Issues in Peace and Development I 2007
(Spring Semester, 2 Credits)

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Description
How does gender relate to peace, violence, development or international relations? Does gender really matter? This class will focus on the violence of conflict as well as that of poverty, using gender as a lens. As many students do not have a background in gender and/or IR, the first part of the class will be devoted to trying to establish a common and critical understanding of 'gender' in the context of IR. We will then focus on gender, war and peace. In particular, we will consider questions pertaining to gender and armed conflict, and then move on to some of the related issues such as trafficking, sex work and HIV/AIDS and the global women's movement.

Class Format
The class will consist of a combination of lectures and group discussions. Role play and/or other ‘hands-on’ activities will be incorporated when appropriate. Classes on the days that students’ bi-weekly essays are due will begin with a short group discussion about the essays. Part of your grade will be based on your participation in these group discussions and activities. The class will include a field trip to Nishinari-ku, Osaka. Please bring this syllabus to class.

Evaluation
Students will be evaluated on the basis of a combination the following:
- Attendance and class participation 30%
- Bi-weekly written essays 40%
- Field trip participation and report 30%

Essays
This year’s readings are grouped into units, most of which are two weeks in length. You will be responsible for submitting essays for each unit of the readings, as indicated on this list. The essays should be 1-2 pages in length. They should include your comments and questions on the readings. Do not summarize the readings, but rather comment on them. Please indicate in the text the reading to which you are referring. If you use a direct quote, be sure to
make a proper citation. These essays will be used as the basis for class discussions on the days on which they are due. Being late in submitting your essays or neglecting to submit them at all will adversely affect your final grade in the class.

*Please use double spacing or about 30 lines per page and a font size of 12.

Field Trip: The class will include a field trip to Nishinari-ku (Kamagasaki) in Osaka. It has been scheduled for 11-13 May (Saturday to Sunday morning). Please arrange your schedule so that you can attend. Details will be given in class.

You will have several assignments in conjunction with the field trip.
1. Before we leave, please investigate the situation of homelessness in your country. Be prepared to give a short class presentation about it. If there are others from your country in the class, you may work together, but be certain everyone is involved. Presentations will be given in class on 15 May.
2. After the trip, you will be expected to submit an essay about your thoughts and feelings about the field trip and expressing your thanks to the people who help us during our visit. These essays will be due on 15 May, and will be sent to the organizations which hosted us.
3. After the trip, we will need to write thank you letters to the various people who hosted us. Please be certain to get the names of the different people, and take responsibility for writing letters. These letters will also be due on 15 May.

Weekly Readings
The following is a list of weekly reading assignments. The readings will be distributed in class or sent to you by E-mail. If you want printed copies, please make them yourself. All students should read the assignments on time and come prepared with comments and/or questions. If you do not understand the readings or are finding the assignments too difficult, please consult with the instructor or TA.

Sometimes there are additions or changes in the readings. These will be announced in class. Please be sure to check for changes if you are absent.

1. Introduction: Popoki, violence and peace 4/10
* This reading is for your reference. It is not necessary to write a report, but it is highly recommended that you read it.

2. Gender, Sex and Sexuality 4/17  Essay 1 due (4/17)
   
   
   *(Most of us are taught that there are two biological sexes: female and male. This article suggests that these categories are not sufficient to describe reality)*


   
   *(A discussion of the meaning and importance of sexuality)*

   
   *(A discussion of the meaning of gender and sex)*

3. Feminism, gender and IR  4/24


   *(An introduction to different forms of feminism and how they relate to IR)*

   (2) Pettman, Jan Jindy. “Gender Issues.” (Baylis and Smith, The Globalization of World Politics, pp.583-598)

   *(An overview of gender and international relations, focusing on women)*


   *(Discussion of how a gender perspective fits into international relations theory)*

4. Feminism and Identity  5/1  Essay 2 due (4/24. 5/1)


   *(What, if any, impact have women’s movements had on IR?)*

(What does it mean to identify as a ‘feminist’? What challenges does identity present?)

(3) Peacock, Dean. “We exist! Voices of male feminism.” (Wilson, et. al, pp.187-200).
(A voice from a male feminist perspective)

5. Structural Violence: Gender Bias 5/8
Presentations on homelessness in your countries

(Who works where? This might provide a hint to why there are rough sleepers in Kamagasaki)


(4) Handouts on Kamagasaki, including newspaper clippings

(5) websites (to be announced in class)

5/11-13 Kamagasaki Field Trip

6. Gender, Violence and War 5/15
Kamagasaki essays and thank you letters due

(1) El-Bushra, Judy and Eugenia Piza Lopez. “Gender-related Violence: It’s Scope and Relevance.” (O’Connell, Helen, ed. Women and Conflict, Oxfam, 1993, pp.1-10)
(A short, easy article explaining some basics of gender-related violence)

(An example of how and why gender matters)


(An overview of common conceptions/misconceptions about gender and war)


(An overview of the issues of women and war)


(Introduction to the Independent Experts’ Assessment on the Impact of Armed Conflict on Women and Women’s Role in Peace-building)

(There will be no class on 6/5)

9. Women, War and the International Community 6/12


(Looking at the ways war affects women forced to flee, and how it affects women’s health)


(An introduction to the question of the military and prostitution).


(A landmark UN Security Council resolution on women in armed conflict)

(4) Summary information about the meaning of Resolution 1325


(Looks at the relationship between conflict and the spread of hiv/aids)

(2) Whitworth, Sandra. “When the UN ‘Succeeds’: The Case of Cambodia,” (Men, Militarism and UN Peacekeeping: A Gendered Analysis. Lynne Reinner, 2004, pp.53-84)

(Includes a section on UNTAC and women. UNTAC is blamed for bring HIV/AIDS to Cambodia)


(This is a discussion of sexual rights and feminism; a different perspective on HIV/AIDS)

*For basic information on the AIDS pandemic, begin with the following sites:
UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, HIV/AIDS www.ohchr.org/English/issues/hiv/.
UNFPA (UN Population Fund): www.unfpa.org

11. Trafficking and Migration  6/26


(A general description of trafficking, focusing on Europe).


(The view from the side of migration)


(A small introduction to a huge issue. Focus is on international developments)

12. Trafficking and Migration  7/3  VIDEO “Sacrifice” with Hana-san
(1) Coomaraswamy, R. “Integration of the human rights of women and the gender perspective: Violence against women” Commission on Human Rights, E/CN.4/2000/68. GE.00-11334(E) PDF
(This report by the high commissioner gives a good overview of international work on trafficking)
http://www.unhchr.ch/huridocda/huridoca.nsf/e06a5300f90fa0238025668700518ca4/caf3deb2b05d4f35c1256bf30051a003/$FILE/N0240168.pdf PDF

(1) Joshi, Sushma. “’You’ll know what we are talking about when you grow older’: a Third Wave critique of anti-trafficking ideology, globalization and conflict in Nepal.” (Wilson, et. al. pp.79-89)
(A critique of ‘rescue’ from Nepal)
(2) Ileto, Malaya. “A Place to Sit: Dalit Women’s Search for Inclusive Democracy in Nepal.” “Connect” (Newsletter of IMADR), Vol.10 Issue 12006, pp.7-8
(Very short piece on caste and poverty in Nepal)
(Why does violence continue in spite of efforts to stop it?)

14. Working for Change: NGOs  7/17
(2) Maoulidi, Salma. “Moving the personal to the political: personal struggles as a basis for social justice advocacy.” (Wilson, et. al. pp.212-223)

(3) Wilson, Shamillah. “Feminist leadership for feminist futures.” (Wilson, et. al. pp.224-240)