

Sabancı University
Fall 2007

Cult 443/543
GENDER, WAR AND PEACE

Tuesday, 2.40 – 5.30pm
FASS G048

Ayşe Gül Altınay

Office Hours:
Tuesday 10.30 – 12.30
FASS 1051
(216) 483 92 86
altinay@sabanciuniv.edu

This course explores the gendered aspects of wars, militarism, and peace politics. The first part of the course, *War, Militarism and Gender*, focuses on the ways in which wars, militaries and military service have shaped gendered self understandings in the 20th century. The second part, *Women, Feminism and Peace*, explores women's peace activism in different parts of the world and analyzes feminist theorizing on war and peace.

20th century has been “a century of wars, global and local, hot and cold” (Catherine Lutz). For women, it has been a century of struggle globally. Women have been both victims and active participants of wars. They have, at times, been at the front, fighting alongside of men, or working in ammunition factories, or propagating nationalist/racist policies at the “home front.” But women have more often been strong opponents of wars and militarist politics. They have organized creative forms of protest, around the world, to voice their demands for peace and equality. Feminist politics, starting with the first wave of feminism, has been intricately connected to peace politics, sometimes uneasily. This course aims to highlight and critically analyze those connections or their lack of.

How have militaries and wars shaped our understanding of masculinity and femininity? What are the connections between war and nationalism? How has the nature of war changed in the past century? Are women "preservers of peace" and men "warriors" by nature? What do women do when men go to war? What happens when women go to war? Were the Nazis only men? What were Nazi women doing at 'home'? How do anti-militarist women activists in Israel, Argentina, Ireland, Turkey, and former-Yugoslavia experience and articulate their politics and gender identities? How has the concept of “motherhood” been problematized and politicized by feminist scholars and peace activists? What visions do feminisms offer for the future of feminist politics and peace politics? These are some of the questions that will inform our discussions in class.

Requirements

The class will be organized as a seminar. The most important requirement is for you to come to class having done the readings. Students enrolled under Cult 543 will be asked to do additional reading for each week (listed under *Cult 543* in the weekly Course Schedule). All written assignments need to be submitted to SUCourse.

- **Attendance and Participation (15%)** Attendance is required and participation in class discussions will play a major role in the success of the course, as well as in your grades.
- **Film Review (5%)** In the first week, you will be asked to write a 4-5 page review of the films *Full Metal Jacket* and *Saving Private Ryan*, discussing their depictions of war, violence, and gender. (due Oct 2, before class)
- **Biennial Review (5%)** The topic for the 10th International Istanbul Biennial is: “Not only possible, but also necessary, optimism in the age of global war.” The Biennial is free with student ID. Please visit the Biennial sites and write a review of the works that have to do with “war and peace,” making sure to discuss their gendered aspects. (due Oct 23rd, before class).
- **Discussion (10%)** Starting with the second week, one student will be responsible for leading the discussion for that week by introducing questions and issues for discussion.
- **Midterm Exam (30%)** There will be a mid-term exam during the regular class hour on December 4th.
- **Final Paper (35%)** The final paper (15-20 pages) will be a research paper on a topic of your own choice. This paper will provide an opportunity for you to focus on a particular theme and use the concepts and approaches covered in the course to develop your own analysis. I ask that you discuss your topic with me before writing the paper. A two paragraph synopsis of the paper is due **December 14th** (by 5pm) and the final paper is due **January 18th** (by 5 pm).

**** Plagiarism Notice****

Every paper you submit to me should be an original piece of writing, presenting *your* ideas in *your own words* unless otherwise noted. Everything you borrow from books, articles, visual material or web sites (including those in the syllabus) should be properly cited. You are free to use sources outside of the course material as long as you cite them. You are also free (in fact, encouraged) to discuss your papers and research ideas with others (including your friends in the class), but it is important that you *do not share your writing* with anyone until it has been graded. Plagiarism is a very serious misdeed that can result in a reduced grade or an F (for the paper and/or the course). Please pay utmost attention to avoid it.

Course Material

The course reader (comprising of articles and book sections) is available at the photocopy center. All book are available on Reserve (Information Center).

Course Schedule

Section I - War, Militarism and Gender

Week 1: Introduction (September 25)

Introduction and film screening:

Full Metal Jacket (dir. Stanley Kubrick)

Saving Private Ryan (dir. Steven Spielberg)

Week 2: War, Militarism and Nationalism (October 2) ----- Film review due

- Lutz, "Making War at Home in the United States: Militarization and the Current Crisis"
- Vagts, selections from *A History of Militarism* (pp.13-41, 104-116, 129-143, 451-458)
- Andreski, "Militarism"
- Tilly, "War and the Power of Warmakers in Western Europe and Elsewhere, 1600-1980"
- Sivard, "Warfare"
- Gibson, Selections from *Warrior Dreams: Paramilitary Culture in Post-Vietnam America* (pp.17-50)

Cult 543:

- Scarry, selections from *The Body in Pain* (pp.60-91)
- Koonz, selections from *The Nazi Conscience* (46-68)

Week 3: Military Service: Claims to Citizenship (October 9)

- Feinman, "Martial Service and Military (Masculine) Citizenship"
- Kerber, "May All Our Citizens be Soldiers and All Our Soldiers Citizens: The Ambiguities of Female Citizenship in the New Nation"
- Forrest, "Citizenship and Military Service"
- TBMM Zabıt Ceridesi, Askerlik Kanunu Görüşmeleri (1927)

Cult 543:

- Kiernan, "Conscription and Society in Europe before the War of 1914-18"

Week 4: Military Service: Constructions of Masculinity and Femininity (October 16)

- Sengsook Moon, selections from *Militarized Modernity and Gendered Citizenship in South Korea* (pp.44-94)
- Sinclair-Webb "Our Bülent is Now a Commando?: Military Service and Manhood in Turkey"
- Sıtkı, "Askerlikten Dönüş"
- Altınay, "Becoming a Man, Becoming a Citizen"

Cult 543:

- Koonz, selections from *The Nazi Conscience* (221-252)

Week 5: Gendering War and Nationalism (October 23) ----- Biennial review due

- Peterson, “Gendered Nationalism: Reproducing ‘Us’ versus ‘Them’”
- Nagel, “Masculinity and Nationalism: Gender and Sexuality in The Making of Nations”
- Cohn, “Wars, Wimps, and Women: Talking Gender and Thinking War”
- Altınay, *Sabiha Gökçen: Women, Nation and the Military*

Cult 543

- Mater, *Mehmedin Kitabı* (or the English translation: *Voices from the Front*)

Recommended Reading:

- Connell, “The Social Organization of Masculinity” in *Masculinities*
- Saigol, “Militarization, Nation and Gender: Women’s Bodies as Arenas of Violent Conflict”
- Najmabadi, “The Erotic *Vatan* [Homeland] as Beloved and Mother: To Love, To Possess, and To Protect”
- Enloe, “The Laundress, the Soldier, and the State” and “The Prostitute, the Colonel, and the Nationalist” in *Maneuvers*

Week 6: Women and Wars : Militarized Masculinity and Rape (October 30)

Film screening: *Breaking the History of Silence* (68min)

- Enloe, “When Soldiers Rape” in *Maneuvers*
- Copelon, “Surfacing Gender: Reconceptualizing Crimes Against Women in Time of War”
- Read About the UN Security Council Resolution 1325 <http://daccess-ods.un.org/TMP/3616742.html>

Cult 543

- Mac Kinnon, “Turning Rape Into Pornography: Postmodern Genocide”
- Mac Kinnon, “Rape, Genocide and Women’s Human Rights”

Weeks 7: Women and Wars: The Frontlines and the “Home Front” (November 6)

- Enloe, “Paying Close Attention to Women Inside Militaries”
- Woollacott, “Women Munition Makers, War and Citizenship”
- Klein, “War and Gender: What Do We Learn from Israel?”
- Nordstrom, “Girls Behind the (Front) Lines”
- Chenoy, “Militarization, Conflict, and Women in South Asia”

543:

- Enloe, “If a Woman is ‘Married to the Military’, Who is the Husband?” in *Maneuvers*

Recommended Reading:

- Koonz, *Mothers in the Fatherland*

November 12-16 – Fall Break

Section II - Women, Feminism and Peace

Week 8: Feminism and Peace (November 20)

- Woolf, *Three Guineas* (available as an e-book on IC website)
- Goldman, “Patriotism as a Cause of War”
- Jane Adams, “Democracy or Militarism,” “War is not a Natural Activity” and “Maturing Concepts of Peace”

Week 9: Feminism and Peace: Working Across Boundaries (November 27)

- Cockburn, “Why (and which) Feminist Antimilitarism?” and “Being Able to Say Neither/Nor” accessible at <http://www.cynthiacockburn.org>
- Mladjenovic, “Women in Black Against War (Belgrade)” and “Feminist Politics in the Anti-War Movement in Belgrade”
- Cockburn, selections from *From Where We Stand: War, Women’s Activism and Feminist Analysis* (pp.79-105)
- Visit the website of the *Women in Black* <http://www.womeninblack.org/> and <http://www.womeninblack.net/>
- Read About Bat Shalom and the Jerusalem Center for Women (Israeli and Palestinian Women’s Centers working together for peace as part of the Jerusalem Link): <http://www.batshalom.org/> and <http://www.j-c-w.org/>

543:

- Cockburn, selections from *From Where We Stand: War, Women’s Activism and Feminist Analysis* (pp.106-131)

IN CLASS EXAM (December 4)

Weeks 11: Mothers, Widows and Peace (December 11)

Film Screening: *Regret to Inform*

- Visit <http://www.warwidows.org/> and read about War Widows International Peace Alliance and Regret to Inform
- Read about the Mothers and Grandmothers of Plaza de Mayo in Argentina: <http://www.wamani.apc.org/abuelas/ingles.html> and <http://www.madres.org/>
- Zeiger, “She Didn’t Raise Her Boy To Be a Slacker: Motherhood, Conscription, and the Culture of the First World War”
- Swerdlow, selections from *Women Strike for Peace: Traditional Motherhood and Radical Politics in the 1960s*

543:

- Mazali, “Parenting Troops: The Summons to Acquiescence”

Weeks 12: Debating Motherhood (December 18)

- Ruddick, “Maternal Thinking” and “‘Woman of Peace’: A Feminist Construction”
- Scheper-Hughes, “Maternal Thinking and the Politics of War”
- di Leonardo, “Morals, Mothers, and Militarism: Antimilitarism and Feminist Theory”
- Theweleit, “The Bomb’s Womb and the Genders of War (War Goes on Preventing Women From Becoming The Mothers of Invention)”

543:

- Dietz, “Citizenship with a Feminist Face: The Problem with Maternal Thinking”

Week 13: Criticisms and Imagining Connections (December 25)

- Cockburn, selections from *From Where We Stand: War, Women’s Activism and Feminist Analysis* (pp.206-259)
- Tickner, selections from *Gendering World Politics*

543:

- Cock, selections from *Colonels and Cadres: War and Gender in South Africa* (pp.187-214)

December 26

Cultural Studies Speaker Series: Pinar Bilgin (Bilkent University), “Secularism and Women’s Insecurity in Turkey”

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Week 14: What Does Demilitarization Look Like? (January 8)

- Enloe, “Demilitarization – Or More of the Same? Feminist Questions to ask in the Postwar Moment”
- Enloe, selections from *Globalization and Militarism: Feminists Make the Link*

Final Paper due January 18, 5pm (SUCourse)