SO923-20 Gender, Imperialism and International Development

24/25

Department
Sociology
Level
Taught Postgraduate Level
Module leader
Khursheed Wadia
Credit value
20
Module duration
9 weeks
Assessment
100% coursework
Study location
University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

This module fosters comprehensive, critical and advanced knowledge of theoretical approaches to gender and development. It starts by locating gender and development within a history of colonialism, imperialism and orientalism, asking how gender relations have shaped and been shaped by colonialism; how contemporary forms of western imperialism invoke ideas about gender; and how far western feminism has been able to resist orientalist ideas about a 'modern' west and a 'backward' east. Then it looks critically at some of the measures of gendered development today, including the GDI, GEM, Millennium Development Goals and the replacement Sustainable Development Goals. As well as practising interpreting statistics, students ask who decides what counts enough to be measured and how it should be measured, using gender-based violence as an international case study. The module also sets up a political context, exploring the importance of political movements for gender equality through four country case studies. The second half of the module explores the main theories in the development field and how they have been gendered, looking at modernisation theory, dependency theory, environmentalism, and post-development thinking. Finally, the module considers approaches to gender and development based around the concepts of human rights, capabilities and justice, returning to the original questions about what constitutes development and what the implications of this question are for a gendered approach.

Module aims

The module aims to:

- provoke advanced and critical understanding of the historical, discursive and political context to gender and development (e.g. colonialism; imperialism; orientalism; women's movements);
- stimulate advanced and critical understanding of gender divisions and their impact on processes of development in an international context;
- inspire advanced and critical understanding of key theoretical approaches to gender and development;
- encourage advanced and critical understanding of established quantitative indices of gender and development and the political and conceptual frameworks that lie behind them;
- provide exposure to issues and debates developed by women activists, practitioners and researchers from within the majority world;
- facilitate communication, learning and teamwork in a diverse international group through an awareness of the educational process and the use of group work;
- facilitate the development of advanced written and oral communication skills.

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.

Week 1 Introduction – Categories, Objectification and Ways of Seeing
Week 2 Historical Contexts - Gender and Imperialism
Week 3 Discursive Contexts - Feminism and Orientalism
Week 4 Quantitative Contexts: Measures Of and Targets For Gendered Development
Week 5 Political Contexts - Women's Movements for Social Change
Week 6 Reading Week
Week 7 Liberal, Marxist and Neo-liberal Paradigms of Women/Gender and Development
Week 8 Ecological and Postmodernist Paradigms of Gender and Development
Week 9 Rights based Paradigms of Gender and Development
Week 10 Entitlements and Capabilities: Reimagining Gendered Development

Learning outcomes

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

- By the end of the module students should have an advanced and critical understanding of the historical, discursive and political context to gender and development (e.g. colonialism; imperialism; Orientalism; women's movements)
- By the end of the module students should have an advanced and critical understanding of gender divisions and their impact on processes of development in an international context;
- By the end of the module students should have an advanced and critical understanding of

key theoretical approaches to gender and development;

- By the end of the module students should have an advanced and critical understanding of established quantitative indices of gender and development and the political and conceptual frameworks that lie behind them;
- By the end of the module students should have an advanced and critical understanding of issues and debates developed by women activists, practitioners and researchers from within the majority world;
- By the end of the module students should have an advanced and critical understanding of communication, learning and teamwork in a diverse international group;
- By the end of the module students should have an advanced and critical understanding of written and oral communication skills.

Indicative reading list

Aikman, Sheila and Unterhalter, Elaine (Eds) (2005) Beyond Access: Transforming Policy and Practice for Gender Equality in Education, Oxford: Oxfam GB

Batliwala, Srilatha (2012) Changing Their World: Concepts and Practices of Women's Movements, Toronto: AWID

Bhavnani, Kum-Kum, Foran, John and Kurian, Priya (Eds) (2003) Feminist Futures: Re- imagining Women, Culture and Development, London: Zed

Cornwall, Andrea, Jerker Edstrom and Alan Greig (Eds) (2011) Men and Development: Politicizing Masculinities, London: New York: Zed Books

Cornwall, Andrea and Jenny Edwards (Eds) (2014) Feminisms, Empowerment and Development: Changing Women's Lives, London: Zed Books

Escobar, Arturo (2012) Encountering Development: The Making and Unmaking of the Third World, Princeton: Princeton University Press

Griffin, Penny (2009) Gendering the World Bank: Neoliberalism and the Gendered Foundations of Global Governance, Basingstoke; New York: Palgrave Macmillan

Harcourt, Wendy and Ingrid L. Nelson (Eds) Practising Feminist Political Ecologies: Moving Beyond the 'Green Economy', London: Zed

Harcourt, Wendy (Ed.) (2016) The Palgrave Handbook of Gender and Development, New York: Palgrave Macmillan

Harcourt, Wendy (Ed.) (2017) Bodies in Resistance: Gender and Sexual Politics in the Age of Neoliberalism, London: Palgrave Macmillan

Hellum, Anne and Henriette Sinding Aasen (Eds) (2013) Women's Human Rights: CEDAW in International, Regional and National Law, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press

Jackson, Cecile and Ruth Pearson (Eds) (1998) Feminist Visions of Development: Gender, Analysis and Policy, London: Routledge

Levine, Philipa (Ed.) (2004) Gender and Empire, Oxford: Oxford University Press

Levine, Philippa (2013) The British Empire: Sunrise to sunset, Harlow: Pearson Education

McClintock, Anne (1995) Imperial Leather, London: Routledge

Mohanty, Chandra Talpade (2003) Feminism without Borders: Decolonizing theory, practicing solidarity, Durham; London: Duke University Press

Nussbaum, Martha C. (2011) Creating Capabilities: The Human Development Approach, Cambridge, Mass.: Belknap Press of Harvard University Press

Oberhauser, Ann O. and Ibipo Johnston-Anumonwo (Eds) (2014) Global Perspectives on Gender

and Space: Engaging Feminism and Development, London: Routledge

Okkolin, Mari-Anne (2017) Education, Gender and Development: A Capabilities Perspective, New York: Routledge

Rai, Shirin and Georgina Waylen (Eds) (2014) New Frontiers in Feminist Political Economy, London: Routledge

Reilly, Niamh (2009) Women's Human Rights: Seeking Gender Justice in a Globalizing Age, Cambridge; Malden, MA: Polity

Said, Edward (1979) Orientalism, Harmondsworth: Penguin

Sarkar, Aanchal (2006) Gender and Development, New Delhi: Pragun Publications

Sen, Amartya (2009) The Idea of Justice, London: Allen Lane

Visvanathan, Nalini et al (Eds) (2011) The Women, Gender and Development Reader, London; New York: Zed Books

Wilson, Kalpana (2012) Race, Racism and Development: Interrogating History, Discourse and Practice, London; New York: Zed Books

Subject specific skills

Typically students who have completed this module successfully will be able to:

- deal with complex issues both systematically and creatively, make sound judgements in the absence of complete data, and communicate their conclusions clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences
- demonstrate self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems, and act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level
- continue to advance their knowledge and understanding, and to develop new skills to a high level.

Transferable skills

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

- exercise initiative and personal responsibility
- engage in decision-making in complex and unpredictable situations
- demonstrate the independent learning ability required for continuing professional development

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Study

Study time

Type	Required
Lectures	(0%)
Seminars	18 sessions of 1 hour (9%)
Total	200 hours

Type	Required
Private study	182 hours (91%)
Total	200 hours

Private study description

Reading for seminars.
Preparation for seminars
Preparation of presentations
Preparation and writing of formative work
Preparation and writing of summative work

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 A3

	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
Group Powerpoint (700 words)	15%	15 hours	Yes (extension)

In self-constituted groups students will select a topic for presentation which derives from the module content. This is presented in class, in Week 5. Each group presents for 15 minutes and takes questions from the rest of the class for up to 5 minutes. The presentation is submitted for assessment via Tabula in PPT format.

Essay	85%	80 hours	Yes (extension)

A list of essay titles is given to students at the start of the module. Each student selects a title to which their essay will respond

Feedback on assessment

Marking is via the Tabula system and students receive written, electronic feedback through the system.

Availability

Courses

This module is Core for:

- Year 1 of TWSA-M9P7 Postgraduate Taught Gender and International Development

This module is Optional for:

- Year 1 of TIMA-L981 Postgraduate Social Science Research
- Year 1 of TSOA-L3PD Postgraduate Taught Sociology

This module is Core option list B for:

- Year 2 of TIMA-L981 Postgraduate Social Science Research

This module is Option list A for:

- TSOA-L3PW Postgraduate Taught Social Inequalities and Research Methods
  - Year 1 of L3PW Social Inequalities and Research Methods
  - Year 2 of L3PW Social Inequalities and Research Methods
- Year 1 of TSOA-L3PE Postgraduate Taught Social Research
- TSOA-L3P8 Postgraduate Taught Social and Political Thought
  - Year 1 of L3P8 Social and Political Thought
  - Year 1 of L3P8 Social and Political Thought
- TSOA-L3PD Postgraduate Taught Sociology
  - Year 1 of L3PD Sociology
  - Year 1 of L3PD Sociology

This module is Option list B for:

- Year 1 of TSOA-L30J Postgraduate Taught Gender and Sexuality

This module is Option list C for:

- TPOS-M9PE Double MA in Politics and International Studies (with NTU Singapore)
  - Year 1 of M91L International Development (Double Degree - NTU)
  - Year 1 of M91B International Political Economy (Double Degree - NTU)
  - Year 1 of M91C International Politics and East Asia (Double Degree - NTU)
  - Year 1 of M91D International Politics and Europe (Double Degree - NTU)
  - Year 1 of M91G International Security (Double Degree - NTU)
  - Year 2 of M91B International Political Economy (Double Degree - NTU)
  - Year 2 of M91C International Politics and East Asia (Double Degree - NTU)
- TPOS-M9PP Double MA in Politics and International Studies (with Universität Konstanz, Germany)
  - Year 1 of M92B International Political Economy (Double Degree - Konstanz)
  - Year 1 of M92C International Politics and East Asia (Double Degree - Konstanz)

- Year 1 of M92E International Relations (Double Degree - Konstanz)
  - Year 1 of M92G International Security (Double Degree - Konstanz)
  - Year 1 of M92H Public Policy (Double Degree - Konstanz)
  - Year 2 of M92C International Politics and East Asia (Double Degree - Konstanz)
  - Year 2 of M92D International Politics and Europe (Double Degree - Konstanz)
  - Year 2 of M92E International Relations (Double Degree - Konstanz)
  - Year 2 of M92G International Security (Double Degree - Konstanz)
  - Year 2 of M92K Political and Legal Theory (Double Degree - Konstanz)
  - Year 2 of M92H Public Policy (Double Degree - Konstanz)
- Year 2 of TPOS-M9PT MA in International Development
- Year 2 of TPOS-M1P8 Postgraduate Taught International Politics and East Asia
- Year 2 of TPOS-M9PS Postgraduate Taught Political and Legal Theory
- Year 2 of TPOS-M9PQ Postgraduate Taught United States Foreign Policy