

William Paterson University
College of Humanities and Social Sciences
Department of Women's and Gender Studies

Course Outline

1. Title of Course and Course Number

Gender and Globalization
WGS 360
3 credits

2. Course Description

Over the last half century the economic, political and the cultural dimensions of globalization has fundamentally transformed the lived experience of work and labor, families, governance and welfare, community and nation. This course will use an interdisciplinary approach to interrogate the contemporary process of globalization as it impacts communities, gender relations, and sexualities across cultural and geographical regions of the world. Emphasizing a transnational feminist perspective that explores the linkages and connections between the global South and North, the course will focus on key issues of migration, global conflict, environment, health and violence and the collective responses and social movements resisting globalization.

3. Course Prerequisites

Area 4 UCC

4. Course Objectives

This course will:

- a) Explore the economic, political, and cultural dimensions and institutions of globalization
- b) Identify key impacts of globalization on marginalized groups (women, poor, racial minorities, indigenous groups) in different parts of the world
- c) Describe transformations in communities, gender relations and identities, and sexualities due to globalization using an interdisciplinary approach
- d) Develop a transnational feminist perspective on globalization that links gender oppression to other forms of oppression (such as racism, class, heterosexism, ableism) within and across geographical and cultural regions
- e) Recognize the interconnectedness of gender politics, gender justice and economic justice through transnational social movements

5. Student Learning Outcomes

1. Identify global issues, processes, trends, and systems relevant to the course [UCC Area SLO #6. a]

In WGS 360, students will demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the economic, political, and cultural dimensions of the process of globalization, its historical development, and its key institutions

2. Analyze diverse cultures, systems, and environments through cross-cultural perspectives [UCC Area SLO #6. b]

In WGS 360, students will: critically describe and analyze the impacts of globalization in different societies and regions of the world, and their transnational connections; demonstrate knowledge of the gendered impacts of globalization on systems and institutions of work and labor, governance and welfare, family, community and nation, and environment

3. Employ diverse frames of reference to expand critical thinking and problem solving [UCC Area SLO #6. c]

In WGS 360, students will: analyze the category of “global problem” through an analysis of how the “local” is shaped by the “global”; integrate knowledge and ideas about oppression, equality and justice by evaluating different modes of engagement and collective strategies for resisting global patriarchies

4. Identify cultural differences, their ambiguities, similarities and intercultural relations [UCC Area SLO #6.d]

In WGS 360, students will: demonstrate an ability to employ an interdisciplinary approach to analyze gendered inequalities within different societies and cultural contexts; use cross-cultural perspectives to explore how patriarchal practices are differently experienced and resisted; evaluate cultural and political struggles around globalization’s impacts

5. Use diverse communication patterns and/or knowledge of other cultures to extend access to information, experience and understanding [UCC Area SLO #6.e]

In WGS 360, students will: think critically about the nature and scale of data and evidence for the existence of systemic and global social inequalities; develop and debate the meanings and need for global struggles of solidarity across individual national and ethnic boundaries

6. TOPICAL OUTLINE FOR COURSE CONTENT:

Globalization and Transnational feminisms:

Introduction to concepts of colonialism, imperialism, globalization, politics of location, and human rights

Review of the status of women worldwide

Interrogation of universal sisterhood, global feminisms, and transnational feminist networks

Gendering political economy:

Gender development index, international development, feminization of poverty

Impact of neo-liberal policies around the world

Structural adjustment policies

Global and transnational institutions (UN, WB, IMF, WTO, NAFTA, ADB, African Union, ASEAN)

Gender and labor:

Changing nature of work, women and men in the informal sectors of the economy

Global assembly line, differential impact of the production process on women

Work in export processing zones.

Global sexualities:

Sexual politics, sexual identities, and sexual expressions across cultures

Impact of global capitalist economy on human trafficking

International anti-trafficking movements and advocacy

Sexual rights and religion.

Gendered migration:

Political economy, modes, debates and policies of migration

Impact of migration on work, families and communities

Migration and displacement as a result of political conflicts

Immigration policies impacting cultural and legal frameworks locally and nationally.

Global media:

Emergence of global media markets

Cultural notions of body and beauty, commodification of the body

Representations of gendered, raced and classed identities for global consumption

Access to Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs), using ICTs for advocacy and justice.

Politics of Health and Healthcare:

Healthcare policies affected by global restructuring, gendering of healthcare providers

Women's reproductive labor (motherhood, maternal mortality)

Reproductive technologies and policies (abortion, contraception)

Reproductive health and rights (AIDS crisis, health and safety risks of women and poor workers in some industries like flower, coffee, diamond).

Gender and Environment:

Global development and ecological crisis and its impact on communities

Global hunger, food production and distribution, food security

Ecofeminism, disaster capitalism, and environmental activism

Violence against women and indigenous populations:

Prevalence of violence in families, communities, and by the state

Structural violence and its impact on women, poor, and indigenous peoples

Gendering war and militarism

Global initiatives and policies to combat and resist all forms of violence

Transnational movements and Human Rights discourse:

Women's representation and participation in formal politics

Marginalized communities organizing in informal political spaces

Transnational organizing, advocacy and solidarity networks for social change

Social justice movements

Human Rights discourse

7. Guidelines/Suggestions for Teaching Methods and Student Learning Activities

Lectures
In-class writing
Group discussions
Individual research projects
Films
Guest speakers
Service learning projects

8. Guidelines/Suggestions for Methods of Student Evaluation

1. UCC Area SLO #6.1 will be evaluated by class participation, journal entries, essays, exams, and/or response papers.
2. UCC Area SLO #6.2 will be evaluated by group work, debates, discussion board, essays, and/or response papers
3. UCC Area SLO #6.3 will be evaluated by class participation, essays, and/or response papers
4. UCC Area SLO #6.4 and #6.5 will be evaluated by an independent research project.

9. Suggested Readings, Texts, Objects of Study

Gunewardena, Nandini & Ann Kingsolver. 2008. *The Gender of Globalization: Women Navigating Cultural and Economic Marginalities*. NM: School for Advanced Research Press

Peterson, V. Spike & Anne Sisson Runyan. 2009. *Global Gender Issues in the New Millennium* CO: Westview Press

10. Bibliography of Supportive Texts and Other Materials:

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Aguilar, Delia D. & Anne E. Lacsamana. Edts. 2004. *Women and Globalization*. NY: Prometheus

Ahmed, Leila. 1992. *Women and Gender in Islam: Historical Roots of a Modern Debate*. CT: Yale University

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Alexander, Jacqui M and Chandra Talpade Mohanty. Edts. 1997. *Feminist Genealogies, Colonial Legacies and Democratic Futures*. New York: Routledge

Alvarez, Sonia E., Evelina Dagnino, and Arturo Escobar. 1998. *Cultures of Politics, Politics of Cultures: Re-visioning Latin American Social Movements*. Boulder: Westview

Antrobus, Peggy. "Transformational Leadership: Advancing the Agenda for Gender Justice." *Gender and Development*. 8(3). November 2000, pp. 50 – 56.

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Basu, Amrita. Ed. 2010. *Women's Movements in the Global Era. The Power of Local Feminisms*. CO: Westview

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Bayes, Jane H. 2001. *Gender, Globalization, and Democratization*. Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers

Beneria, Lourdes. 1999. "Globalization, Gender and the Davos Man." *Feminist Economics*. Vol. 5 (3).

Beneria, Lourdes. 2003. *Gender, Development, and Globalization: Economics As If All People Mattered*. London: Routledge

Benhabib, S. 1999. "Sexual Difference and Collective Identities: The New Global Constellation." *Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society*. 24(2). pp. 335 – 361.

Berkovitch, Nitza. 2002. *From Motherhood to Citizenship: Women's Rights and International Organizations*. Baltimore: The John Hopkins University Press.

Binnie, Jon. 2004. *The Globalization of Sexuality* London: Sage

Blackwood, Evelyn., Abha Bhaiya, & Saskia E. Wieringa. 2009. *Women's Sexualities and Masculinities in a Globalizing Asia* NY: Palgrave Macmillan

Bowman, Olga Celle de. 2000. "Peruvian Female Industrialists and the Globalization Project: Deindustrialization and Women's Independence." *Gender and Society*. 14(4). pp. 540 – 559.

Bulbeck, Chilla. 1997. *Re-orienting Western Feminisms: Women's Diversity in a Postcolonial World*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press

Bystydzienski, Jill and Joti Sekhon. 1999. *Democratization and women's grassroots movements*. Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press.

Cantu, Lionel., Nancy Naples & Salvador Vidal-Ortiz. 2009. *The Sexuality of Migration: Border Crossings and Mexican Immigrant Men* NY: NYU Press

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Collins, Jane L. 2003. *Threads: Gender, Labor, and Power in the Global Apparel Industry*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press

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Davis, Angela & Gina Dent. 2001. "Prison as a Border: A Conversation on Gender, Globalization, and Punishment." *Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society*. 26(4). pp. 1235 – 1241.

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della Porta, Donnatella and Sidney Tarrow. Eds. 2004. *Transnational Activism and Global Movements*. Lanham: Rowman and Littlefield.

Dennis, Jeffery. 2008. Women are Victims, Men Make Choices: The Invisibility of Men and Boys in the Global Sex Trade. *Gender Issues*. Vol. 25 Issue 1, p11-25

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Desai, Manisha 2009. *Gender and the Politics of Possibilities: Rethinking Globalization*. Lanham: Rowman and Littlefield.

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Enloe, Cynthia H. 2000. *Bananas, Beaches and Bases: Making Feminist Sense of International Politic*. Berkeley: University of California Press

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Freeman, Carla. 2000. *High Tech and High Heels in the Global Economy: Women, Work, and Pink-Collar Identities in the Caribbean*. Durham: Duke University Press

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Manalansan, Martin & Arnaldo Cruz-Malave. Edts. 2002. *Queer Globalizations: Citizenship and the Afterlife of Colonialism* NY: NYU Press

Mancini, Elena 2010. *Magnus Hirschfeld and the Quest for Sexual Freedom: A History of the First International Sexual Freedom Movement*. NY: Palgrave Macmillan.

Marchand, Marianne H. and Anne Sisson Runyan. Eds. 2000. *Gender and Global Restructuring: Sightings, Sites, and Resistances*. London: Routledge

Meintjes, Sheila. 2005. Gender equality by design: The case of South Africa's commission on gender equality. *Politikon: South African Journal of Political Studies*. Vol. 32 Issue 2, p259-275

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11. PREPARER'S NAME AND DATE: Vidya Kalaramadam

12. ORIGINAL DEPARTMENTAL APPROVAL DATE: 02.22.2011

13. REVISER'S NAME AND DATE: N/A

14. DEPARTMENT REVISION APPROVAL DATE: N/A