

SO366-15 Indigenous and Global South Feminisms

20/21

Department

Sociology

Level

Undergraduate Level 3

Module leader

Nisha Kapoor

Credit value

15

Assessment

100% coursework

Study location

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

This module centres feminist perspectives on a range of social, cultural and political questions and concerns particularly within postcolonial and settler colony societies. Taking as starting point the postcolonial and indigenous feminist critiques which have challenged the dominance of the liberal and rationalistic Enlightenment episteme, the module will work through questions that have been pertinent to indigenous and post/colonial feminisms such as sovereignty, self-determination, borders, terror, security, authoritarianism and revolution. Throughout the course we will be attentive to the intersectionality of political struggles and so while we connect our thinking on these topics to specific state exemplars each week, students are encouraged to bring their own examples of each theme to class discussions.

Module aims

The module aims to broaden students understanding and knowledge of feminist struggles and

resistance movements

being led by women of the global South and indigenous women. It aims to critically engage with multiple issues that concern feminists in these locations such as sovereignty, self-determination, freedom of movement, social justice and security and explore how these issues are framed through a feminist perspective. In this sense the module aims to engage with feminist praxis in a way that recognises much feminist theory is borne out of practice and social movements.

Outline syllabus

This is an indicative module outline only to give an indication of the sort of topics that may be covered. Actual sessions held may differ.

Provisional Outline:

Week 1: Introduction: Indigenous feminisms, post/colonial feminisms and the intersections of political struggles

Week 2: Womanism

Week 3: Feminism, post/coloniality, sovereignty and citizenship

Week 4: Feminism, reproduction and land rights in settler colonial states

Week 5: Feminism, Militarism and security

Week 6: Reading Week

Week 7: Feminism, socialism and authoritarianism

Week 8: Feminist perspectives on religion and secularism

Week 9: Feminism and Revolution

Week 10: Summary/ Time for assessment discussion

Learning outcomes

By the end of the module, students should be able to:

- Have developed a critical understanding of indigenous and post/colonial feminist perspectives and approaches to questions of sovereignty, self-determination, borders, sectarianism, security, authoritarianism and freedom.
- Be able to organise and present written information clearly and coherently through their essay writing.
- Be able to identify, evaluate and critically analyse appropriate feminist theories relating to social and political issues discussed through the course such as sovereignty, borders, sectarianism, security, authoritarianism and revolutionary struggles.
- Be able to explain and critically engage in indigenous post/colonial political and intellectual debates on sovereignty, borders, sectarianism, security, authoritarianism.
- Be able to organise and present oral arguments and contribute to classroom discussion in seminars.

Indicative reading list

R. Icaza (2017) 'Decolonial Feminism and Global Politics: Border Thinking and Vulnerability as a Knowing Otherwise' in M. Woons & S. Weier (eds) Critical Epistemologies of Global Politics, E-International Relations Publishing. M.

Lugones (2010) 'Toward a Decolonial Feminism', *Hypatia*, 25(4). N.K. Das, (2019) 'Indigenous Feminism and Women Resistance: Customary Law, Codification Issue and Legal Pluralism in North East India', *Journal of Cultural and Social Anthropology*, 1(2), pp. 19-27. Kaul, N. & Zia, A.(2018) 'Knowing in our Own Ways: Women and Kashmir', *Special Issue EPW/RWS* Osuri, G.(2018) 'Sovereignty, vulnerability, and a gendered resistance in Indian-occupied Kashmir', *Third World Thematics: A TWQ Journal*, 3(2) 228-43. Menon, Nivedita. 2012. "Victims or Agents?" in *Seeing like a Feminist*. pp. 173-212. Radha Kumar (1999) 'From Chipko to Sati: The Contemporary Indian Women's Movement'. in N. Menon (ed.), *Gender and Politics in India*. OUP, pp.342-369. Fong, M. (2016) *One Child: The story of China's most radical experiment*, Houghton, Mifflin, Harcourt. Lydia H. Liu, Rebecca E. Karl and Dorothy Ko (eds.) (2013) *The Birth of Chinese Feminism: Essential Texts in Transnational Theory*, Columbia University Press. Hershatter, G. (2018) *Women and China's Revolutions*, Rowman & Littlefield. Maha El Said, Lena Meari and Nicola Pratt (eds.) (2015) *Rethinking Gender in Revolutions and Resistance: Lessons from the Arab World*, London: Zed. Nadjé Al-Ali & Nicola Pratt (2009) *What Kind of Liberation? Women and the Occupation of Iraq*, Berkeley: University of California Press. Seedat, F.(ed.) (2017) 'Special Issue: Women, Religion and Security', *Agenda*, 30(3). M.E.M.Kolawole (1997) *Womanism and African Consciousness*, Africa World Press Inc. B. Badri & A. M. Tripp (eds.) (2017) *Women's Activism in Africa*, London: Zed. B. Fredericks (1997) 'Reempowering Ourselves: Australian Aboriginal Women', *Signs. Journal of Women in Culture and Society*, 35(3). Green, J. (ed.) (2017) *Making Space for Indigenous Feminism*(2nd edition), Fernwood Publishing. R. Aída Hernández Castillo (2010) 'The Emergence of Indigenous Feminism in Latin America', *Signs*, 35(3). K. Kampwirth (2004) *Feminism and the Legacy of Revolution. Nicaragua, El Salvador, Chiapas*, Ohio University Press.

[View reading list on Talis Aspire](#)

Subject specific skills

Demonstrate an advanced and critical understanding of indigenous and post/colonial feminist

perspectives and approaches to questions of sovereignty, self-determination, borders, sectarianism, security, authoritarianism and freedom.

Identify, evaluate and critically analyse to an advanced level appropriate feminist theories relating to social and political issues discussed through the course such as sovereignty, borders, sectarianism, security, authoritarianism and revolutionary struggles.

Contextualise, synthesise and draw links between feminist approaches to social and political issues and political struggles in different state contexts.

Show an appreciation of indigenous and post/colonial feminist pedagogies.

Transferable skills

Be able to organise and present oral arguments to an advanced level, carry out a formal presentation and facilitate classroom discussion in seminars.

Be able to organise and present written information clearly and coherently through their essay writing.

Study

Study time

Type	Required
Tutorials	9 sessions of 2 hours (100%)
Total	18 hours

Private study description

Reading and preparing for seminars. Essay preparation and writing.

Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

Assessment

You do not need to pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Students can register for this module without taking any assessment.

Assessment group A

	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
Assessment component			
Individual Presentation	35%		Yes (extension)
A fifteen minute presentation by each student that will require them to critically engage with and explain some key debates relating to the module themes (35%). Each student will be asked to submit their presentation slides and to submit a short report summarising the presentation.			
Reassessment component is the same			
Assessment component			
Essay	65%		Yes (extension)
Students will be asked to write an essay either on a question taken from a list which will be provided by the module convenor or on a topic of their choice which relates to the themes engaged with over the course of the module. If the latter, students will encouraged to develop this question in discussion with the module convenor. The essay should be on a different topic from that of the student's presentation.			
Reassessment component is the same			

Feedback on assessment

Students will be given oral and written feedback on their summative presentations and feedback on their essays.

Feedback will be delivered through the Tabula system.

Availability

Courses

This module is Core optional for:

- Year 3 of ULAA-ML33 Undergraduate Law and Sociology

This module is Optional for:

- Year 3 of USOA-L301 BA in Sociology
- Year 4 of USOA-L306 BA in Sociology (with Intercalated Year)
- Year 3 of USOA-L314 Undergraduate Sociology and Criminology

This module is Option list A for:

- ULAA-ML34 BA in Law and Sociology (Qualifying Degree)
 - Year 3 of ML34 Law and Sociology (Qualifying Degree)
 - Year 4 of ML34 Law and Sociology (Qualifying Degree)
- Year 4 of ULAA-ML33 Undergraduate Law and Sociology