

Gender and Globalization SOC G272

Graduate Seminar

Department of Sociology & Anthropology

Northeastern University

Spring 2006

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Office: 531 Holmes Hall

Office Hours: Wednesday 1:30 - 4:30 pm or by appointment

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Overview

This seminar explores current issues and debates relating to the gendered effects of globalization and women's political responses to it. The emergence of transnational feminism reflects the growing linkages between and among local, national, and global movements and international advocacy organizations. First, we examine transnational connections and relationships between women workers in various parts of the world in the context of economic globalization and migration. Mobilization around women's labor rights and violence against women serve as examples of women's political activism that include non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and grassroots mobilization around the world. Finally, we will examine gender politics in the European Union and the United Nations, since these international and supra-national organizations have created and reshaped political opportunities for women's/feminist movements.

Requirements:

1. Preparation and participation. This seminar is primarily based on discussions. Thus, you are expected to do all assigned readings, and to thoughtfully reflect on them in preparation for an active participation. To facilitate this, there are **5 short reaction papers** (2 double-spaced pages, 12 point Times Roman that means 700 words) required. The reaction paper should not be a summary of the readings, but instead a critique of the materials. Thus, they provide an opportunity to compare or contrast the main points the authors make. You might identify contradictions, puzzles or problems in the readings. Each reaction paper should have at least two explicit questions for discussion and refer to all readings. These weekly papers will also give you the opportunity to relate the readings directly to your own research paper. The response papers are due at 6 pm on Monday before the seminar meets to discuss the assigned readings. Please post the reaction papers on the seminar e-mail distribution list (as text not as attachment).

2. Seminar Discussion Facilitator/Leader: Each student will be a facilitator for a seminar discussion. This includes a 10 minute in-class presentation. The presentation should be based on the readings, but can also include a brief review of a book pertinent to that week's readings, for example from the recommended reading list. The discussion leader then presents about 3 questions for the discussion. These short presentations should not be a summary of the readings, instead the purpose is to compare and/or contrast perspectives/theories/findings across the readings for this week. The task of facilitator also includes a careful reading of participants' weekly reaction papers and possible inclusion of the questions raised in them. Provide a handout with the key concepts, theories, and terms from the readings for the discussion.

3. Seminar Paper on a topic of your choice related to the themes of the class. A short paper proposal is due on February 1st. This proposal includes a brief statement of topic/research question and a tentative bibliography see instructions below. A draft of the paper is due for peer review by Monday April, 17th at 6 pm via e-mail. The comments are due on Wednesday, April 19th in the seminar. All students will give an oral presentation on their papers in the last session of the seminar on Wednesday April 19th. The final paper is due on Monday April 24th by 4:30 pm in the main office of the Department of Sociology, 500 Holmes Hall. The final paper should be 6,000 words (without the bibliography) (that is approx. 20 pages, 12 point Times Roman, double spaced, margins 1.5 inch). Please include in your final paper: The copy of your proposal (with my comments), the draft (with the comments from your colleague), and the final paper.

The final grade for the course will be composed of: active seminar participation including the reaction papers (30%), discussion facilitation (10%), peer review (5%), and the final research paper: paper proposal (5%) and final paper (50%).

Readings

The books have been ordered through the NU Bookstore and are on reserve in the NU Library. In the first meeting of the course, the readings will be discussed in detail.

Required

- Berkovitch, Nitza. 2002. *From Motherhood to Citizenship: Women's Rights and International Organizations*. Baltimore: The John Hopkins University Press.
- Keck, Margaret and Kathryn Sikkink. 1998. *Activists Beyond Borders: Advocacy Networks in International Politics*. Cornell University Press.
- Naples, Nancy A. and Manisha Desai (eds.). 2002. *Women's Activism and Globalization: Linking Local Struggles and Transnational Politics* New York: Routledge. (abbreviated as WAG throughout syllabus!)

Recommended for Globalization Studies in general:

- Held, David, Anthony McGrew, David Goldblatt and Jonathan Perraton. 1999. *Global Transformations. Politics, Economics and Culture*. Stanford: Stanford University Press.
- Lechner, Frank and John Boli. 2004. *The Globalization Reader*. Malden: Blackwell Publishing.
- Lechner, Frank and John Boli. 2005. *World Culture*. Malden: Blackwell Publishing.
- Babb, Sarah. 2005. "The Social Consequences of Structural Adjustment: Recent Evidence and Current Debates." *Annual Review of Sociology* 31: 163-197.

Recommended for Transnational Social Movements in general:

- Bandy, Joe and Jackie Smith eds. 2005. *Coalitions across Borders. Transnational Protest and the Neoliberal Order*. Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers.
- della Porta, Donnatella, Hanspeter Kriesi and Dieter Rucht. 1999. *Social Movements in a Globalizing World*. New York: Macmillan.
- della Porta, Donnatella and Sidney Tarrow. Eds. 2004. *Transnational Activism and Global Movements*. Lanham: Rowman and Littlefield.
- O'Brien, Robert et al. 2000. *Contesting Global Governance. Multilateral Institutions and Global Social Movements*. Cambridge University Press.
- Smith, Jackie and Hank Johnston eds. 2002. *Globalization and Resistance: Transnational Dimensions of Social Movements*. Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc.
- Smith, Jackie, C. Chatfield and R. Pagnucco. Eds. 1997. *Transnational Social Movements and global Politics: Solidarity beyond the State*. Syracuse: Syracuse University Press.
- Tarrow, Sidney. 2005. *The New Transnational Activism*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Recommended for Gender & Globalization Studies:

- Basu, Amrita. 1995. *The Challenge of Local Feminisms: Women's Movements in Global Perspective*. Boulder: Westview.
- Bystydzienski, Jill and Joti Sekhon. 1999. *Democratization and women's grassroots movements*. Bloomington IN: Indiana University Press.
- Ehrenreich, Barbara and Arlie Russell Hochschild eds. 2002. *Global Woman: Nannies, Maids, and Sex Workers in the New Economy*. New York: Metropolitan Books.
- Grewal, Inderpal and Caren Kaplan eds. 1994. *Scattered Hegemonies: Postmodernity and Transnational Feminist Practices*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press.
- Hondagneu-Sotelo, Pierrette. 2001. *Doméstica. Immigrant Workers Cleaning and Caring in the Shadows of Affluence*. Berkeley: University of California Press.
- Jacquette, Jane 1994 (2nd edition) *The Women's Movement in Latin America: Participation and Democracy*. Boulder: Westview.
- Kelly, Rita Mae, Jane Bayes, Brigitte Young eds. 2001. *Gender, Globalization, and Democratization*. Lanham: Rowman and Littlefield. (GGD)
- Kofman, Eleonore, Annie Phizucklea, Parvati Raghuran, and Rosemar Sales. 2001. *Gender and International Migration in Europe: Employment, Welfare, and Politics*. Routledge.
- Marchand, Marianne and Anne Sisson Runyan eds. 2000. *Gender and Global Restructuring*. London and New York: Routledge. (GGR)
- Meyer, Mary K. and Elisabeth Prügl eds. 1999. *Gender Politics in Global Governance*. Boulder and London: Rowman and Littlefield.
- Mohanty, Chandra. 2003. *Feminism Beyond Borders: Decolonizing Theory, Practicing Solidarity*. Durham: Duke University Press.

- Rowbotham, Sheila and Stephanie Linkogle eds. 2001. *Women Resist Globalization. Mobilising for Livelihood and Rights*. Palgrave.
- Rupp, Leila. 1997. *Worlds of Women: The Making of an International Women's Movement*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Salzinger, Leslie. 2003. *Genders in Production: Making Workers in Mexico's Global Factories*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Seminar WWW page

We will use *Blackboard* for other course materials or for our online communication.

There is a WWW page for this seminar – that provides useful links; and I invite you to contribute to it throughout the seminar <http://www.atsweb.neu.edu/zipfel/courses/272>

Tentative Seminar Schedule

1. Meeting Tuesday Jan 11 - Introduction to the Course

Required Readings:

- Toussaint, Laura. 2005. "Women and Social Movements against Globalization." SWS Network News: The Newsletter of Sociologists for Women in Society XXII (1): 10-15.

2. Meeting January 18 - Theorizing about Women's Movements in the Context of Globalization

Required Readings:

- Tarrow, Sidney. 2005. Chapter 2 Internationalism and Contention. In *The New Transnational Activism*. Cambridge University Press.
- Ferree, Myra Marx and Carol Mueller. "Feminism and the Women's Movement: A Global Perspective." Pp. 576-607 In *The Blackwell Companion to Social Movements* edited by David Snow, Sarah Soule and Hanspeter Kriesi. Malden: Blackwell.
- Naples, Nancy. "Changing the Terms." In WAG Ch. 1, Pp. 3-15.
- Desai, Manisha. "Transnational Solidarity." In WAG Ch. 2, Pp. 15-33.

Recommended:

- Keck, Margaret and Kathryn Sikkink. Ch. 1 "Transnational Advocacy Networks in International Politics." Pp. 1-39.
- Bayes, Jane, Mary Hawkesworth, and Rita Mae Kelly. "Globalization, Democratization, and Gender Regimes." In GGD, Ch. 1 Pp. 1-14.
- Beckwith, Karen. 2001. "Women's Movements at Century's End: Excavation and Advances in Political Science" *Annual Review of Political Science*. 4: 371-390.

WAG stands for: Naples, Nancy A. and Manisha Desai (eds.). 2002. *Women's Activism and Globalization: Linking Local Struggles and Transnational Politics* New York: Routledge.

3. Meeting January 25 - Hands-on Library Tour.

Meet in 120 Snell Library with Christine Oka.

4. Meeting February 1 - Individual Meetings

→ PAPER PROPOSAL DUE February 1st

Arrange a time for individual consultation to discuss your research project based on the paper proposal (Thursday Feb. 2nd or Friday Feb. 3rd). The two page proposal should include:

1. Research question(s) and/or theoretical question(s)
2. Theoretical framework you will test and/or build on
3. Ideas how to do go about your research
4. Preliminary bibliography with least 5 academic books (University Presses preferred) and 10 articles (incl. at least 3 articles from mainstream sociology journals *ASR*, *AJS*, *Social Forces*, *Social Problems*, *Gender and Society* etc.)

5. Meeting February 8 - History of Transnational/International Women's Movements

Compare and contrast the circumstances for the historical mobilization of activists. For example, what issues did women historically organized around internationally? Which "worlds" did these activists come from? What resources did these activists have?

Readings:

- Berkovitch, Nitzza. 2002. *From Motherhood to Citizenship: Women's Rights and International Organizations*.
- Keck, Margaret and Kathryn Sikkink. Ch. 2, "Historical Precursors to Modern Transnational Advocacy Networks." Pp. 39-79

Recommended:

- Rupp, Leila and Verta Taylor 1999. "Forging feminist identity in an international movement: A collective identity approach to twentieth-century feminism" *Signs*, 24 (2): 363-386.
- Rupp, Leila 1997 *Worlds of Women: The Making of an International Women's Movement*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

6. Meeting February 15 - Impact of (Economic) Globalization on Gender Relations

How does globalization impact existing (gender) inequalities? How is it reconfiguring or producing new gender inequalities? What are the new "global" issues for politics? What does economic restructuring mean for the gender and labor conflicts? How does globalization affect class/race/gender/ and North-South lines of division? In particular, we examine the interconnectness of social inequality embedded in economic and political structures.

Readings:

- Acker, Joan. 2004. "Gender, Capitalism and Globalization." *Critical Sociology* 30 (1): 17-41.
- Chow, Esher Ngan-lin. 2003. "Gender Matters: Studying Globalization and Social Change in the 21st Century." *International Sociology* 18(3):443-460.
- Pyle, Jean L. and Kathryn B. Ward. 2003. "Recasting our understanding of gender and work during global restructuring." *International Sociology* 18 (3): 461-489.
- Leslie Salzinger. 2004. "From Gender as Object to Gender as Verb: Rethinking how Global Restructuring Happens." *Critical Sociology* 30 (1): 17-41.

Recommended

- Marchand, Marianne and Anne Sisson Runyan eds. 2000. *Gender and Global Restructuring*. London and New York: Routledge.
- Kelly, Rita Mae, Jane Bayes, Brigitte Young eds. 2001. *Gender, Globalization, and Democratization*. Lanham: Rowman and Littlefield.

7. Meeting February 22 - Citizens of the World? Mobilization of Migrants

What are the gendered meanings of migration in the context of globalization? We discuss here concepts of gender division labor, citizenship, migration, care work, and reconfigurations of gender relations and states.

Readings:

- Kofman, Eleonore. 2003. "Gendered Global Migrations." *International Feminist Journal of Politics* 6 (4): 643-66.
- Man, Guida. 2004. "Gender, Work and Migration: Deskillling Chinese Immigrant Women in Canada." *Women's Studies International Forum* 27 (2):135-48.
- Parrenas, Rhacel Salazar. 2000. "Migrant Filipina Domestic Workers and the International Division of Reproductive Labor." *Gender and Society* 14 (4):560-80.

Recommended:

- Ehrenreich, Barbara and Arlie Russell Hochschild eds. 2002. *Global Woman: Nannies, Maids, and Sex Workers in the New Economy*. New York: Metropolitan Books.
- Hondagneu-Sotelo, Pierrette. 2001. *Doméstica. Immigrant Workers Cleaning and Caring in the Shadows of Affluence*. Berkeley: University of California Press.
- Sassen, Saskia. 1999. *Guests and Aliens*. New York: The New Press.

8. Meeting March 1 - Trafficking in Women in the New Global Order

Readings:

- Agustín, Laura. 2005. "Migrants in the Mistress's House: Other Voices in the "Trafficking" Debate." *Social Politics* 12: 96-117.
- Kligman, Gail and Stephanie Limoncelli. 2005. "Trafficking Women after Socialism: To, Through, and From Eastern Europe." *Social Politics* 12:118-140
- Outshoorn, Joyce. 2005. "The Political Debates on Prostitution and Trafficking of Women." *Social Politics* 12:141-155.

Recommended:

- Agustín, Laura. 2003. "A Migrant World of Service." *Social Politics* 10 (3): 377-396.
- Berman, Jacqueline. 2003. "(Un)Popular Strangers and Crises (Un) Bounded: Discourses of Sex-Trafficking, the European Political Community and the Panicked State of the Modern State." *European Journal of International Relations* 9 (1):37-86.

March 8 - Happy Spring Break

9. Meeting March 15 - Religion and Women's Rights

We will discuss some aspects of globalization and religion with the example of focusing on Islam in Europe. France and Germany have been on the forefront of banning religious symbols out of classrooms and schools. Compare and contrast their approaches. Analyze, what does the headscarf seem to stand for in these debates?

Readings

- <http://www.atsweb.neu.edu/zippel/eu/www/resources/headscarf.htm>
- Scott, Joan. 2005. "Symptomatic Politics: The Banning of Islamic Head Scarves in French Public Schools," *French Politics, Culture and Society* 23:3: TBA
- Killian, Caitlin. 2003. "The other Side of the Veil: North African Women in France Respond to the Headscarf Affair." *Gender & Society* 17 (4): 567-590.

Recommended:

- Klausen, Jytte. 2005. *The Challenge of Islam: Politics and Religion in Western Europe*. Oxford University Press.

10. Meeting March 22 - Transnational Organizing Across Borders.

Readings:

- Weber, Clare, "Women to Women: Dissident Citizen Diplomacy in Nicaragua." In WAG Ch. 4, pp. 45-63
- Hrycak, Alexandra. "From Mothers' Rights to Equal Rights: Post-Soviet Grassroots Women's Associations." WAG Ch. 5, pp. 64-82
- Navarro, Sharan Ann. "Las Mujeres Invisibles/ The Invisible Woman." WAG Ch. 6 pp. 83-98.
- Eschle, Catherine. 2005. "Skeleton Women: Feminism and the Anti-Globalization Movement." *Signs* 30 (3):1741-60.

Recommended:

- Jane H. Bayes, Rita Mae Kelly. "Political Spaces, Gender, and NAFTA" In *GGD* Ch. 9, Pp. 147-170.

11. Meeting March 29 - Gendered Global Actors and Institutions

We investigate political activism of women directed towards global actors, that is supra-national or international organizations that are operating on a global scale. Supra-national cooperation in the "economic sphere" includes European Union (EU), Mercosur, Noida Export Processing zone (NEPZ), and the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). International organizations that are operating at the "global" level, include the World Trade Organization, the World Bank, and the United Nations.

Readings:

- Walby, Silvia. 2005. "Measuring Women's Progress in a Global Era." *International Social Studies Journal* 57 (June): 371-387.

- Desai, Manisha. 2005. "Transnationalism: The Face of Feminist Politics post-Beijing." *International Social Studies Journal* 57 (June): 319-330.
- Friedman, Elisabeth. 2003. "Gendering the Agenda: The Impact of the Transnational Women's Rights Movement at the UN Conferences of the 1990s." *Women's Studies International Forum* 26 (4) 313-331.

Recommended:

- Sienstra, Deborah. "Dancing Resistance from Rio to Beijing: Transnational Women's Organizing and United Nations Conferences 1992-6." In GGR Ch. 12, Pp. 209-224.
- Tarrow, Sidney. 2001. "Transnational Politics: Contention and Institutions in International Politics." *Annual Review of Political Science* 4: 1-20.
- Poster, Winifred and Zakia Salime. "The Limits of Microcredit. Transnational Feminism and USAID Activities in the United States and Morocco." In WAG Ch. 12, Pp. 189-219.

12. Meeting April 5 - Political Opportunities in a Supranational Organizations - The European Union

Guest-speakers Maria Stratigaki & Mary Daly.

Readings:

- Cichowski, Rachel. "No Discrimination Whatsoever:" Women's Transnational Activism and the Evolution of EU Sex Equality Policy." In WAG Ch. 13, Pp. 220-239.
- TBA

Recommended:

- Zippel, Kathrin. 2004. "Transnational Advocacy Networks and Policy Cycles in the European Union: The Case of Sexual Harassment." *Social Politics: International Studies in Gender, State, and Society*. 11 (1): 57-85.

13. Meeting April 12 - Body Politics: Violence Against Women & Trafficking in Women

We look here in particular at the diffusion of **women's rights** and **violence against women** through transnational women's movements.

Readings:

- Keck, Margaret and Kathryn Sikkink. 1998. Ch. 5: *Transnational Networks on Violence Against Women*, 165-199.
- Roggeband, Conny. 2004. "Immediately I Thought We Should Do the Same Thing." *European Journal of Women's Studies* 11 (2) 159-175.
- Petchesky, Rosalind. 2004. "Rights of the Body and Perversions of War: Sexual Rights and Wrongs Ten Years Past Beijing." *International Social Studies Journal* 57 (June): 371-387.

Recommended:

- Fukumura, Yoko and Martha Matsuoka. "Redefining Security: Okinawa Women's Resistance to U.S. Militarism." In WAG Ch. 14, Pp. 239-266.
- Mushakoji, Kinhide. "Engendering the Japanese "Double Standard" Patriarchal Democracy: The Case of the "Comfort Women" and Military Sexual Slavery." In GGD, Ch. 12, Pp. 205-222.
- Hanochi, Seiko. "Japan and the Global Sex Industry." In GGD, Ch. 8, Pp. 137-146.

14. Meeting April 19 - Future Perspectives & Presentation of Research Papers

Readings:

- Kim, Hyun Sook and Jyoti Puri. 2005. "Conceptualizing Gender-Sexuality-State-Nation." *Gender and Society* 19 (2): 137-159.
- Naples, Nancy A. 2002. "The Challenges and Possibilities of Transnational Feminist Praxis." In WAG 267-282.

→ Exchange Paper for Peer-Review via email by Monday 17th at 6 pm
→ Comments due on April 19th in class

→ **FINAL PAPER DUE Monday April 24th. At 4:30 pm**
Main office Sociology Department, 500 Holmes Hall