Gender, peace & security

Department of Gender Studies
Central European University

Fall 2018/19; 4 credit.

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Course description
Feminist peace and security scholars have demonstrated the multiple and complex ways that gendered identities, ideologies and power are fundamental to processes of war and militarism, peace and security. No aspect of conflict nor its resolution can be understood fully without the integration of gender as a category of analysis. Moreover, how we understand security, what is to be secured, and what constitutes a threat are all imbued with, and reproduce, gendered ideologies. This course explores contemporary debates on peace, conflict and security through the lens of critical feminist security and IR literature. Students will gain a comprehensive understanding of feminist contributions to security theory, as well as introduction to feminist methodologies in the discipline. The course moves from war and militarism, through conflict dynamics, to peace processes, peacekeeping, peacebuilding and post-conflict transformation. Students also gain significant understanding on the mechanisms of global governance that inform the resolution of conflicts, in particular the key frameworks pertaining to gender, peace and security.

Learning outcomes

1. Understand and draw on feminist frameworks in security studies and IR.
2. Understand and apply feminist methodological and theoretical frameworks to the study and practice of peace and security.
3. Critically examine how gendered norms, identities and assumptions shape peace and security dynamics.
4. Ability to critically examine national and international policy in conflict management and security.

Assessment
Participation & attendance = 20%
Critical commentaries (x2) = 30%
Research presentation = 20%
Research essay = 30%

Week 1

Seminar 1 Introduction to gender, peace and security (1)


Seminar 2  Introduction to gender, peace and security (2)


Week 2

Seminar 1  Feminist methodologies


Seminar 2  Power, privilege, gender & race in security


Week 3

Seminar 2  Gendering states and sovereignty


Seminar 1  Militarism


### Week 4

**Seminar 2**  
**Gender and security institutions**


**Seminar 1**  
**Masculinities**


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### Week 5

**Seminar 1**  
**Gender and war (1)**


**Seminar 2**  
**Gender and war (2)**


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### Week 6

**Seminar 1**  
**Sexual violence in peace and war**


**Seminar 2**

Unpacking the discourse of ‘rape as a weapon of war’


**Week 7**

**Seminar 1**

The UN’s Women, Peace & Security Agenda


**Seminar 2**

Critical perspectives on the WPS agenda


**Week 8**

**Seminar 1**

Gender, terror and counter-terror (1)


**Seminar 2**

Gender, terror and counter-terror (2)


**Week 9**

**Seminar 1**  
**In the aftermath of conflict**


**Seminar 2**  
**Critiques of peacebuilding practice**


**Week 10**

**Seminar 1**  
**The problems with peacekeepers**


**Seminar 2**  
**The security-development nexus**


Seminar 1  Only human security?