

Course Title: Gender and Feminist Anthropology

Course Code: ANP 221

Credit: 03

Total Marks: 100 (CIE Marks: 20; CA: 10; SEE Marks: 70)

Course Type: Major

Exam Hours: 4

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Course Description and Objectives

The course will offer comprehensive understanding on gender relations and feminist theories aiming for women's rights through the anthropological perspective. It will begin the conceptual clarity on gender, feminism and gender relations through the basic concepts of gender studies. Then it will also focus on the development of feminist anthropology, the key school of thoughts of feminism, the development perspective of gender in the South Asian context and finally the course will also concentrate on gender politics, gender rights and resistance. Moreover, it analyzes initiatives regarding women's participation in development activities. The learning objectives of the course are as follows:

- introducing the conceptual and theoretical understanding of gender studies
- explaining the historical contexts and necessity of feminist theories
- discussing development perspective on gender in the contemporary South Asian context (special focus on Bangladesh)
- developing critical approaches on gender politics, resistance and gender rights, basically the reproductive politics, gendered citizenship, resistance and gender rights

Course Learning Outcomes

At the completion of this course, students will be able to

- understand the key concepts of gender studies
- grasp the anthropological insights on gender and emergence of feminist anthropology
- develop the theoretical understanding on gender through the key feminist school of thoughts
- critically analyze the developmental perspective on gender
- comprehend the contemporary gender politics, gender rights and resistance

Content and Lecture Plan

SECTION A: BASIC CONCEPTS OF GENDER AND SEX

Week 1: Conceptual Understanding of Gender and Sex: Sex, Gender, Sexuality, Body, Gender Stereotype, Gender Needs, Gender Role, Gender Norms, Gender Performativity, Gender Sensitivity, LGBTQI, Eco-Feminism.

Suggested Readings:

- Malti-Douglas, Fedwa, ed. (2007). *Encyclopedia of Sex and Gender*. New York & London: Thomson Gale.
- Archer, John & Lloyd, Barbara, ed. (2002). *Sex and Gender*. Cambridge & New York: Cambridge University Press. Second Edition.
- Chambers, Samuel A. & Carver, Terrell. (2008). *Judith Butler and Political Theory: Troubling Politics*. London & New York: Routledge.

Week 2: Construction of Gender: Gender Dichotomy, Patriarchy and Matriarchy, Construction of Manhood vs Womanhood, Markers and Rites of Manhood and Womanhood

Suggested Readings:

- Chambers, Samuel A. & Carver, Terrell. (2008). *Judith Butler and Political Theory: Troubling Politics*. London & New York: Routledge.
- Stoller, Robert J. (1984). *Sex and Gender: The Development of Masculinity and Femininity*. London: Karnac Books.
- Salih, Sara. (2002). *On Judith Butler and Performativity*. Judith Butler. Chapter 2 and 3.

SECTION B: FEMINIST ANTHROPOLOGY

Week 3: What is Feminist Anthropology? Emergence/Development of Feminist Anthropology

Suggested Readings:

- Bailey, C. (1999). *What is Feminism? An introduction to feminist theory*. London: Sage Publications
- Walters, Margaret. (2005). *Feminism: A Very Short Introduction*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Schrupp, Patu/Antje. (2017). *A Brief History of Feminism*. Cambridge: MIT Press.
- Gamble, Sarah, ed. (2004). *The Routledge Companion to Feminism and Postfeminism*. London and New York: Routledge.
- Lewin, Ellen and Silverstein, Leni M, ed. (1947). Introduction: Anthropologies and Feminism: Mapping Our Intellectual Journey. *Mapping Feminist Anthropology in the Twenty-First Century*. (Pp.1-6). New Jersey and London: Rutgers University Press.
- Lewin, Ellen, ed. (2006). *Feminist anthropology: A reader*. *Blackwell anthologies in social and cultural anthropology*. Malden, MA: Blackwell.
- Geller, Pamela L., and Miranda K. Stockett, eds. (2006). *Feminist anthropology: Past, present, and future*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press.

Week 4: Historical Development of Patriarchy: Cultural Construction of Gender

Suggested Reading:

Ortner, Sherry. (1972). Is Female to Male as Nature Is to Culture? *Feminist Studies*, 1(2), 5-31.

SECTION C: SCHOOLS OF FEMINIST THOUGHT

Week 5: Liberal Feminism

Suggested Readings:

- Tong, R. (1989). *Feminist Thought: A Comprehensive Introduction*. London: Routledge.
- Kopytoff, Igor (1986). The Cultural Biography of Things: Commoditization as Process, in Appadurai, Arjun (ed.) *The Social Life of Things: Commodities in Cultural Perspective*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, Pp.64-91.

Week 6: Marxist and Socialist Feminism

Suggested Reading:

Tong, R. (1989). *Feminist Thought: A Comprehensive Introduction*. London: Routledge

Week 7: Radical Feminism

Suggested Reading:

Tong, R. (1989). *Feminist Thought: A Comprehensive Introduction*. London: Routledge

Week 8: Postmodern Feminism

Suggested Reading:

Tong, R. (1989). *Feminist Thought: A Comprehensive Introduction*. London: Routledge.

Week 9: Black Feminism

Suggested Reading:

Tong, R. (1989). *Feminist Thought: A Comprehensive Introduction*. London: Routledge.

Week 10: Queer Theory

Suggested Readings:

- Jagose, Annamarie. (2005). *Queer Theory*. New York: New York University Press.
- Lewin, Ellen and Leap. William L, ed. (2009). *Out in Public: Reinventing Lesbian/Gay Anthropology in a Globalizing World*. United Kingdom: Blackwell Publishing Ltd.
- Lewin, Ellen and Leap. William L, ed. (2006). *Out in Theory: The Emergence of Lesbian and Gay Anthropology*. Urbana and Chicago: University of Illinois Press.
- Boellstorff, Tom. (2005). *The Gay Archipelago: Sexuality and Nation in Indonesia*. Princeton and Oxford: Princeton University Press.

Week 11: Eco-Feminism

Suggested Readings:

- Mies, Maria and Shiva, Vandana. (2014). *Ecofeminism*. London & New York: Zed Books.
- Tong, R. (1989). *Feminist Thought: A Comprehensive Introduction*. Third Edition. London: Routledge. (Pp. 237-268).

- Peet, Richard and Hartwick, Elaine. (2015). *Theories of Development: Contentions, Argument, Alternatives*. Third Edition. New York and London: The Guilford Press. (Pp.284-300).

SECTION D: DEVELOPMENT PERSPECTIVE ON GENDER

Week 12: WID, WAD, GAD, WED; Women in Education, Global Economy, Work and Professionalism, Gender and Agency

Suggested Readings:

- Peet, Richard and Hartwick, Elaine. (2015). *Theories of Development: Contentions, Argument, Alternatives*. Third Edition. New York and London: The Guilford Press. (Pp.284-300).
- Kabeer, N. (1995). *Reversed Realities: Gender Hierarchies in Development Thought*. Dhaka: The University Press Limited.
- Tadros, Mariz, ed. (2014). *Women in Politics: Gender, Power and Development*. London & New York: Zed Books.
- Khan, S. (1988). *The Fifty Percent: Women in Development and Policy Making*. 2nd ed. Dhaka: The University Press Limited.
- Mahtab, N. (2007). *Women in Bangladesh: From Inequality to Empowerment*. Dhaka: A. H. Development Publishing House.
- Visvanathan, N. L., Nisonoff, D. L., and Wieggersma, N. (1997). *The Women, Gender and Development Reader*. 2nd ed. London: Zed Books.
- Young, K. (1993). *Planning Development with Women: Making a World of Difference*. London: Macmillan Publishing Limited.

Week 13: Women Empowerment in Bangladesh: Empowerment in Family, Economy, Politics (Participation in Local and National Level & Leadership Development) and Society; Participation in Government and Non-government Organization.

Suggested Readings:

- Kabeer, N. (1995). *Reversed Realities: Gender Hierarchies in Development Thought*. Dhaka: The University Press Limited.
- Khan, S. (1988). *The Fifty Percent: Women in Development and Policy Making*. 2nd ed. Dhaka: The University Press Limited.
- Mahtab, N. (2007). *Women in Bangladesh: From Inequality to Empowerment*. Dhaka: A. H. Development Publishing House.
- Moser, C. O. N. (1993). *Gender Planning and Development: Theory, Practice and Training*. London: Routledge.

SECTION E: POLITICS, RESISTANCE AND GENDER RIGHTS

Week 14: Reproductive Politics: Fetal Images and Abortion Debates; Politics of Body/Body Modification

Suggested Readings:

- Malti-Douglas, Fedwa, ed. (2007). *Encyclopedia of Sex and Gender*. New York & London: Thomson Gale. (Pp.3-4).
- Butler, Judith. (1990). *Gender Trouble: Feminism and the subversion of identity*. New York and London: Routledge (Pp.79-128).

- Pitts, Victoria L. (2003). *In the Flesh: The Cultural Politics of Body Modification*. London: Palgrave Macmillan. (Pp. 1-87)

Week 15: Politics of Representation, Gender Citizenship and State Intervention

Suggested Readings:

- Chiva, Cristina. (2018). Gender, Institutions and Political Representation: Reproducing Male Dominance in Europe's New Democracies. London: Palgrave Macmillan. (Pp. 1-29, 81-99).
- Danielsen, Hide et. al, ed. (2016). *Gendered Citizenship and the Politics of Representation*. London: Palgrave Macmillan (Pp.1-17).
- Khalid, Maryam. (2017). *Gender, Orientalism, and the 'War and Terror': Representation, Discourse, and Intervention in Global Politics*. London and New York: Routledge. (Pp. 1-40).

Week 16: Resistance and Gender Rights: Romance of Resistance; Gender and Sexual Rights (LGBTQI Rights); CEDAW, Beijing Declaration

- Abu-Lughod, Lila. (1990). The Romance of Resistance: Tracing Transformations of Power Bedouin Women, *American Ethnologist*, Vol.17, No. 1 (Feb., 1990), (pp. 41-55). New York. Blackwell publishing.
- International Commission of Jurists. (2009). *Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and International Human Rights Law*. Switzerland. Available at: <<https://www.refworld.org/pdfid/4a783aed2.pdf>>.
- The Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action Turns 20. (2015). New York, UN Women. Available in Online <<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/1776The%20Beijing%20Declaration%20and%20Platform%20for%20Action%20turns%2020.pdf>>
- CEDAW. Available in Online <<https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/ProfessionalInterest/cedaw.pdf>>