

**DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
UTKAL UNIVERSITY**

VALUE ADDED COURSE

ON

‘GENDER AND POLITICS IN INDIA’

Course Syllabus



2021

Gender and Politics in India

Course duration: 1st December – 20th December, 2021

Total teaching hours: 40 hrs

Participation: 54 nos. of P.G. third semester students

Introduction:

Gender issues based on social and gender equity are interdisciplinary and cross-national in nature. India, the world's largest democracy, has had limited political participation by women. However, there has been a considerable progress in this direction in the recent past. The course intends to explore the theoretical and conceptual understandings and various contemporary issues around a range of areas linked to women's political participation in India, including political representation at different levels of India's political system, women as political leaders, debates on gender and development and feminist perspectives besides various policy initiatives and challenges ahead.

Learning Objectives:

- to encourage an understanding of the idea of women as active participants in politics and national development;
- to understand and evaluate the role of gender in Indian Politics;
- to learn the use of feminism as a method of study and research;
- to enhance progressive outlook towards women's work (formal and informal)
- to propagate gender sensitization and its influence on Indian Political System;
- to equip the students for higher studies on gender issues.

Expected Outcomes: The students shall be able to:

Get a deeper insight into the role of gender in politics in India at both theoretical and practical levels;

Understand the major factors responsible for various women centric social movements in India, their consequences and the way forward;

Comprehend the various developmental discourses pertaining to gender and politics in India;

Analyse and understand the ways and means by which the social policies and programs in India can be made more gender sensitive and gender neutral.

Units-I

Gender and Politics: A Conceptual Understanding

- i. Public-private divide; Patriarchy
- ii. Redefining the political

Units-II

Women's movement in India

- i. Pre independence
- ii. Post independence

Units-III

Women and Development

- i. Women and Health: Role of Govt and NGO inventions and Policies.
- ii. Women and Education
- iii. Women entrepreneurship and access to resources
- iv. Women and Environment: Debates & Lessons from India

Units-IV

Public Policy and Gender Concerns

- i. Policies and Schemes
- ii. Insights from Odisha

Reading List

1. *Naarivaadi Rajneeti: Sangharsh evam Muddey*, University of Delhi: Hindi Medium Implementation Board, pp.1-7
2. T. Shinde, (1993) 'Stree Purusha Tulna', in K. Lalitha and Susie Tharu (eds), *Women Writing in India*, New Delhi, Oxford University Press, pp. 221-234
3. U. Chakravarti, (2001) 'Pitrasatta Par ek Note', in S. Arya, N. Menon & J. Lokneeta (eds.)
4. V Geetha, (2002) *Gender*, Kolkata, Stree, pp. 1-20
b.
5. M. Kosambi, (2007) *Crossing the Threshold*, New Delhi, Permanent Black, pp. 3-10; 40-46 **c. Power**
6. Menon, (2008) 'Power', in R. Bhargava and A. Acharya (eds), *Political Theory: An Introduction*, Delhi: Pearson, pp.148-157
7. B. Hooks, (2010) 'Feminism: A Movement to End Sexism', in C. Mc Cann and S. Kim (eds), *The Feminist Reader: Local and Global Perspectives*, New York: Routledge, pp. 51-57
8. R. Delmar, (2005) 'What is Feminism?', in W. Kolmar & F. Bartkowski (eds) *Feminist Theory: A Reader*, pp. 27-37

9. R. Palriwala, (2008) 'Economics and Patriline: Consumption and Authority within the Household' in M. John. (ed) *Women's Studies in India*, New Delhi: Penguin, pp. 414-423
10. U. Chakravarti, (2003) *Gendering Caste through a Feminist Lens*, Kolkata, Stree, pp. 139-159.
11. C. MacKinnon, 'The Liberal State' from *Towards a Feminist Theory of State*, Available at <http://fair-use.org/catharine-mackinnon/toward-a-feminist-theory-of-the-state/chapter-8>, Accessed: 19.04.2013.
12. K. Millet, (1968) *Sexual Politics*, Available at <http://www.marxists.org/subject/women/authors/millett-kate/sexual-politics.htm>, Accessed: 19.04.2013.
13. N. Menon (2008) 'Gender', in R. Bhargava and A. Acharya (eds), *Political Theory: An Introduction*, New Delhi: Pearson, pp. 224-233
14. R. Hussain, (1988) 'Sultana's Dream', in *Sultana's Dream and Selections from the Secluded Ones – translated by Roushan Jahan*, New York: The Feminist Press
15. Ray 'Understanding Patriarchy', Available at http://www.du.ac.in/fileadmin/DU/Academics/course_material/hrge_06.pdf, Accessed: 19.04.2013.
16. Saheli Women's Centre, (2007) *Talking Marriage, Caste and Community: Women's Voices from Within*, New Delhi: monograph S.de Beauvoir (1997) *Second Sex*, London: Vintage.
17. Agnihotri and V. Mazumdar, (1997) 'Changing the Terms of Political Discourse: Women's Movement in India, 1970s-1990s', *Economic and Political Weekly*, 30 (29), pp. 1869-1878.
18. R. Kapur, (2012) 'Hecklers to Power? The Waning of Liberal Rights and Challenges to Feminism in India', in A. Loomba *South Asian Feminisms*, Durham and London: Duke University Press, pp. 333-355
19. N. Menon, (2004) 'Sexual Violence: Escaping the Body', in *Recovering Subversion*, New Delhi: Permanent Black, pp. 106-165
20. P. Swaminathan, (2012) 'Introduction', in *Women and Work*, Hyderabad: Orient Blackswan, pp.1-17
21. J. Tronto, (1996) 'Care as a Political Concept', in N. Hirschmann and C. Stephano, *Revisioning the Political*, Boulder: Westview Press, pp. 139-156
22. Darbar Mahila Samanwaya Committee, Kolkata (2011) 'Why the so-called Immoral Traffic (Preventive) Act of India Should be Repealed', in P. Kotiswaran, *Sex Work*, New Delhi, Women Unlimited, pp. 259-262
23. N. Jameela, (2011) 'Autobiography of a Sex Worker', in P. Kotiswaran, *Sex Work*, New Delhi: Women Unlimited, pp. 225-241
24. C. Zetkin, 'Proletarian Woman', Available at <http://www.marxists.org/archive/zetkin/1896/10/women.htm>, Accessed: 19.04.2013.
25. F. Engles, *Family, Private Property and State*, Available at <http://readingfromtheleft.com/PDF/EngelsOrigin.pdf>, Accessed: 19.04.2013.
26. <http://caringlabor.wordpress.com/2010/12/29/maria-mies-colonization-and-housewifization/>, Accessed: 19.04.2013.
27. Ghosh, (2009) *Never Done and Poorly Paid: Women's Work in Globalising India*, Delhi: Women Unlimited

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29. M. Mies, (1986) 'Colonisation and Housewifisation', in *Patriarchy and Accumulation on a World Scale* London: Zed, pp. 74-111, Available at
30. N. Gandhi and N. Shah, (1992) *Issues at Stake – Theory and Practice in the Women's Movement*, New Delhi: Kali for Women.
31. R. Brownmiller, (1975) *Against our Wills*, New York: Ballantine.
32. S. Ghadially, (2007) *Urban Women in Contemporary India*, Delhi: Sage Publications.
33. Saheli Women's Centre (2001) 'Reproductive Health and Women's Rights, Sex Selection and feminist response' in S Arya, N. Menon, J. Lokneeta (eds), *Nariwadi Rajneeti*, Delhi, pp. 284-306
34. V. Bryson (2007) *Gender and the Politics of Time*, Bristol: Polity Press
35. V. Bryson, (1992) *Feminist Political Theory*, London: Palgrave-MacMillan, pp. 175-180; 196-200
