

# SO923-20 Gender, Imperialism and International Development

**26/27**

**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

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## 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

[Reading lists can be found in Talis](#)

## 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

<b>Type</b>	<b>Required</b>
Lectures	(0%)
Seminars	18 sessions of 1 hour (9%)
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.

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## 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

	<b>Weighting</b>	<b>Study time</b>	<b>Eligible for self-certification</b>
<b>Assessment component</b>			
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.

Reassessment component is the same

Assessment component

	<b>Weighting</b>	<b>Study time</b>	<b>Eligible for self-certification</b>
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

Reassessment component is the same

## 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