

**Course title: Gender in International Relations**

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**Institution: Parahyangan Catholic University**

**Country: Indonesia**

**Course Outline:**

Globalisation has put issues like international migration, conflicts, human rights, labour, development and many others under the spotlight. Despite of the promised positive results and impacts of globalisation, the world today has witnessed how globalisation negatively affects many aspects of people's life.

Women, especially in developing countries, are those who are heavily affected by the excess of globalisation. The shift toward a more global world has created more problems and challenges for them. The earlier themes of gender studies, unequal treatments and opportunities between women and men in social, economic, and political sphere, have been extended. Today, women have to deal with issues like trafficking, labour migration and discrimination, poverty, political participation, human rights, conflicts, and development. IGOs, NGOs, and women activists make efforts to bring up these issues to the international level in order to get more and better attention, usually recognised as mainstreaming gender. Consequently, the wave of women's consciousness and the demands for women's empowerment have spread around the globe, including in the third world countries.

At the theoretical level, gender study has also gained greater attention from scholars of various fields, including International Relations. Although some still view gender studies as a contested field of study, which is still striving to secure a position in International Relations studies, its level and scope of analysis has developed extensively.

Based on the developments above, this course will focus on two main topics: gender approach and gender issues. During the first half of the semester the focus will be on gender approach. Gender approach falls under the critical theory group and often viewed as one of the lenses that can be used in portraying issues related to International Relations or as an analytical tool used to understand International Relations' phenomena. The last half of the semester will concentrate on gender issues related to different status/treatments between the two sexes, especially in the context of International Relations.

### **Aim of the course:**

The aim of this course is to introduce the students to the main assumptions and arguments of gender approach and also to the contemporary gender issues. It introduces the concept of gender and explains the position of gender studies in International Relations, both empirically and theoretically. It is expected that by the end of this course, students will get improved understanding on gender approach, more familiar with the common issues and be able to apply their knowledge by using gender approach as an analytical tool to understand and analyse International Relations issues, specifically gender related issues. The last part of this course will be devoted to the discussion on the empirical and theoretical future of gender studies in International Relations. In most cases this course probes Gender and International Relations through a focus on the third world perspectives and conditions.

### **Role of the Course in the overall degree curriculum**

This course is intended to be one of the elective courses for bachelor degree students. From time to time the department tries to improve the curriculum. One of the efforts is to offer more elective courses which accommodate the development in International Relations issues and phenomena. "Gender in International Relations" could be one of the elective courses where gender is discussed in depth, more than when gender is discussed in other courses. This course will provide basic knowledge and understanding for students who have interest on gender topics and would like to make it as the topic for their minor thesis.

### **Methods used:**

Since this course is designed as an introduction to the topic and the students are assumed to have basic but limited knowledge on the topic, the method used will be a combination of lectures and discussion. Lectures are used to provide the students with basic information/knowledge and the main ideas/arguments. During the discussions, the students are expected to apply the concepts they get from the lectures in various practical examples and issues related to gender. As a requirement for an interactive and productive discussion, students are required to enrich themselves with the examples and issues of gender from various resources.

### **Course requirements:**

Students are expected to complete all assigned readings and participate in class discussions. The grade will be based on one individual research paper (15 %), one group essay (15 %), mid semester examination (30%), and final examination (40 %). Exams consist of essay questions. The research paper will be on a topic of student's choice pertaining to any aspects of gender studies in International Relations context. Higher score will be given to a work which shows originality, systematic writing and logical analysis which is based on strong understanding of concepts and in depth knowledge of the issues.

### **Course Schedule**

#### **Week 1 : Where are the women ? (Introduction and Terminologies)**

This first meeting will start with an introduction to the subject. Students will be encouraged to discuss any topics or issues related to gender. The result of the discussion (the present knowledge of the students) will be used as a basis to introduce the terminologies such as gender, women, feminism, discrimination, empowerment, mainstreaming, etc. The focus will be on the concept of gender. It will also involve discussions on the various roles of men and (especially) women in society.

### **Readings :**

#### **Mandatory :**

- Grant, R. and Newland, K., (Eds.), (1991), *Gender and International Relations*, Open University Press, Buckingham.
- Steans, J., (1998), *Gender and International Relations*, Blackwell Publishing, Oxford.
- Tickner, J.A., (2001), *Gendering World Politics*, Columbia University Press, New York.

#### **Recommended :**

Any sources

## **Week 2 : Gender Approach in International Relations**

This class will be an introduction to gender approach. The main topic will be its genesis, locus, main arguments, assumptions, perspectives and thoughts.

### **Readings :**

#### **Mandatory :**

- Braig, M. and Wolte, S. (Eds.), (2002), *Common Ground or Mutual Exclusion ? Women's Movements & International Relations*, Zed Books, London.
- Grant, R. and Newland, K., (Eds.), (1991), *Gender and International Relations*, Open University Press, Buckingham.
- Peterson, V. S. and Runyan, A.S., (1999), *Global Gender Issues*, Westview Press, Colorado.
- Steans, J., (1998), *Gender and International Relations*, Blackwell Publishing, Oxford.
- Tickner, J.A., (2001), *Gendering World Politics*, Columbia University Press, New York.

#### **Recommended :**

- Hooper, C., (2001), *Manly States, Masculinities, International Relations, and Gender Politics*, Columbia University Press, New York.
- Sylvester, C., (2002), *Feminist International Relations, An Unfinished Journey*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

## **Week 3 : Gender Approach Views on International Relations issues**

As a continuation of the previous class, in this class, students will be given an example of how gender approach view international relations' phenomena/issues. Students are expected to participate actively by giving comments and/or other examples.

### **Readings :**

#### **Mandatory :**

- Braig, M. and Wolte, S. (Eds.), (2002), *Common Ground or Mutual Exclusion ? Women's Movements & International Relations*, Zed Books, London.
- Enloe, C., (2000), *Bananas, Beaches and Bases*, University of California Press, London.
- Peterson, V. S. and Runyan, A.S., (1999), *Global Gender Issues*, Westview Press, Colorado.

#### **Recommended :**

- Pearson, R., (2000), "Moving the goalposts: Gender and globalisation in the twenty-first century", *Gender and Development*, Vol. 8, No. 1.

## **Week 4: Gender in the third world, an overview**

Although the different socio-economic status between men and women can be found in any place in the world, the situation in the third world countries needs to be discussed separately. The social, political, cultural and economic conditions are different from developed (northern) countries. Thus, this class will focus on discussing the status of men and women in developing countries and problems faced by women in developing countries such as: discrimination,

poverty, etc. It will also present a brief comparison with the status of men and women in developed countries.

### **Readings :**

#### **Mandatory :**

- Enloe, C., (2000), *Bananas, Beaches and Bases*, University of California Press, London.
- Haynes, J. (2002), *Politics in the Developing World: A Concise Introduction*, Blackwell Publishing, Oxford.

#### **Recommended :**

- Desai, V. and Potter, R.B. (Eds.), (2002), *The Companion to Development Studies*, Arnold, London.

### **Week 5: Gender and globalisation**

This class will discuss the different roles of men and women in the globalisation process and the impacts of globalisation on them (especially women). Some of the specific topics discussed will be SAP, poverty, women trafficking, and women's capacity and opportunity to get involve actively in a more globalized world.

### **Readings :**

#### **Mandatory :**

- Enloe, C., (2000), *Bananas, Beaches and Bases*, University of California Press, London.
- Haynes, J. (2002), *Politics in the Developing World: A Concise Introduction*, Blackwell Publishing, Oxford.
- Meyer, M.K. and Prugl, E. (Eds.), (1999), *Gender Politics in Global Governance*, Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc., Maryland.

#### **Recommended :**

- Anderson, B., (2001), "Just Another Job ? Paying for Domestic Work", *Gender and Development*, Vol. 9, No. 1.
- Berman, J., (2003), "(Un)Popular Strangers and Crises Unbounded: Discourses of Sex-Trafficking, the European Political Community and the Panicked State of the Modern State", *European Journal of International Relations*, Vol. 9, No. 1.
- Skjelsbaek, I., (2001), "Sexual Violence and War: Mapping Out a Complex Relationship", *European Journal of International Relations*, Vol. 7, No. 2.

### **Week 6: Gender in (Global) Economy**

This topic is highly related with the previous topic but it will focus on the issue of women and economy. The topics will be among others: women and market, feminization of labour, migration of labour, women and fair trade.

### **Readings :**

#### **Mandatory :**

- Beneria, L. (2003), *Gender, Development, and Globalization, : Economics as if All People Mattered*, Routledge, New York.
- Steans, J., (1998), *Gender and International Relations*, Blackwell Publishing, Oxford.
- Tickner, J.A., (2001), *Gendering World Politics*, Columbia University Press, New York.

**Recommended :**

- Hooper, C., (2001), *Manly States, Masculinities, International Relations, and Gender Politics*, Columbia University Press, New York.

**Week 7: Mid Semester Examination**

**Week 8: Gender and Development**

The development concept brought from the more democratic and developed world to the less democratic and developed countries has created positive and negative impacts in the societies. This topic will discuss the Structural Adjustment Programme (the main requirement of most development aids) and its impacts such as poverty and the degradation of women's conditions.

**Readings :**

**Mandatory :**

- Beneria, L. (2003), *Gender, Development, and Globalization, : Economics as if All People Mattered*, Routledge, New York.
- Braig, M. and Wolte, S. (Eds.), (2002), *Common Ground or Mutual Exclusion ? Women's Movements & International Relations*, Zed Books, London.
- Desai, V. and Potter, R.B. (Eds.), (2002), *The Companion to Development Studies*, Arnold, London.
- Steans, J., (1998), *Gender and International Relations*, Blackwell Publishing, Oxford.

**Recommended :**

- El-Bushra, J., (2000), "Rethinking gender and development practice for the twenty-first century", *Gender and Development*, Vol. 8, No. 1.

**Week 10: Gender in world politics (women and state)**

Another arena where there is a significant gap between men and women and where there is an existence of women is the political arena. This topic will focus on the relation between women and state, women's political representation and women's participation in decision making and democratization process.

**Readings :**

**Mandatory :**

- Brill, A. (Ed), (1995), *A Rising Public Voice, Women in Politics Worldwide*, The Feminist Press, New York.
- Karl, M., (1995), *Women and Empowerment: Participation and Decision Making*, Zed Books, Ltd., London.

- Peterson, V. S. and Runyan, A.S., (1999), *Global Gender Issues*, Westview Press, Colorado.
- Steans, J., (1998), *Gender and International Relations*, Blackwell Publishing, Oxford.
- Tickner, J.A., (2001), *Gendering World Politics*, Columbia University Press, New York.

#### **Recommended :**

- Abdela, L., (2000), "From Palm Tree to Parliament: training women for political leadership and public life", *Gender and Development*, Vol. 8, No. 3.
- Eschle, C., (2002), "Engendering Global Democracy", *International Feminist Journal of Politics*, 4:3.

#### **Week 9: Women movements and organizations**

As an effort to mainstream gender issues women activists, feminists and their supporters have initiated women movements and organizations. This topic will look into their main aims, objectives, and activities/efforts. Obstacles and opportunities will also be discussed along with the international community's attention toward gender/women issues and empowerment.

#### **Readings :**

##### **Mandatory :**

- Braig, M. and Wolte, S. (Eds.), (2002), *Common Ground or Mutual Exclusion ? Women's Movements & International Relations*, Zed Books, London.

##### **Recommended :**

- Mackie, V., (2001), "The Language of Globalization, Transnationality and Feminism", *International Feminist Journal of Politics*, 3:2.
- Reinalda, B., (2000), "The international women's movement as a private political actor between accommodation and change" in Ronit, K. and Schneider, V. (Eds.), *Private Organisations in Global Politics*, Routledge, London.
- Tzvetkova, M., (2002), "NGO responses to trafficking in women", *Gender and Development*, Vol. 10, No. 1.

#### **Week 11: Gender in War, Conflict, Peace and Security**

Wars and conflicts around the world have brought severe impacts to the society. Women and children are those who highly suffer because of the conflicts. This topic will discuss the conditions of women during and after conflicts and the efforts to protect women during conflicts and to restore their life post-conflicts. This topic will also look into the securitization of gender issues.

#### **Readings :**

##### **Mandatory :**

- Peterson, V. S. and Runyan, A.S., (1999), *Global Gender Issues*, Westview Press, Colorado.
- Steans, J., (1998), *Gender and International Relations*, Blackwell Publishing, Oxford.
- Tickner, J.A., (2001), *Gendering World Politics*, Columbia University Press, New York.

**Recommended :**

- Clifton, D. and Gell, F., (2001), "Saving and protecting lives by empowering women", *Gender and Development*, Vol. 9, No. 3.
- Hansen, L., (2001), "Gender, Nation, Rape, Bosnia and the Construction of Security", *International Feminist Journal of Politics*, Vol. 3, No. 1.

**Week 12: The future of Gender in International Relations**

Having discussed the gender approach and issues, this last class will be a reflection on the future of gender approach and issues in international relations context. It will list the obstacles and opportunities, discuss the possible efforts to mainstream gender issues by pushing gender issues into transnational affairs and international debates, and finally to engender policies at the national and international level. This concluding session will look into various views on gender approach and issues and various alternatives offered in dealing with gender in International Relations in the future.

**Readings :****Mandatory :**

- Peterson, V. S. and Runyan, A.S., (1999), *Global Gender Issues*, Westview Press, Colorado.
- Steans, J., (1998), *Gender and International Relations*, Blackwell Publishing, Oxford.
- Tickner, J.A., (2001), *Gendering World Politics*, Columbia University Press, New York.

**Recommended :**

Any sources

**Week 13 (or put in earlier week): Guest lecture (women activists, analysts, and/or government representatives)**

**Week 14: Final Examination**

