

**[TRUNCATED VERSION]**

**IAFF 3180.11 Gender and Conflict [UNDERGRADUATE]  
Elliott School Of International Affairs  
George Washington University**

**Dr. Aisling Swaine**

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\*This syllabus and its content is subject to revision at the discretion of the Professor.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course provides an introduction to understanding the gendered dimensions of armed conflict and its aftermath. The course will introduce students to gender theory and how it may be applied to understanding issues of security and the dynamics of armed conflict and peacebuilding. The course will provide a grounding in selected thematic issues relevant to the study of gender and conflict such as gendered frames for understanding militarism and combatancy, gender-based violence related to conflict, humanitarian response, and gendered approaches to post-conflict processes, such as transitional justice measures. The course is designed to combine theoretical and practice-based approaches to issues of gender and conflict, drawing from interdisciplinary theoretical and policy resources, as well as case studies from differing situations of armed conflict globally.

**1. GOALS OF THE COURSE**

The course broadly aims to provide an introductory grounding to an understanding of gender and gender equality and how these issues relate to contexts of armed conflict. The specific goals are to:

- provide an introductory overview of the intersection between concepts of gender and gender equality with contexts of armed conflict;
- equip participants with knowledge of how and why gender relations and dynamics are of significance in examining and understanding contexts of armed conflict;
- examine progress and setbacks in advancing gender equality relative to issues of international security, conflict and peace.

**2. LEARNING OUTCOMES**

As a result of completing this course, participants will:

- gain skills in critically analyzing key thematic issues related to contexts of armed conflict from a gender and feminist perspective;
- develop competency in undertaking a "gender analysis" of key issues of international political concern;

- become familiar with key international instruments that have been developed to advance gender concerns relative to issues of international peace, security and conflict;
- garner skills in applying critical thinking to the reading and discussion of assigned documents and gain improved library/online research skills.

### 3. READINGS

The following core resources will be used:

- **Laura Sjoberg. *Gender, War and Conflict*. Malden, USA: Polity Press, 2014**  
This book is available electronically through Gelman library website.
- **Dave Eggers. *What is the What*. New York: Vintage. 2006**

## COURSE OUTLINE AND READINGS

### PART I: Introduction to Gender, Gender Equality and its Relevance to Armed Conflict

#### Week 1, January 13<sup>th</sup>: Introduction



- Enloe, Cynthia. **The Curious Feminist: Searching for Women in a New Age of Empire**. Berkeley: University of California Press. 2004)

#### Week 2, January 20<sup>th</sup>: What is Gender? What is Armed Conflict?



- Chapter 1 in: van der Veur, Denis et al. **Why Gender Matters: A manual on addressing gender-based violence affecting young people**. European Youth Centre, Budapest. 2007
- **Ch. 1: Introducing Gender, War and Conflict** in Laura Sjoberg, *Gender, War & Conflict*
- Lawrence, Adria. **Ch. 1: Introduction** in Erica Chenoweth and Aria Lawrence (eds), *Rethinking violence: states and non-state actors in conflict*. Cambridge, MA: Mit Press. 2010 [Available Electronically on Gelman website. [\[Read to pg. 16 only\]](#)]

#### Week 3, January 27<sup>th</sup>: Exploring the Intersection of Gender and Armed Conflict



- **Ch 2: Where are the women?, Ch. 3: Where are the men? and Ch. 4: Why men and women are not enough** in Laura Sjoberg, *Gender, War & Conflict*
- **Read pages 1-12, Gender as an Analytical Framework in Understanding and Addressing Armed Conflict and Gender and the Impact Of Armed Conflict** in Dyan Mazurana, Keith Proctor. *Occasional Paper: Gender, Conflict and Peace, Oct. 15, 2013*

Accompanying Book:

- **Chs. 1, 2, 3, 4, What is the What**

**Week 4, February 3<sup>rd</sup>: Gender and Security**



**Read**

- **Ch. 4: Gender and Global Security** in Peterson, V. Spike, Anne Sisson Runyan. 2010. *Global gender issues in the new millennium*. 3rd ed. Boulder, CO. Westview Press.
- Hudson, Natalie Florea. **Securitizing Women's Rights and Gender Equality**. *Journal of human rights*, 2009, 8 (1), p. 53 - 70.
- Buvinic, Mayra et al. 2012. **Violent Conflict and Gender Inequality: An Overview**. World Bank.
- UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) [Available here: [http://www.peacewomen.org/security\\_council\\_monitor/](http://www.peacewomen.org/security_council_monitor/)]

Accompanying Book:

- **Chs. 5, 6, What is the What**



Skim through and become familiar with the general content and structure of the following international frameworks:

- UN Security Council Resolution 1820 (2008)
- UN Security Council Resolution 1888 (2009)
- UN Security Council Resolution 1960 (2010)
- UN Security Council Resolution 2106 (2013)
- UN Security Council Resolution 2122 (2013)
- UN Security Council Resolution 2242 (2015)

[Available here: [http://www.peacewomen.org/security\\_council\\_monitor/](http://www.peacewomen.org/security_council_monitor/)]

## PART II: Thematic Appraisals of Gender and the War Project

### Week 5, February 10<sup>th</sup>: Militarism, Masculinities and the Making of Combatancy



*Read*

- Ch.3, Hearn, Jeff, **Men/Masculinities - War/Militarism—Searching (for) the Obvious Connections?** in Kronsell, Annica and Erika Svedberg (eds.). 2012. *Making Gender, Making War: Violence, Military and Peacekeeping Practices*. Routledge, New York, London.
- R.W.Connell. **Understanding Men: Gender Sociology And The New International Research On Masculinities**. Clark Lecture, Department of Sociology, University of Kansas, 19 September 2000
- Dolan, Chris. **Collapsing Masculinities and Weak States - a case study of northern Uganda in** Cleaver F (ed), *Masculinity Matters: Men, Masculinities and Gender Relations in Development*, Zed Books, London, 2003

Accompanying Book:

- **Chs.7, 8, 9, What is the What**

### Week 6, February 17<sup>th</sup>: Gender and Violent Actors in Conflict



*Read*

- Regina F. Titunik, **The Myth of the Macho Military**, *Polity*, Vol. 40, No. 2 (2008)
- Sjoberg, Laura and Caron Gentry. **Reduced to Bad Sex: Narratives of Violent Women from the Bible to the War on Terror**, *International Relations*, 2008, 22: 5-23.
- **Read pages 12 – 20, Gender, Militarism and Mobilization for Armed Conflict** in Dyan Mazuranza, Keith Proctor. *Occasional Paper: Gender, Conflict and Peace, Oct. 15, 2013*

Accompanying Book:

- **Chs. 10, 11, 12, What is the What**

### Week 7, February 24<sup>th</sup>: Gender-Based Violence in Armed Conflict



*Read*

- Gottschall, Jonathan. **Explaining Wartime Rape**. *The Journal of Sex Research*; 2004, 41, 2; ProQuest Health and Medical Complete, pp. 129-135

- Swaine, Aisling. **Beyond Strategic Rape and Between the Public and Private: Violence Against Women in Armed Conflict.** Human Rights Quarterly, 37, 2015
- Carpenter, Charlie. **Recognizing Sexual Violence Against Men and Boys.** Security Dialogue, 37, 2006
- Maria Eriksson Baaz, Maria Stern . **Why Do Soldiers Rape? Masculinity, Violence, and Sexuality in the Armed Forces in the Congo (DRC).** International Studies Quarterly, 53, 2009

Accompanying Book:

- **Chs. 13, 14, *What is the What***



Skim through and become familiar with the general content and structure of the following international policy framework:

- *Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Violence Against Women*, A/RES/48/104, (1993)  
[Available here: <http://www.un.org/documents/ga/res/48/a48r104.htm> ]

**Week 8, March 2<sup>nd</sup>: Humanitarian Response**



**Read**

- Benelli et al. **Using sex and age disaggregated data to improve humanitarian response in Emergencies.** Gender & Development, 20:2, 219-232
- Kristin S. Scharffscher. **Disempowerment through disconnection: Local women's disaster response and international relief in post-tsunami Batticaloa.** Disaster Prevention and Management Vol. 20 No. 1, 2011
- Carpenter, Charli. **Women and Children First: Gender, Norms, and Humanitarian Evacuation in the Balkans 1991-95.** International Organization, Vol. 57, No. 4 (Autumn, 2003), pp. 661-694.

Accompanying Book:

- **Chs. 15, 16, *What is the What***

**PART III: Thematic Appraisals of Gender and the Post-Conflict Context**

**Week 9, March 9<sup>th</sup>: Peace and Peacebuilding**



**Read**

- **Read pg. 20 – 25, *Peace Processes: What Kind Of Peace Is Possible?*** in Dyan Mazurana, Keith Proctor. *Occasional Paper: Gender, Conflict and Peace*, Oct. 15, 2013

- Bell, Christine and Catherine O'Rourke. **Peace Agreements or Pieces of Paper: UN Security Council Resolution 1325 and Peace Negotiations and Agreements.** International and Comparative Law Quarterly. 59: 941-980.
- Zohra Moosa, Maryam Rahmani & Lee Webster. **From the private to the public sphere: new research on women's participation in peace-building.** Gender and Development, 21:3, 2013

Accompanying Book:

- **Chs. 17, 18, *What is the What***

Week 10, March 23<sup>rd</sup>: Transitions and Transitional Justice



*Read*

- **Read pgs. 25-31, Gender And Transitional Justice Processes** in Dyan Mazurana, Keith Proctor. *Occasional Paper: Gender, Conflict and Peace, Oct. 15, 2013*
- DeLaet, Debra L. **Gender, Sexual Violence and Justice in War-torn Societies.** Global Change, Peace & Security, 20:3, 2008
- Amnesty International. **Old Crimes, Same Suffering: No Justice for Survivors of Wartime Rape in Northeast Bosnia-Herzegovina.** 2012

Accompanying Book:

- **Chs. 19, 20, 21, *What is the What***

Week 11, March 30<sup>th</sup>: Case Study: Northern Ireland



*Read:*

- Ch. 14, Fidelma Ashe. **Reenvisioning Masculinities in the Context of Conflict Transformation: The Gender Politics of Demilitarizing Northern Ireland Society,** in Annica Kronsell and Erika Svedberg (eds.). *Making Gender, Making War: Violence, Military and Peacekeeping Practices.* Routledge, New York, London. 2012 [Blackboard]
- McWilliams, Monica. **Violence Against Women and Political Conflict: The Northern Ireland Experience.** *Critical Criminology*, Volume 8, Issue 1, (1997). 78-92
- **Read Section IV, V, VI: The Women's Coalition: Jacqueline Nolan-Haley and Bronagh Hinds.** *Problem-Solving Negotiation: Northern Ireland's Experience with the Women's Coalition.* *Journal of Dispute Resolution*, 2003, Vol. 2003, Issue 2.

Accompanying Book: Ch. 22, 23 *What is the What*

### **Week 12, April 6<sup>th</sup> [open – your choice!]**

I leave this open in order to discuss and determine together any additional key thematic issues, tools or country contexts that you wish to cover in the course, or whether you like to further discuss one of the issues already covered in more depth.

### **Week 13, April 13<sup>th</sup>: Armed Conflicts as If Gender Mattered**



- **Ch. 5: Redefining War, Understanding Gender and Ch. 6: Wars as if gender mattered** in Laura Sjoberg, *Gender, War & Conflict*
- Scully, Pamela. **Gender, History and Human Rights** in Dorothy Hodgson. 2011. *Gender and Culture at the Limit of Rights*. University of Pennsylvania Press.
- UNDP. **Gender Approaches in Conflict and Post-Conflict Situations**.

#### Accompanying Book:

- **Chs. 24, 25, 26, *What is the What***

### **Week 14, April 20<sup>th</sup>: Presentations and Conclusions of the Course**

[ENDS]