Charlotte Hooper *Manly States*, ch. 6 and Conclusion HQ1090 HOO
 Marysia Zalewski and Jane Parpart (eds), *The 'Man' Question in International Relations* chs 4, 5, and
 Conclusion JX1253.2 MAN
 Terrell Carver, 'Public Man and the Critique of Masculinities', *Political Theory* 24 (1996): 673-86 (e-journals)

Student presentation(s).

Learning Outcome, To evaluate connections between international relations as a field of study and the production of masculine identities.

Weeks 23 and 24

No seminars so that you can concentrate on writing your essays.

ESSAYS

You are asked to address the questions from the list (provided separately) in terms of **(1) the required textbooks (above), the relevant seminar-reading (above), and any other relevant academic sources of which some suggestions are made in 'Background Reading for Essays and Seminars' (above) (do examine your other course book lists for relevant material as well) and in terms of (2) issues and events from up-to-date politics.** This should come from a variety of sources that you investigate, e.g. **broadsheet newspapers, websites run by news agencies and governmental and non-governmental organisations, news media such as radio and TV.** These sources should be appropriately referenced. The Library and networked computing facilities on campus will obviously be helpful here, but you should use 'non-academic' sources as well. **Marking will be 50/50 between (1) analytical work on relevant concepts from the texts, and (2) analysis of contemporary political examples, demonstrating the connections.**

Remember to follow the Departmental guidelines on Bibliographies, Referencing and Plagiarism STRICTLY: <http://www.bris.ac.uk/politics/current-ug/bibliographies.html>

For details of essay writing, referencing, hand-in dates and penalties please see the Graduate Handbook.