

Ambedkar University Delhi

Course Outline

Monsoon Semester (July -December 2017)

School: School of Human Sciences

Programme with title: MA Gender Studies

Semester to which offered: Semester-3

Course Title: Violence: Feminist Critiques and Resistances (VFCR)

Credits: 2

Course Code (new): SHS202841

Course Code (old): SHS202841

Type of Course: Core

Course Coordinator and Team:

Email of course coordinator:

Pre-requisites:

Aim:

The specific phenomenon of gender based violence is contained within the large and complex rubric of violence itself. The course will thus begin by conceptually locating the question of gender based violence within the idea of violence itself. In specific, an analysis of the violence perpetuated by the state and its various structures will form an underlying theme of the course. As such a larger emphasis will be on understanding structural and indirect violences, of phenomenon such as disability, land and property rights, sexual rights and the violence emanating out of the everyday. Since the different forms of violence originate from and are produced by systems and discourses of societal, political and economic power, the discussions in the course would include an examination of philosophical questions as to how processes such as law, democracy, (neo)colonialism, practice of caste and religion, as well as their corresponding institutions such as families, courts, schools and religious structures are invested with regimes of power. Also under discussion would be the gendered ideas of violence and non-violence itself. The course thus aims to expand our understanding of violence and its feminist critiques and responses, to locate both these categories in the quotidian and the banal.

Brief description of modules/ Main modules and References

Week 1, Aug 12 - Introduction

Week 2 – Structures of Violence

Mary K Anglin. (1998). "Feminist Perspectives on Structural Violence", *Identities*, 5:2, 145-151.

Anita Ghai. (2002). "Disabled Women: An Excluded Agenda of Indian Feminism", *Hypatia*, Vol. 17, No. 3, Feminism and Disability, Part 2 (Summer), pp. 49-66

Week 3 –Violence and the State

Walter Benjamin (1986). "Critique of Violence" in *Reflections: Essays, Aphorisms, Autobiographical Writings*. Schocken Books, pp 277 – 300.

Hannah Arendt, "We Refugees", in *Altogether Elsewhere: Writers on Exile*, (Ed.) Marc Robinson, Faber and Faber, pp 110-119.

Week 4 –Violence and Power

Louis Althusser. (1971). "Ideology and Ideological State Apparatus: Notes Towards an Investigation" in *Lenin and Philosophy and Other Essays*, Monthly Review Press, pp 130-134, p. 137, pp 140-157. (Recommended Reading – pp 127-186)

Michel Foucault. (1978). "Right of Death and Power over Life", in *History of Sexuality, Vol 1*. Pantheon Books, pp 135-159.

Week 5 – Ordinary/Extraordinary Violences

Frantz Fanon. (1963). "Concerning Violence" in *The Wretched of the Earth*. Grove Press, p. 35 -62. (Recommended Reading – p. 35 – 106).

Srila Roy. (2008). "The Grey Zone: The 'Ordinary' Violence of Extraordinary Times", *The Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute*, Vol. 14, No. 2 (Jun), pp.316-333

Week 6 – Nation, Gender and Violence

Susie Tharu (1996), "The Impossible Subject: Caste and the Gendered Body", *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. 31, No. 22 (Jun. 1) pp. 1311-1315

Veena Das. (2008). "Violence, Gender and Subjectivity". *Annual Review of Anthropology*, Vol. 37, pp. 283-299.

Week 7 - State, Gender and Violence

B. R. Ambedkar (1916), *Castes in India: Their Mechanism, Genesis and Development*, Patrika Publications, pp 2-18.

Young, I.M. (2003). "The Logic Of Masculinist Protection: Reflections On The Current Security State". *Signs*, 29(1), pp. 1-26.

Week 8- The Others of the Nation-State

Gyanendra Pandey, "Can a Muslim be an Indian?", *Comparative Studies in Society and History*, Vol. 41, No. 4 (Oct., 1999), pp. 608-629

Anupama Roy, "The Citizenship Act, 1955: Liminal Citizenship at the Commencement of the Republic", in *Mapping Citizenship in India*, OUP, pp 33-92

Week 9 – Women and Non/Violence

Background Reading: Sucheta Mazumdar (1995), "Women on the March: Right-Wing Mobilization in Contemporary India", *Feminist Review*, No. 49, Feminist Politics: Colonial/Postcolonial Worlds (Spring), pp. 1-28

Compulsory Readings: Tarini Bedi (2006), "Feminist Theory and the Right Wing: Shiv Sena Women Mobilize Mumbai", *Journal of International Women's Studies*, 7(4), 51-68.

Manisha Sethi (2002), "Avenging Angels and Nurturing Mothers: Women in Hindu Nationalism", *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. 37, No. 16 (Apr. 20-26) pp. 1545-1552

Sylvie Frigon, Mapping Scripts and Narratives of Women Who Kill Their Husbands in Canada, 1866–1954: Inscribing the Everyday, in *Killing Women: The Visual Culture of Gender and Violence*, (Ed) Annette Burfoot and Susan Lord, Wilfred Laurier University Press, pp 3-20.

Week 10- Violence and Masculinity

Background Reading: Ann Tickner (1995), "Introducing Feminist Perspectives into Peace and World Security Courses", *Women's Studies Quarterly*, Vol. 23, No. 3/4, Rethinking Women's Peace Studies(Fall - Winter), pp. 48-57

Compulsory Readings: Dubravka Zarkov, "The Body of the Other Man: Sexual Violence and the construction of Masculinity, Sexuality and Ethnicity in The Croatian Media" in *Victims, Perpetrators or Actors? Gender, Armed Conflict and Political Violence*, edited by Caroline O N Moder and Fiona C Clark, pp 69- 82.

Cynthia Enloe, "All the Men are in the Militia, All the Women are the Victims: The Politics of Masculinity and Femininity in Nationalist Wars", in *The Women and War Reader*, edited by Lois Ann Lorentzen and Jennifer Turpin, pp 50-62.

Laura J. Shepherd and Laura Sjoberg (2012), "trans- bodies in/of war(s): cisprivilige and contemporary security strategy", *Feminist Review*, No. 101, conflict, pp. 5-23

Week 11 – The Others of Gender

Gayatri Reddy (2003), "Men" Who Would Be Kings: Celibacy, Emasculation, and the Re-Production of "Hijras" in *Contemporary Indian Politics*, Social Research, Vol. 70, No. 1, Pariah Minorities (spring 2003), pp. 163-200

Arvind Narrain (2007), "Rethinking Citizenship: A Queer Journey", *Indian Journal of Gender Studies*, pp 61-71.

Week 12 – Violent Responses

Deepti Misri (2011), "Are you a man?": Performing Naked Protest in India", *Signs*, Vol. 36, No. 3 (Spring 2011), pp. 603-625

Srila Roy (2009), "The Ethical Ambivalence Of Resistant Violence: Notes From Postcolonial South Asia", *Feminist Review*, No. 91, south asian feminisms: negotiating new terrains, pp. 135-153

S.No	Weightage	Date/period in which Assessment will take place	Assessment
1	40%	5-October-2017	Assesement 1
2	40%	5-November-2017	Assesement 2
3	20%	6-November-2017	Assesement 3

Tentative Assessment schedule with details of weightage: