

# GENDER POLITICS

*PSCI/ HONR 216-11SS*

*Spring 2019*

TUESDAY and THURSDAYS, 11-12:15pm

Carlson 214



Instructor: Dr. Linda Hasunuma (pronounced Ha-sue-new-mah)

Office hours: Mondays: 4:30-5:30, Tuesdays 2-5pm, and by appt.

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(It's better to email me directly at this address rather than through canvas.

The email cuts off the last "a" in hasunuma)



## COURSE DESCRIPTION AND GOALS

How does gender impact the political process and the politics of a country, and across countries? First, we assess the differences between men and women's political behavior, attitudes, and their participation levels as voters in the United States and around the world. We critically evaluate the different theoretical frameworks used to explain these differences in political behavior. Then, we consider women's participation in government as political candidates and elected representatives. What explains the great variation in the degree of female representation across the world's legislatures? Why did Finland and Sweden have over 40% of women in their parliaments, while democracies like France and the United States have had about 15%? Why have some non-democracies had female Presidents and Prime Ministers, while the US has not? What factors impact the level of female representation, and why does this matter for politics and policy outcomes? For this part of the course, we use an institutions based approach to see what variables help or hurt female candidates win elected offices at the national and local levels across countries, and evaluate the substantive impact of women in politics on various policy outcomes.

Since the first two sections of the course rely on data and scholarship based on more “developed” economies and democracies, the third part of our class explores women’s status and opportunities and strategies for political representation and inclusion in non-democracies or “developing” economies. In these contexts, we analyze how women impact politics outside of established political institutions and processes. What resources can women have in such political systems or societies? How have women’s movements and other social, political, and economic movements impacted politics at home and internationally? We will also look at the connections between gender inequality and economic and political development; globalization and women’s labor; women and war; and the role women have played in recent democratic uprisings in the and social protest movements around the world. We will include the role and impact of new media, especially social and digital media and women’s activism and movements. Guest speakers will be invited to present on topics related to women’s economic and political empowerment. *This is an introductory course that provides a survey of the field so no previous background in political science and/or gender studies is required.*



## STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students will become familiar with the current political science scholarship on these issues and critically evaluate the different theoretical approaches and methodologies used in the discipline. They will also have the opportunity to explore a topic of personal interest in greater depth, and present their research findings in a simulated student conference at the end of the semester.

## GRADED REQUIREMENTS

Participation	20%	(attendance, discussion, collaboration, and reflection)
Midterm	20%	
Paper	20%	
Final	20%	
Class projects	20%	

(contributions to digital archive/website, Women's History Month planning, community service project, etc.)

## 2 REQUIRED TEXTS

- 1) Seager, Joni. *The Penguin Atlas of Women in the World: Completely Revised and Updated* (Paperback), Penguin (2003). (Student will use other resources to update some of the data and patterns).
- 2) Paxton, Pamela and Melanie M. Hughes. *Women, Politics, and Power: A Global Perspective* (Sociology for a New Century Series) (Paperback, illustrated edition), Pine Forge Press (March 6, 2007). In the course schedule, it will be noted as "WPP." This is a 200 level survey course so the textbook is good for students without a background in political science or gender studies, but we will be using essays, journal articles, and other media and resources for analyses so check Canvas each week.



## References we will use throughout the course:

<http://www.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/annual-report>

<https://www.weforum.org/reports/the-global-gender-gap-report-2017>

<http://www.oecd.org/dac/gender-development/about-gendernet.htm>

<https://www.idea.int/our-work/what-we-do/gender-democracy>

<http://archive.ipu.org/wmn-e/world.htm>

<https://wbl.worldbank.org/>

<http://genderandsecurity.org/>

<https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/politics-and-gender>

<http://www.cawp.rutgers.edu/>

<https://wappp.hks.harvard.edu/about-wappp>

<https://giwps.georgetown.edu/>

(plus other journals that publish work on gender and feminist foreign policy)

**Please check Canvas for additional required and supplemental readings** from academic journals, news sources, and other resources.



## **COURSE POLICIES**

Everyone is expected to actively participate in class discussions and come to class prepared, so all the required readings for each lecture should be done before we meet for class. I will email or distribute preview questions in class to help you prepare for discussion.

**Attendance and participation** are part of your course grade so if you are frequently absent or late, it will count against you as you cannot participate if you are not here. After 2 freebie absences and 2 freebie late arrivals, I will take points off. If you have participated 3 times in class, I will try to call on others so that we can get as many different perspectives as possible. We want to include as many students in discussion as we can, and we will change the seating arrangement often so that you can collaborate with different students.

**Late papers will be penalized** a half-letter grade for each day the paper is late. If you have circumstances in your life that make it hard to meet the deadline, please come and talk to me during office hours.

**Cell phones and electronic devices must be turned off** during class time. Please do not text, instant message, or surf the web, while you are in class. No electronic devices are allowed in the class during exams. Unless approved for class exercises, please don't use laptops or cell phones during class.

Again, if you have life challenges and circumstances that may prevent you from meeting deadlines or coming to class regularly, reach out and please come by to talk to me in person.

## THE RESEARCH PAPER AND PRESENTATION (8 pages)

This course gives each student an opportunity to investigate an issue or topic of personal interest (related to our course themes) in greater depth. Upon completion of the paper, students will then present their research and findings in a simulated conference at the end of the semester.



Below are some possible papers topics (a separate paper and presentation guideline will be distributed, and you will have an opportunity to develop your paper topic with me and in a group workshop).

- Religion and policies or practices related to women (marriage, divorce, rape, or property rights)
- Women and economic empowerment (policies related to labor, wages, property rights, etc.)
- Policies related to women's health or reproductive rights
- A female politician or leader and how she influenced political or policy change in her country or government
- Women and globalization (sex trafficking, nannies, and female labor migration)
- Women and war (terrorism, rape as a weapon of war, women in the military)
- How institutional changes help or hurt women's representation in a country
- Women and legislative or presidential campaigns in the US or another country (profile of a woman elected to Congress this past November 2018)
- Gender and disaster (planning and policies, climate change and impact on women)
- Maternal Health, education, or other questions related to public policy outcomes for women
- Race, gender, sexual orientation, and politics or policy; use an intersectional analysis
- Gender and justice (US or other countries, legal system, Supreme Court)
- Book/memoir review: Sonia Sotomayer, Michelle Obama, Ruth Bader Ginsberg
- Your paper can also be on the class community service project or a profile of a UB or Bridgeport woman for our archive.

## **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

Cheating on exams and plagiarism will result in an automatic failure for that assignment, and the course. It is imperative that you speak with me immediately if you are not sure what constitutes cheating or plagiarism. Any idea (directly quoted or paraphrased) must be cited properly. Data, theories, and findings you integrate into your paper, must be cited as well. Collaborating with other students and submitting it as your own work, re-submitting papers written by other students, submitting a paper you submitted previously for another class, or submitting papers available on-line as your own, for example, will result in an F for the assignment and course. We will have a class discussion on academic integrity and the university's policies. [LINK TO UB STUDENT HANDBOOK: .](#)

## **STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

If you are a student with a disability please speak with me during office hours. UB and I are committed to doing our best to accommodate you.

## **OFFICE HOURS AND E-MAIL**

Please feel free to come to office hours or e-mail me if you have any questions or concerns about the class. I also like to send preview questions for discussion or reminders by email via Canvas so please check our course Canvas page weekly for previews, resources, and any other required readings.



# COURSE SCHEDULE

The schedule may be changed depending on guest speaker availability and/or snow days.

We will have guest speakers and skype-ins on gender and security, gender and development, and more (more details soon!)

Featured speakers will be Nimmi Gowrinathan <http://www.deviarchy.com/about-nimmi/>

Melisa Abad, Intersectionality Expert at Stanford's VMWare Women's Leadership Innovation Lab

A trip to UN Women events or side events in March (not required, but encouraged) and visits to the site for our community service project.

Date	Topic	Readings
T, 1/22	Welcome and introductions to each other and the course. The big questions, debates, and theories	Post intros to discussion board <a href="https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2019/01/14/us/politics/women-of-the-116th-congress.html?fbclid=IwAR1XOEknEvZZTPbbMWnITuWauOSk-EWX6tkgAOpaaf5qcui_-0N0wpljQ0">https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2019/01/14/us/politics/women-of-the-116th-congress.html?fbclid=IwAR1XOEknEvZZTPbbMWnITuWauOSk-EWX6tkgAOpaaf5qcui_-0N0wpljQ0</a>
Th, 1/24	Gender as a construct, gender exercises, media analysis, and <b>intersectionality</b> , reflections  <b>Women's History Month Planning</b> Women's History Month: <a href="https://womenshistorymonth.gov/about/">https://womenshistorymonth.gov/about/</a>  International Women's Day <a href="https://www.internationalwomensday.com/">https://www.internationalwomensday.com/</a>  Digital Archive/Website  Community Service project for the class	WPP chapter 1 Post gender reflections to discussion board Crenshaw's intersectionality <a href="https://www.google.com/search?q=kimberle+crenshaw+intersectionality+ted+talk&amp;rlz=1C5CHFA_enUS770US771&amp;oq=Kimberle+Crenshaw+inter&amp;aqs=chrome.1.69i57j0l5.6580j0j7&amp;sourceid=chrome&amp;ie=UTF-8">https://www.google.com/search?q=kimberle+crenshaw+intersectionality+ted+talk&amp;rlz=1C5CHFA_enUS770US771&amp;oq=Kimberle+Crenshaw+inter&amp;aqs=chrome.1.69i57j0l5.6580j0j7&amp;sourceid=chrome&amp;ie=UTF-8</a>  <a href="https://www.facebook.com/wapodocs/videos/352494585576203/UzpfSTeyOTQxOTY3MDQ6MTAyMTc5MjU3NDUzNTcyOTY/">https://www.facebook.com/wapodocs/videos/352494585576203/UzpfSTeyOTQxOTY3MDQ6MTAyMTc5MjU3NDUzNTcyOTY/</a>  Optional documentary: "Miss Representation" <a href="https://www.netflix.com/title/70167128">https://www.netflix.com/title/70167128</a>
T, 1/29	FORMAL REPRESENTATION  SUFFRAGE: The struggle for the vote    <b>Women's History Month Planning</b> (a lecture, an event, film screening, or student led discussion on campus) Women in sports, science, engineering, the arts, law, Podcast or conversation with the College President?	WPP, Chapter 2 Critical perspectives of the US suffrage movement: <a href="https://www.womenshistory.org/resources/general/woman-suffrage-movement">https://www.womenshistory.org/resources/general/woman-suffrage-movement</a>  <a href="https://www.nytimes.com/2018/07/28/opinion/sunday/suffrage-movement-racism-black-women.html">https://www.nytimes.com/2018/07/28/opinion/sunday/suffrage-movement-racism-black-women.html</a>  <a href="https://www.forbes.com/sites/1850brandcoffee/2019/01/04/former-college-classmates-team-up-to-create-voting-app-for-millennials/?fbclid=IwAR1y5nZl5z1iBlxFCh4s_FMDySyWQTztnpBss0xf8ul2stj7tcQwnCCHep0#5a57acd32bf1">https://www.forbes.com/sites/1850brandcoffee/2019/01/04/former-college-classmates-team-up-to-create-voting-app-for-millennials/?fbclid=IwAR1y5nZl5z1iBlxFCh4s_FMDySyWQTztnpBss0xf8ul2stj7tcQwnCCHep0#5a57acd32bf1</a>
Th, 1/31	DESCRIPTIVE REPRESENTATION Women's leadership	WPP Ch. 3
T, 2/5	<b>Black History Month</b> <b>Theoretical Perspectives:</b> the Cultural, Social, and Structural Explanations; SUPPLY and DEMAND framework  Cultural, Social, and Structural Barriers	WPP Ch. 4 and 5  Optional: "Men Rule: The Continued Under-Representation of Women in US Politics" by Lawless and Fox.
Th, 2/7	<b>PAPER TOPICS ARE DUE</b> Videos from the Maker's Conference <a href="https://www.makers.com/#">https://www.makers.com/#</a>	
	INSTITUTIONS: electoral systems, quotas	WPP Ch. 6

T, 2/12	Global variation in women's representation SUPPLY AND DEMAND, INSTITUTIONS Which countries use quotas? Are they democratic or not? Know the different types of quotas used.	Optional: IDEA publication: "Women in Parliament: Beyond Numbers" resource Matland Ch. 3 in IDEA pdfs and Rule and Zimmerman: "Electoral Systems in Comparative Perspective: Their Impact on Women and Minorities; Bhavnani (quotas in India); Galligan (analysis of quotas around the world)
Th, 2/14	Women and Policies: Critical Mass; do women matter for policy outputs? Should they? Descriptive vs. substantive representation What are "women's issues"?	WPP Ch. 8 Women in the House and Senate, Women in other parliaments, Swers on the House and Senate
T, 2/19	Women and Politics in the US Legislative (roll call vote study, campaign funding, voters) Women and Presidential Politics and Campaigns media bias and effects?	WPP Ch. 9  Race and representation Ch. From Nadia E. Brown <i>Sisters in the State House</i>
Th, 2/21	<b>A LOOK AT US CONGRESSIONAL MIDTERM ELECTIONS 2018 AND WOMEN</b> , Women in Local CT politics	Student discussion Black History Month and Women, Jahana Hayes profile
T, 2/26	Paper Workshop and Midterm Review, check-in on Women's History Month planning	
Th, 2/28	Midterm	
T, 3/5	<b>Launch of Women's History Month</b> Community Service project, digital archive, International Women's Day	<a href="https://www.internationalwomensday.com/">https://www.internationalwomensday.com/</a> Read one of the chapters (WPP 10-15) Students can present on a country or one of the following regions Africa, Latin America, Middle East and North Africa, Asia Pacific, E. Europe and C. Asia, the EU and US.
Th, 3/7	Students provide a regional overview and/or a country case example	
T, 3/12 Th, 3/14	<b>SPRING BREAK 3/10-17</b>	
T, 3/19	Global Perspective, Regional Inequalities,  Globalization and Women, gender, migration, and labor, women, health, economic empowerment	Atlas Gowrinathan: <a href="https://ssir.org/articles/entry/the_missing_politics_of_female_empowerment">https://ssir.org/articles/entry/the_missing_politics_of_female_empowerment</a> Critique of NGOs, gender and development <b>Microfinance and Its Discontents</b> Karim: Women in Debt in Bangladesh, 2011
Th, 3/21	Gender and Security	UN reports and data, understanding the linkages between gender and development, gender and democratization Gender and Security resources: <a href="http://genderandsecurity.org/">http://genderandsecurity.org/</a> <a href="http://www.pbs.org/wnet/women-war-and-peace/">http://www.pbs.org/wnet/women-war-and-peace/</a> Gowrinathan pdf on Tamil women and security
T, 3/26	Women and war: rape as a weapon of war, Eastern Europe and African cases; justice, comfort women	Sarajevo, Bosnia Carter: Rape as a Weapon of War pdf Women, War, and Peace Resources
Th, 3/28	Women and terrorism, women in the military, International Treaties and Women, role of women and peace treaties, post-conflict	Selections from Gender, Violence, and Human Security by Tripp, Ferree, and Ewig
T, 4/2	<b>Papers are due</b> Intersectionality, race and sexual orientation, lgbtqia politics and laws around the world	Pdfs, comparative data, laws
Th, 4/4	Religion and Politics (US) Conservative women, women on the right Rise of men's rights movements, Religion and Politics (Global), guest speaker (possible Skype-in with Malliga Och on conservative women, comparative perspective)	Ross controversy and responses by Tripp, Charrad, Norris, Kang, and Carraway from Selections on conservative and GOP women, <i>Politics and Gender</i>

T, 4/9	Nadia Murad's <i>The Last Girl, The Beekeeper</i> , and <a href="https://www.hrw.org/report/2017/11/16/all-my-body-was-pain/sexual-violence-against-rohingya-women-and-girls-burma">https://www.hrw.org/report/2017/11/16/all-my-body-was-pain/sexual-violence-against-rohingya-women-and-girls-burma</a>	<a href="https://rtd.rt.com/films/victims-of-is/?utm_source=VictimsofISISFBUp&amp;utm_medium=Click&amp;utm_campaign=FB">https://rtd.rt.com/films/victims-of-is/?utm_source=VictimsofISISFBUp&amp;utm_medium=Click&amp;utm_campaign=FB</a>
Th, 4/11	(open slot for guest speaker or make-up day if there is a snow day) If we don't need this for catch-up, Muslim women rappers, women and protest in the arts and music, Maya/MIA/Matangi discussion	<a href="https://www.hrw.org/report/2017/11/16/all-my-body-was-pain/sexual-violence-against-rohingya-women-and-girls-burma">https://www.hrw.org/report/2017/11/16/all-my-body-was-pain/sexual-violence-against-rohingya-women-and-girls-burma</a>
T, 4/16	The #MeToo movement (national and comparative perspective), the Women's March, TAKE BACK THE NIGHT The Hunting Grounds Intersectional analysis	Pieces on Tarana Burke <i>Journal of Women, Politics &amp; Policy</i> special issue
Th, 4/18	Women's representation in STEM, business, media, and academia, gender in the workplace, race and gender and women professionals; women's leadership Prepare for student conference and presentations, What makes for an effective presentation? Importance of giving presentations and for your professional development  Melisa Abad of the Stanford VMWare Women's Leadership Innovation Lab Skype-in on gender and the workplace	Pdfs <a href="https://www.cnn.com/2018/05/16/health/henrietta-lacks-portrait-smithsonian-tmd/index.html?no-st=1547942492">https://www.cnn.com/2018/05/16/health/henrietta-lacks-portrait-smithsonian-tmd/index.html?no-st=1547942492</a> <a href="https://www.biography.com/news/hidden-figures-movie-real-women">https://www.biography.com/news/hidden-figures-movie-real-women</a> <a href="https://worklifelaw.org/">https://worklifelaw.org/</a> <a href="https://www.forbes.com/sites/1850brandcoffee/2019/01/04/former-college-classmates-team-up-to-create-voting-app-for-millennials/?fbclid=IwAR1y5nZl5z1iBlxCh4s_FMDySyWQTztnpBss0xf8ul2stj7tcQwnCCHep0#5a57acd32bf1">https://www.forbes.com/sites/1850brandcoffee/2019/01/04/former-college-classmates-team-up-to-create-voting-app-for-millennials/?fbclid=IwAR1y5nZl5z1iBlxCh4s_FMDySyWQTztnpBss0xf8ul2stj7tcQwnCCHep0#5a57acd32bf1</a>  Miriam Harris, "Hidden Figures" and BLM resources
T, 4/23 Th, 4/25	<b>Class Conference, presentations</b> continued	
T, 4/30 Th, 5/2	Conclusion: Putting everything into context, what have we learned? Next steps? Community service project reflection REVIEW SESSION/LAST DAY OF CLASS	
5/6-9	Final Examination week	

