

730-740

Women, War and Peacebuilding

Formerly Women and War

Lecturers	Dr Helen Durham* Associate Professor Dianne Otto
Semester 2	Intensive: 7 – 13 November (excluding the weekend)
Time	9:30am – 5:00pm
Location	University
Courses	Master of Laws; Master of Public and International Law; Graduate Diploma in International Law

Prerequisites

Principles of International Law required and International Humanitarian Law and/or International Human Rights Law recommended.

Objectives

A candidate who has successfully completed the subject should:

- Have a comprehensive understanding of the range of legal issues which impact on women as civilians, victims, refugees, widows and combatants during time of armed conflict and in the post-conflict period of peacebuilding;
- Be conversant with the international legal norms, in particular international humanitarian law and human rights law, which can provide protection for women during times of armed conflict, and the efficacy of these laws;
- Be aware of the recent developments relating to the international prosecution of gendered crimes as a form of war crime, crime against humanity or genocide, and associated procedural issues;
- Understand the current debates on the need to increase protection for women during times of armed conflict and internal disturbances;
- Understand why women are usually excluded from formal peace-making and peace-building processes, despite the important contributions that they are often able to make;
- Have a critical understanding of the role of law in protecting and promoting women's autonomy and physical integrity in the contexts of militarism and fundamentalist regimes.

Syllabus

Principal topics will include:

- An analysis of women in 'war' (broadly defined) as civilians, victims, survivors, refugees, widows, combatants and peace-makers;
- The links between war and issues such as women's inequality and inequitable economic and social conditions;
- The Geneva Conventions of 1949 and their 1977 Additional Protocols;
- Refugee law and human rights law relating to women's rights;
- The developing jurisprudence from the ad hoc international criminal tribunals for Rwanda and the former Yugoslavia dealing specifically with gendered violence;
- Crimes specifically relating to women in the Statute for the International Criminal Court;
- The impact of Security Council Resolution 1325 on women's participation in peacebuilding;
- The role played by international Non Government Organisations in the development of the law and in peacebuilding.
- Case studies will be undertaken.

Assessment

Examination – 3 hours (100%) (XX, pm)

OR

Research paper – 10,000 words (100%) (XX) (on a topic approved by the subject coordinator)