Women and Political Leadership
GOVT 484/684.01

Fall 2006   Sarah E. Brewer
Monday 5:30-8:00 PM   sbrewer@american.edu
Ward   203   202-885-3103

Course Overview:
This class will explore differences between women and men in leadership positions. We will first explore historically why there have been so few women political leaders and reasons why women in the have still not reached parity in politics.   Next we will discuss women leaders in several areas of politics: non-profit organizations, political parties, legislatures, the courts and executive office. Historically, women have had greater access to leadership positions in non-profits and/or voluntary organizations and have demonstrated considerable leadership ability in social movements such as abolition, suffrage, temperance, civil rights, and the feminist movements. While women have been involved in political party organizing, and have successfully founded women's bureaus and centers within the national political parties, they have had limited success in accessing positions of leadership in the political party organizations. In terms of elected office, women have achieved a level of success in legislative bodies where they have demonstrated differences in both style and substance in their policy making. We will examine gender differences in the legal system, focusing primarily on women judges. Finally, women have only recently begun to assume executive office and a record number of women have served as state governors in the past few years. Additionally, it is the first time in U.S. history that women top their political parties' national tickets for possible presidential contenders in the next election.

Throughout the course we will examine the ways in which women have and continue to use authority based on their experiences as mothers to assert leadership and explore whether the public's definition of leadership must change to accommodate for more women in positions of power.   The course will focus on race and class differences between women throughout the semester, include some literature on international women's leadership, and pays particular attention to the structural and cultural barriers that still inhibit women's full participation in politics.

Required Books:

Rhode, Deborah L. ed. 2003. *The Difference "Difference" Makes: Women and Leadership.* Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press.

Wilson, Marie C. 2004. *Closing the Leadership Gap: Why Women Can and Must Help Run the World.* New York: Viking.

Watson, Robert P. and Ann Gordon. 2000. *Anticipating Madam President.* Boulder CO: Lynne Rienner Publishers.

Rosenthal, Cindy Simon. 1998. *When Women Lead: Integrative Leadership in State Legislatures.* New York: Oxford University Press.

Liswood, Laura. 1996. *Women World Leaders: Fifteen Great Politicians Tell Their Story.* San Francisco: Harper. (Not available in the book store- takes 4-6 weeks for delivery)

Odendahl, Teresa and Michael O'Neill. Eds. 1994. *Women and Power in the Nonprofit Sector.* San Francisco: Jossey-Bass Publishers (Not available in the book store - please order used through amazon.com)

Additional Readings are listed below in the schedule. All articles are available at the Women & Politics Institute to be checked out for 2 hours to be read or photocopied.

Requirements and Grading:
Class Participation:	20%
Research Proposal	10%
Research Paper	40%
Research Presentation	30%

Research Proposal, Paper, and Presentation:
A significant part of this course will be your research project. Your assignment is to conduct two elite interviews with one man and one woman in the same political leadership position. Using the readings from the class and additional readings on your particular leadership positions, you will write a paper on if and how men and women lead differently in these positions.

First, you must select a partner you will work with this semester on this project. Undergraduates must work with other undergraduates and graduate students will work with other graduate students. I suggest finding someone who has very similar class and/or work schedules to facilitate meetings with each other and particularly with your interviewees. Together you will identify the leadership position you wish to study, the man and the woman you will interview, and draft your elite interview questionnaire. You will interview both people TOGETHER in person and write your paper together.

The goal of this class research project is to put together all of your papers in a collection that can be bound and distributed to all members of the class. In order for your paper to be included in this volume, you must make the edits I make to the final drafts of your papers, handed in on December 11, 2006 and return the edited manuscript to me by February 1, 2007. I will want your assistance in making sure that copies of the bound collection are sent to your respondents.

See Research Project Hand Out for Details

Week 1:   **August 28, 2006**

Introductions

Class Overview
Research Project

September 4, 2006 - No Class – Labor Day

Week 2:   **September 11, 2006**

Barriers to Women's Leadership

Eagly, Alice H. and Linda L. Carli, (2004) "Women and Men and Leadsrs." *The Nature of Leadership.* Ed. John Antonakis, Anna T. Cianciolo, and Robert J. Sternberg. Pp. 279- 301.

Rhode, Deborah. 2003 *The Difference "Difference" Makes: Women and Leadership.* Chapters 1-4.

Parker, Patricia S. and dt ogilvie. 1996. "Gender, Culture, and Leadership: Toward a Culturally Distinct Model of African American Women Executives' Leadership Strategies." *Leadership Quarterly. 7* (2): 189-214.

Duest-Lahti, Georgia. 2006. "The Consequence of Gender for Women's Political Leadership." Paper presented at the Women & Politics Institute Women Political Leadership Research Conference, Washington DC.

Research Teams and Leadership Positions Selected

Week 3:   **September 18, 2006**

TBA

Week 4:   **September 25, 2006**

Elite Interviewing – Theories and Practice

Ross, Karen. 2000. "Unruly Theory and Difficult Practice: Issues and Dilemmas in Work with Women Politicians." *International Feminist Journal of Politics. 2* (3): 319- 336

*Readings Available in the Women & Politics Institute office – Ward 237
Platt, Jennifer. "The History of the Interview"

Odendahl, Teresa and Aileen M. Shaw. "Interviewing Elites"
Shulamit, Reinharz and Susan E. Chase. "Interviewing Women"
Schwalbe, Michael L. and Michelle Wolkomir. "Interviewing Men"

Research Proposals are Due

*Extra Credit!
Screening of Running in High Heels 7:00-9:00 PM

Week 5:   **October 2, 2006**

Practice Interviews

Week 6:   **October 9, 2006**

Women and Political Leadership

Wilson, Marie. (2004). *Closing the Leadership Gap: Why Women Can and Must Help Run the World* New York: Viking Press.

Week 7:   **October 16, 2006**

International Ground Breakers

Liswood, Laura. 1996. *Women World Leaders: Fifteen Great Politicians Tell Their Story.* San Francisco: Harper.

Week 8:   **October 23, 2006**

Non-Profit Leadership

Odendahl, Teresa and Michael O'Neill. Eds. 1994. *Women and Power in the Nonprofit Sector.* San Francisco: Jossey-Bass Publishers

"On the Rise: A Profile of Women of Color in Leadership." November 2002. CompassPoint Nonprofit Services.
http://www.compasspoint.org/assets/13_ontherisefinal.pdf#search=%22political%20leadership%20of%20women%20of%20color%22

Week 9:   **October 30, 2006**

Political Party Leadership

Baer, Denise. 2006. Party Based Leadership and Gender: Beyond the Chinese Box Puzzle of Women's Recruitment to Political Office." Paper presented at the Women &

Politics Institute's Women and Political Leadership Research Conference, Washington DC.

_____. 2003. "Women, Women's Organizations, and Political Parties: Old Questions and New Directions." In Susan A. Carroll, Ed. *Women and American Politics: Agenda Setting for the 21st Century.* New York: Oxford University Press.

Freeman, Jo. 2006. "Women's Leadership in U.S. Political Parties." Paper presented at the Women & Politics Institute's Women and Political Leadership Research Conference, Washington DC.

_____. 1986. "The Political Culture of the Democratic and Republican Parties." *Political Science Quarterly. 101*: 327-356.

Caul, Miki. 2001. "Political Parties and the Adoption of Candidate Gender Quota: A Cross National Analysis. *Journal of Politics. 63:* 1214-1229

Week 10:   November 6, 2006

Judicial Leadership

Rhode, Deborah. 2003. *The Difference "Difference" Makes: Women and Leadership.* Stanford CA: Stanford University Press. Chapters 4, 6, 7, 8

O'Connor, Karen and Jeffrey Segal. 1990. "Justice Sandra Day O'Connor and the Supreme Court's Reaction to Its First Female Member." *Women & Politics 10* (2): *95-103*

Palmer, Barbara. 2002. "Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg and the Supreme Court's Reaction to Its Second Female Member." *Women & Politics. 24* (1): 1-23.

____. 2001. "Women in the American Judiciary: Their Influence and Impact." *Women & Politics. 23 (3):* 89-99.

Sullivan, Patricia and Steven R. Goldzwig. 1996. "Abortion and Undue Burdens: Justice Sandra Day O'Connor and Judicial Decision Making." *Women & Politics 16 (3):* 27-55.

Week 11:   November 13, 2006

Legislative Leadership

Rosenthal, Cindy Simon. 1998. *When Women Lead: Integrative Leadership in State Legislatures.* New York: Oxford University Press.

_____. 2006. "The Mentor Gap: A Barrier to Women in Legislative Leadership."
Paper presented at the Women & Politics Institute's Women and Political Leadership
Research Conference, Washington DC.

Drafts of Papers Due

Week 12:   **November 20, 2006**

A Woman President

Watson, Robert P. and Ann Gordon. 2000. *Anticipating Madam President.* Boulder
CO: Lynne Rienner Publishers.

Sykes, Patricia. 2006. "Women as Executive Leaders in Anglo-American Systems."
Paper presented at the Women & Politics Institute's Women and Political Leadership
Research Conference, Washington DC.

Papers Due to Discussants

Week 13:   **November 27, 2006**

Women and Political Leadership Conference I

Panel 1:

Chair
Discussant
Discussant

Panel 2:

Chair
Discussant
Discussant

Week 14:   **December 4, 2006**

Women and Political Leadership Conference II

Panel 1:

Chair
Discussant
Discussant

Panel 2:

Chair
Discussant
Discussant

December 11, 2006

Final Papers Due