

Gender and Politics

BA Seminar WiSe 2017/18
Wednesday 10:00 – 12:00, AR-D 6104

Gender is distinct from the biological sex of individuals. It is, first of all, a set of characteristics that are socially constructed. What we consider to be masculine and feminine varies across time and place and intersects with other identity markers such as race and class. But gender differences also denote power differences and thereby (re)construct hierarchies. Not only are men often considered to be stronger and more powerful than women, but some men are considered to be more masculine than others. Globalization and war are two sites where gendering takes place. The discursive construction of gendered identities can, for example, be used to justify military interventions. Hence, gender is, second, also an analytical tool to identify inequalities and hierarchies in world politics. In this seminar we will study how politics, policies and polity in the field of security are inherently gendered.

Prerequisites: Good command of the English language.

Aims:

- Understanding of key concepts
- Application of theoretical concepts to empirical cases and discussion thereof

Acquisition of soft skills:

- Ability to work in teams (group projects)
- Rhetorical skills and debate (discussion)
- Presentation (class presentation)
- Doing research & writing skills

Requirements for Studienleistung (3 credit points, unbenotet):

- Regular attendance and active participation in class discussion on the basis of the required readings. It is therefore absolutely necessary that you carefully read and prepare the required readings!!!
 - You will be given assignments (in class) on a regular basis which are intended to acquaint you doing research and hone your writing skills: Assignments are due in weeks 5, 6, 7,8.

Requirements for Prüfungsleistung (3 credit points, benotet):

- 12-16page paper following consultations with the instructor
 - until 31 December 2017, 1-2 page Abstract due -> has to be discussed with instructor during office hours in January 2018
 - 31 March 2018, paper due: paper has to be sent per E-Mail to schneiker@sozialwissenschaften.uni-siegen.de

Literature

The relevant literature is available in a *Semesterapparat* that you can access via *moodle* or directly on *moodle*. It is necessary that you register for the class on *moodle*. The password is Pankhurst.

For instructions on how to write papers and excerpts, see http://www.uni-siegen.de/phil/sozialwissenschaften/politik/mitarbeiter/andrea_schneiker/lehre.html?lang=de

!!! Subject to alterations !!!!

Literature you might want to consult:

Ackerly, Brooke A.; Stern, Maria; True, Jacqui (eds.) (2006): *Feminist Methodologies for International Relations*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Bethke Elshtain, Jean (1995): *Woman and War*. Chicago and London: University of Chicago Press.

Caglar, Gülay; Prügl, Elisabeth; Zwingel, Susanne (2013): *Feminist Strategies in International Governance*. London and New York: Routledge.

Enloe, Cynthia (2000): *Bananas, Beaches and Bases. Making Feminist Sense of International Politics*. Berkeley et al.: University of California Press.

Hooper, Charlotte (2001): *Manly States. Masculinities, International Relations, And Gender Politics*. New York: Columbia University Press.

Shepherd, Laura (ed.): *Gender Matters in Global Politics. A Feminist Introduction to International Relations*. London and New York: Routledge

Date **Assignments**

Gender and its role in politics

Week 1 Introduction and Discussion of Assignments

(11 Oct 2017) Shepherd, Laura J. (2010): Sex or Gender? Bodies in World Politics and Why Gender Matters. In: Laura Shepherd (ed.): Gender Matters in Global Politics. A Feminist Introduction to International Relations. London and New York: Routledge, pp. 3-6.

Week 2 Required Readings:

(18 Oct 2017) Tickner, Ann J. (2008): Gender in World Politics. In: John Baylis, Steve Smith, Patricia Owens (eds.): The Globalization of World Politics. An introduction to international relations. 4ed. Oxford, New York: Oxford University Press, 262-277.

Please prepare the text by Ann Tickner for discussion in class since we will continue our discussion from last week and discuss some questions related to gender and politics based on the Tickner's text.

Discussion of the following questions:

- Gender as social construction – what does this mean?
- Is the role of women in war or economics important for politics? What do you think?

Assignment for week 5:

You will be given an assignment for week 5 and for week 6. Upload your assignment for week 5 (max. 1 page) on moodle until 05 November 2017, 23:55 pm. Upload your assignment for week 6 (max. 1 page) on moodle until 12 November 2017, 23:55 pm.

Week 3 &

Week 4

(25 Oct &

01 Nov 2017)

NO CLASS

You will work on the assignments for week 5 and week 6.

(Global) Political Economy

Week 5

(08 Nov 2017)

Required Readings:

Kodré, Petra and Henrike Müller (2003): Shifting Policy Frames: EU Equal Treatment Norms and Domestic Discourses in Germany. In: Ulrike Liebert (ed.): Gendering Europeanisation. Brussels et al.: Peter Lang, pp. 83-89.

Please read carefully the text by Kodré and Müller and prepare for a discussion of the text in class.

Based on your written work we will discuss the following questions in class:

- How do state policies and institutions (re)produce gender(ed) roles?
- Why are gender(ed) roles that relate to the private sphere of individuals a public issue and, hence, relevant for politics?

Week 6

(15 Nov 2017)

Required Readings:

Pearson, Ruth (2007): Beyond Women Workers: Gendering CSR. Third World Quarterly 28 (4): 731-749.

Please prepare for a discussion of the text in class. Furthermore, we will discuss your work on multinational companies.

Assignment for week 7:

In order to prepare for the discussion of the text by Jutta Joachim you will write an excerpt and upload your work (max. 1 page) on moodle until 19 November 2017, 23:55 pm. Focus on the following questions:

- What is the overall subject that the text is about?
- What is the research question(s) that the author seeks to answer?
- What is the main argument the author seeks to make?
- What theory/theoretical perspective does the author use in order to answer this/these question(s)?
- What empirical example(s) does the author use?
- Is the argument convincing?

Please make sure to upload a word document on moodle until 19 November 23:55 pm. Please make your excerpt anonymous (that means: don't put your name on the document) in order to allow for peer review in class.

Human Rights

Week 7

Required Readings:

(22 Nov 2017) Joachim, Jutta (2003): Framing Issues and Seizing Opportunities: The UN, NGOs, and Women's Rights. *International Studies Quarterly* 47 (2): 247-274.

We will discuss the text by Joachim based on your excerpts and each of you will review an excerpt by one of your fellow students.

Group work: Identify the different types of framing discussed by Jutta Joachim and write a short definition of each type (in total 1 page max.)

You will be given an assignment for week 8. Please upload your work (max. 1 page) on moodle until 26 November 2017, 23:55 pm.

Week 8

Required Readings:

(29 Nov 2017) Baer, Madeline and Alison Brysk (2009): New Rights for Private Wrongs: Female Genital Mutilation and Global Framing Dialogues. In: Bob, Clifford (ed.): *The International Struggle for New Human Rights*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, pp. 93-107.

We will discuss the text as well as your work.

Security, War & the Military

Week 9

Required Readings:

(06 Dec 2017) Puechguirbal, Nadine (2010): Discourses on Gender, Patriarchy and Resolution 1325: A Textual Analysis of UN Documents, *International Peacekeeping* 17 (2): 172-187.

UNSCR 1325: <https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N00/720/18/PDF/N0072018.pdf?OpenElement>

In class we will discuss UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (Women, Peace, and Security) from 2000 based on the text by Puechguirbal which you therefore have to read carefully.

Week 10

Required Readings:

(13 Dec 2017) Cohn, Carol (1987): Sex and Death in the Rational World of Defense Intellectuals, *Signs* 12(4): 687-718

Please read carefully the text by Cohn and prepare for a discussion thereof in class.

