THE UNIVERSITY OF BURDWAN

Department of Women's Studies

SYLLABUS OF **ONE YEAR PG PROGRAMME** IN WOMEN'S STUDIES
Semesterwise and Coursewise Distribution of Credit & Marks

1-Yr PG Course
(To be effective from the academic session 2027–2028 onwards)

[Finalized in 13.06.26 P G BoS meeting and approved by each of its members]

SEMESTER-I

OPTION-I: Course-work Semester-I & Research Thesis/Project in Semester-II

Semester	Course Type	Code & Level	Name of the Course	Credit	L – T - P	Marks	Marks Dist. Th. – Pr. - IA
I	Major/Core Course	PG1WMNS1011 (500-599)	Gender, Law and Justice	4	3-1-0	50	40 – 00 – 10
	Major/Core Course	PG1WMNS1012 (500-599)	Women and the Domain of Science and Technology	4	3-1-0	50	40– 00 – 10
	Major/Core Course	PG1WMNS1013 (500-599)	Gender and Media	4	3-1-0	50	40–00–10
	Major/Core Course	PG1WMNS1014 (500-599)	Indian Knowledge System	4	3-1-0	50	40– 00–10
	Major/Core Course	PG1WMNS1015 (500-599)	Women, Gender and Ecology	4	3-1-0	50	40– 00–10
	Total			20		250	

Seme ster	Course Type	Code & Level	Name of the Course	Credit	L – T - P	Marks	Marks Dist. Th. – Pr. - IA
II	Research Thesis/ Project	PG1WMNS2031 (500-599)	Research Thesis/ Project	20	0- 0- 20	250	0-250-0 Seminar Presentation, Book Review, Preparation & Submission of Research Thesis/ Project Document-150 + Viva-100
	Two-credit Compulsory Course	PG1WMNS2041 (500-599)	Community Engagement Programme	(This shall not be taken into consideration in the calculation of SGPA and CGPA)			
	Total			20		250	

OR

OPTION- II: Only Course Works in both Semesters I & II

Semester	Course Type	Code & Level	Name of the Course	Credit	L – T - P	Marks	Marks Dist. Th. – Pr. - IA
I	Major/Core Course	PG1WMNS1011 (500-599)	Women, Gender and Law	4	3-1-0	50	40 – 00 – 10
	Major/Core Course	PG1WMNS1012 (500-599)	Women and the Domain of Science and Technology	4	3-1-0	50	40– 00 – 10
	Major/Core Course	PG1WMNS1013 (500-599)	Gender and Media	4	3-1-0	50	40–00–10
	Major/Core Course	PG1WMNS1014 (500-599)	Indian Knowledge System	4	3-1-0	50	40– 00–10
	Major/Core Course	PG1WMNS1015 (500-599)	Women, Gender and Ecology	4	3-1-0	50	40– 00–10
	Total			20		250	

Semester	Course Type	Code & Level	Name of the Course	Credit	L – T - P	Marks	Marks Dist. Th. – Pr. - IA
II	Major/Core Course	PG1WMNS2011 (500-599)	Socio-Psychological and Cultural Issues in Gender Roles	4	3-1-0	50	40 – 00 – 10
	Major/Core Course	PG1WMNS2012 (500-599)	Politics of Gendered Body	4	3-1-0	50	40– 00 – 10
	Major/Core Course	PG1WMNS2013 (500-599)	Masculinity and Queer Studies	4	3-1-0	50	40–00–10
	Major/Core Course	PG1WMNS2014 (500-599)	Marginalized Women	4	3-1-0	50	40– 00–10
	Major/Core Course	PG1WMNS2015 (500-599)	Gender Mainstreaming and Gender Budgeting	4	3-1-0	50	40– 00–10
	Two-credit Compulsory Course	PG1WMNS2041 (500-599)	Community Engagement Programme	(This shall not be taken into consideration in the calculation of SGPA and CGPA)			
	Total			20		250	

OR

OPTION- III: Only Research Thesis/ Project in Semesters-I & II

Semester	Course Type	Code & Level	Name of the Course	Credit	L – T - P	Marks	Marks Dist. Th. – Pr. - IA
I	Research Thesis/ Project	PG1WMNS1031 (500-599)	Research Thesis/ Project	20	0- 0-20	250	0-250-0 Seminar Presentation, Book Review, Preparation & Submission of Research Thesis/ Project Document-1 [150 (incl. 20 for Book Review) + Viva-100]

Semester	Course Type	Code & Level	Name of the Course	Credit	L – T - P	Marks	Marks Dist. Th. – Pr. - IA
II	Research Thesis/ Project	PG1WMNS2031 (500-599)	Research Thesis/ Project	20	0- 0-20	250	0-250-0 Seminar Presentation, Book Review, Preparation & Submission of Research Thesis/ Project Document-2 [150 (incl. 20 for Book Review) + Viva-100]
	Two-credit Compulsory Course	PG1WMNS2041 (500-599)	Community Engagement Programme	(This shall not be taken into consideration in the calculation of SGPA and CGPA)			
	Total			20		250	

Detailed Syllabus

SEMESTER-I

OPTION-I: Course-works in Semester-I & Research Thesis/Project in Semester-II

PG1WMNS 1011: GENDER, LAW AND JUSTICE

[With the adaptation of the CEDAW India is legally bound to take necessary steps to eliminate all forms of discrimination and structural inequities suffered by women under conventional patriarchal institutions. As a matter of human rights and the condition of social justice, the Indian Constitution calls for equality for all people, regardless of gender. To protect women from exploitation, assault, discrimination, and sexual harassment, a variety of laws have been passed. This paper is expected to critically explore constitutional and legal provisions and various enforcement mechanisms that can help women and the so called third-gender people to attain their desired goal of equity and justice at par with males.]

Unit-I: Gender Justice: Global and National Perspective

- Gender Justice through UDHR, Sameness of Liberal Human Rights of Women and Critique on Its Universality Claim. CEDAW- Otherness of Women's Human Rights and its Enframing through Liberal Feminism.
- Gender Justice and the Indian Constitution. Fundamental Rights, DPSP and Gender Sensitive Judicial Interpretation in Relation to Patriarchy, Affirmative Action with Feminist Critique of Equality Including Power Sharing of Women in Public Decision Making under Articles 243D &253T and Intersectionality Critique.

Unit II: Gender Justice in Civil and Criminal Laws

- Personal Laws and Indian women-Marriage, Divorce, Maintenance. Feminist Critique of Heterosexual Marriage, Recognition of Live-In Relationship including Inequality in Personal Laws & the UCC debate.
- Module IV: Criminal Offences Affecting Women under BNS, IT and POCSO Act, Rape, Dowry Death, Kidnapping, Abduction, Honour Killing, Acid Attack, Voyeurism and Stalking with Feminist views on Patriarchy Violence, Consent and Marital Rape.
- Protective Legislations for women: Protection of women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005, Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace Act, 2013, Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961
- Institutional Mechanisms for Women Justice, Fast Track Court & ADR for Women. National Commission for Women, Family Courts, Loke Adalat and PMLA Constituted under Different Statutes.
- Reproductive Rights, Surrogacy Rights of Women and Abortion for Bodily Autonomy and Privacy.
- Queer feminism and Indian women's Law- Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act,2019 and Judicial Exposition of Rights with Queer Feminist Critique

Suggested Readings:

- K.C.Joshi. *International Law& Human Rights*. EBC, 2006.
- Dr.KailashRai. *Constitutional Law of India.* Central Law Publication, 2015.
- B.M.Gandhi. *Family Law*. Eastern Book Company 2012.
- KD.Gaur. *Textbook On Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita*. Lexis Nexis, 2024.
- Bula Bhadra. "Gender Justice or Gendered Justice? A Sociological Exploration or Revelation", in N.K.Chakrabarti and S.Chakraborty (eds.) *Gender Justice*, Calcutta University LL.B.Honours Curriculum Development Programme, Vol. II, Kolkata, R. Cambray & Co.
- Josephine Kipgen. *Reproductive Politics in India*: *The Case of Sex-Selective Abortion*. Palgrave Macmillan, 2023.
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- Dr.Neelam Tyagi. *Women, Matrimonial Litigation and ADR*., Springer: Nature (Singapore) 2021.
- Flavia Agnes. *Women and Law in India*, Oxford Univ. Press, 2021.
- Pratiksa Baxi. *Public Secrets of Law: Rape Trials of Rape in India*, Oxford Univ. Press, 2014.

PG1WMNS1012: HEALTH, GENDER AND DOMAIN OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

[This course focuses health issue from gender perspective to identify the information, attitudes, behaviours, medicinal practices and beliefs regarding puberty, menstruation, pregnancy, and reproductive health to guide the development of future programmes and policies for women and transgenders. It explores the gendered history of women's healthcare, starting from midwifery to professional gynaecology. Simultaneously, this course takes up the feminist criticism of science and technology. In many cases underlying disparities in the practices of science and uses of technology hinder access to resources and decision-making opportunities for women and queer people, creating challenges to sustainable development and livelihoods. The issue of science and technology is thus viewed from gender perspective.]

Unit-1: Women and Transgender: Health

- Interrogating Women's Body:Puberty, Menstruation, Pregnancy &Reproductive Health
- Women and Traditional Medicine in India and Elsewhere
- Women and Western Medicines in Colonial Indian
- Women Doctors in History: Journey from Midwifery to Gynaecology
- Women Workers/ Caregivers in Organized and Unorganized Sectors
- Health Issues of Queer and Transgenders

Unit 2: Women and Gender: Science and Technology

- Women and Science: The Feminist Critique of Science: Socially Responsible Science
- Gender in Science and Technology
- Science and Technology for Sustainable and Inclusive Development
- Gender and Artificial Intelligence (IA)

Suggested Readings:

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- Geraldine Forbes, *Women in Modern India,* Cambridge University Press, 1998.
- Bhaswati Chatterjee & Aparna Bandyopadhyay eds. *Her Story: Essays on Women's History in Honour of Professor Geraldine Forbes*. Kolkata: Samparka, 2022
- Neelam Kumar ed, *Women and Science in India: A Reader*, OUP, New Delhi, 2009.
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- Sujata Mukherjee. *Gender, Medicine and Society in Colonial India Women's Health Care in Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Century Bengal*, OUP, New Delhi, 2017
- Sumi Krishna & Gita Chadha (eds). *Feminists and Science: Critiques and Changing Perspectives in India*. (in 2 Vols). Stree, Kolkata, 2015 &2017
- Sarah Hodges. *Reproductive Health in India. History, Politics and Controversies*, Orient Longman, New Delhi,2006
- Bula Bhadra. "New Visage of Gendering in Hey-day of Globalization and ICTs: Archetypal Case of India" (2021), *Samaj Jijnasa*, vol.14, Nos.1& 2, pp.139-153.
- Bula Bhadra. "Unequal Exchange: A Tale of Surrogacy and Indian Women's Health" in *Health System Strengthening: Country Experiences* (eds.), R.K. Mishra, P. Geeta and P. Garimella (New Delhi: Academic Foundation, 2016).
- Bula Bhadra. "Dangers of Living in a Connected World", *Social Science Gazetteer*, (2023-24), vol.18, Nos.1& 2, pp.61-100.
- Charu Gupta. *Sexuality, Obscenity, Community Women, Muslims and the Hindu Public in Colonial India*, Permanent Black, Delhi, 2001
- Meredith Borthwick, *The Changing Role of Women in Bengal 1849-1905,* New Jersey, 1984.
- Sharman, Zena. *The Remedy: Queer and Trans Voices on Health and Health Care,* Arsenal Pulp Press, 2016.
- Lees, Katy. *The Trans Guide to Mental Health and Well-Being*, Jessica Kingsley Publishers, 2022.
- Ernst, Waltraud & Ilona Horwath. *Gender in Science and Technology: Interdisciplinary Approaches* Transcript Publishing, 2013.
- Barnett, Amri. *Artificial Intelligence for Women*. 2024.
- Goswami, Niyati & Chahak Goswami. *Empowering Women in AI: A Guide to Thriving in the Future of Technology*, 2024.
- Douglas A. Vokoch, *Transgender India: Understanding Third Gender Identities and Experience*, Springer, 2022.

PG1WMNS1013: INDIAN KNOWLEDGE SYSTEM

[Indian Knowledge System (IKS), under the so called spell of colonialism, has often been overlooked. To get rid of this colonial hangover we need to review and cultivate our indigenous knowledge for our present-day problems. Our students must get aware of the rich

heritage of Indian culture. From this course our students will get acquainted with IKS in general and women's contribution in it in particular.]

Unit-I: Meaning and Scope of Indian Knowledge System

- Indian Knowledge System and Decolonization of Knowledge
- Four Puruṣārthas-Dharma, Artha, Kāma and Mokṣa
- The Vedas and the Upanishads, Multiplicity of Meanings of Dharma
- Rajdharama in Pre-Colonial India
- Ayurveda and Health Science
- Women Intellectuals in the Vedic Period: The Role of Science: Gargi, Maitreyi, Khana, Lilavati, Sulabha, Lopamudra, Viswambhara, Ghosha
- Maitreyi's Philosophy of Self-knowledge
- Gargi's Brahmatattva
- Khana's Prophesy for auspicious moments and for agriculture
- Vedic Arithmetic

Unit-II: IKS and The Feminist Encounters

- Gender Fluidity in Indian Culture
- Feminism in South India
- Durgabai Deshmukh: Andhra Mahila Sabha,
- Devaki Jain: South India Feminist Activism,
- Breast tax *(Mulakkaram)* and The Legend of Nangeli
- IKS and Feminism

Suggested Readings:

- Dr. N.M. Khandelwal& Dr. Pratapsinh Chauhan: Indian Knowledge System (Bhartiya Gyan Parampara), Nagpur: Himalaya Publishing, 2026
- Rao, A. (2013). Women, Knowledge, and Representation: From Colonialism to Contemporary India. Cambridge University Press.
- Desai, S. (2008). Gender and the Knowledge of the Self: Women's Spiritual and Intellectual Contributions in Ancient India. Oxford University Press.
- Vishwanathan, G. (1990). The Other Side of the Story: Women in Indian Knowledge Systems. Penguin
- Sarma, K. (1992). The Role of Women in Ancient Indian Science and Medicine. Routledge.
- Srinivasan, P. (2010). The Shaping of Modern Indian Feminism: From the 19th Century to the Present. Harvard University Press. Bhattacharya, K. (2004)
- G N Devy. Citizen under Siege (2014-25). Context: 2025.
- *Eminent Indian Women from the Vedic Age to the Present*, Kolkata: Advaita Ashram, 2005
- Uma Chakraborty. *Prachin Bharater Itihas: Bratyajaner Chokhe*. Kolkata: SETU, 2024 (2011) (Bangla)
- Rajarshi Chakraborty. "Denying Manhood and Becoming Women: Case Studies from India's Past and Present," in Sudarshana Sen (ed.) *Women in Bengal: In Reality and Through Representations*. Routledge, 2025

PG1WMNS1014: GENDER AND MEDIA

Unit-I: Theoretical Perspective

- Historical Account of Development of Media
- Feminist Media Theories
- Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs)
- Cultural Constructions of Gender: Media Representations
- Alternative Media: Digital/Online Media

Unit-II: Gender and Media Industry

- Control of Media
- Depiction of Women in News, Courses and Magazines
- Portrayal of Women in Television and Films; Radio and Women
- Representation of Women in Advertisements
- Clips from Films for Case Studies: Mother India/ Aurat/ Bandini, English Vinglish, Dangal, Chandigarh Kare Ashiqui, Darlings, Dilwale Dulhania Le Jayenge, Kuch Kuch Hota Hai, Chennai Express, Chandigarh Kare Aashiqui (Selections)

Suggested Readings:

- Eagleton, Mary, ed. *Feminist Literary Theory: A Reader*. Wiley-Blackwell. 2010
- K. Prasad. *Communication and Empowerment of Women*, The Women's Press, 2004
- Bula Bhadra. "New Visage of Gendering in Hey-day of Globalization and ICTs: Archetypal Case of India" (2021), *Samaj Jijnasa*, vol.14, Nos.1& 2, pp.139-153.
- Bula Bhadra. Globalisation and Information Technology: Partners in the Gendering of Cyberspace. in *Development, Displacement and Marginalisation* (Ed) Ranjana Ray, Seminar and Public Lecture Series (Kolkata: Asiatic Society, 2011), pp. 143-60
- K. Prasad. *Women, Globalization and Mass Media: International Facets of Emancipation.* B. R. Publishing, New Delhi, 2003
- K. Prasad. *Women and Media*, The Women's Press, 2005
- S. Munshi. *Images of Modern Women in Asia*, Curzon Press, 2001
- S. Bathla. *Women, Democracy and Media*, Sage, 1998
- P. Krishnan & A. Dighe. *Affirmation & Denial –Construction of Femininity on Indian Television*, Sage 1990
- David R. Croteau & William D. Hoynes. *Media/Society: Industries, Images, and Audiences*. Sage, 2002
- S. Joshi & K. Prasad. *Feminist Development Communication: Empowering Women in the Information Era,* New Delhi: The Women Press. 2009

PG1WMNS1015: WOMEN, GENDER AND ECOLOGY

[Women are the ones most impacted by environmental degradation and play a crucial role in managing natural resources at the home and community levels. Women manage woods and agricultural land, as well as water, food, and fuel supplies in communities all over the world. In developing nations particularly, women produce food, yet inheritance rules and regional norms sometimes restrict them from owning or leasing property, obtaining credit, or receiving insurance. Different environmental movements, like Chipco, Narmada Banchao, Namami

Gange movement in India, emphasized the importance of women's voices and perspectives in sustainable development at all levels. Side by side, it engages itself in searching for the feminine, nay feminist principle to save the planet. This major elective course discussed patriarchy and environment, eco-feminism, and feminist environmentalism from both theoretical and practical standpoints, and from global and regional perspectives.]

Unit-1: Discovering the Feminist Ecological Principle

- Different Approaches to Environmental Crisis
- Patriarchy and Environment: Eco-Feminism
- Climate Change and Women
- Biodiversity and New Forest Laws

Unit-II: Feminist Environmentalism in India

- Resources, Livelihoods and Conflicts
- Navadanya Movement: Vandana Siva
- Indigenous Movement: Bishnoi Movement
- Forest and Water Resources: Contesting Claims
- Environmental Movements: Chipko, Appaiko, Narmada Banchao and Namami Gange

Suggested Readings:

- Dale Jamieson ed. *A Companion to Environmental Philosophy*, Blackwell, 2003
- Val Plumwood. *Feminism and the Mastery of Nature*. Routledge, 1993
- Juliet Flower MacCannell.*The Regime of the Brother: After the Patriarchy (Opening Out: Feminism for Today).* Routledge, 1991
- A M Jaggar & I A Young eds. *A Companion to Feminist Philosophy*, Blackwell, 2000
- Vandhana Shiva. *Staying Alive: Women Ecology and Survival in India*. Kali for Women, 1988
- Vandana Shiva and Maria Mies. *Eco-Feminism*. Rawat, New Delhi, 2010
- Martin Goodman. My Head for a Tree: The Extraordinary Story of the Bishnoi, the World's First Eco-Warriors Publisher. Profile Books, 2025
- Anu Lall. *Bishnois and the Blackbuck. Can Dharma Save Environment?* New Delhi: Vitasta Publishing, 2026
- Krishna Mallick. Environmental Movements of India: Chipko, Narmada Bachao Andolan, Navdanya, Amsterdam University Press, 2021

SEMESTER-II: Only Research Thesis/ Project Work

PG1WMNS2031: Research Thesis/ Project Work

In this Semester-II the students will have to execute a research project and write a report on that for submission as examination paper, following Research Methodology. They also have to go by the following directions:

1. The Project report must be on women's issue.
2. It should be of about 50 pages (20,000 words approx.).
3. The report should pass the plagiarism test before submission.
4. Advised to prepare its endnotes and bibliography following either MLA or APA format exclusively.
5. The writing style should include 1.5 spacing, 12-14 font size and left border 1.5 inches and the right 1 inch.

6. Before final submission the students submit a book review of 10 pages (4,000 words approx.)

OR

OPTION- II: Only Course-Works in both 1st and 2nd Semesters

Semester-I

PG1WMNS 1011: GENDER, LAW AND JUSTICE

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Unit 2: Women and Gender: Science and Technology

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- Gender in Science and Technology
- Science and Technology for Sustainable and Inclusive Development
- Gender and issues with Artificial Intelligence (AI)

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- Douglas A. Vokoch, *Transgender India: Understanding Third Gender Identities and Experience*, Springer, 2022.
- "Experiences of Menstrual Restrictions: Freedom Lost and Never Gained" (2024)
- Dutta, Arijita, Aishika Chakraborty, and Olivia Sarkar. "Experiences of Menstrual Restrictions: Freedom Lost and Never Gained". *International Institute for Educational Research Open*, Vol 7 (2024).

PG1WMNS1013: INDIAN KNOWLEDGE SYSTEM

[Indian Knowledge System (IKS), under the so called spell of colonialism, has often been overlooked. To get rid of this colonial hangover we need to review and cultivate our indigenous knowledge for our present-day problems. Our students must get aware of the rich heritage of Indian culture. From this course our students will get acquainted with IKS in general and women's contribution in it in particular.]

Unit-I: Meaning and Scope of Indian Knowledge System

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- The Vedas & Upanishads
- Rajdharama in pre-colonial India
- Ayurveda and Health Science
- Women Intellectuals in the Vedic period: The Role of Science: Gargi, Maitreyi, Khana, Lilavati, Sulabha, Lopamudra, Viswambhara, Ghosha
- Maitreyi's Philosophy of Self-knowledge
- Gargi's Brahmatattva
- Khana's Prophesy for auspicious moments and for agriculture
- Vedic mathematics

Unit-II: The Feminist Encounters: Past and Present

- Feminism in South India
- Durgabai Deshmukh: Andhra Mahila Sabha
- Devaki Jain: South India Feminist Activism,
- Breast tax *(Mulakkaram)* and The Legend of Nangeli
- Gender Fluidity in Indian Culture
- IKS and Feminism

Suggested Readings:

- Dr. N.M. Khandelwal& Dr. Pratapsinh Chauhan: *Indian Knowledge System* (Bhartiya Gyan Parampara), Nagpur: Himalaya Publishing, 2026
- Rao, A. (2013). *Women, Knowledge, and Representation: From Colonialism to Contemporary India*. Cambridge University Press.
- Desai, S. (2008). *Gender and the Knowledge of the Self: Women's Spiritual and Intellectual Contributions in Ancient India*. Oxford University Press.
- Vishwanathan, G. (1990). *The Other Side of the Story: Women in Indian Knowledge Systems.* Penguin
- Sarma, K. (1992). *The Role of Women in Ancient Indian Science and Medicine.* Routledge.

- Srinivasan, P. (2010). *The Shaping of Modern Indian Feminism: From the 19th Century to the Present*. Harvard University Press. Bhattacharya, K. (2004)
- G N Devy. *Citizen under Siege (2014-25*). Context: 2025.
- *Eminent Indian Women from the Vedic Age to the Present*, Kolkata: Advaita Ashram, 2005
- Uma Chakraborti. *Prachin Bharater Itihas: Bratyajaner Chokhe*. Kolkata: SETU, 2024 (2011) (Bangla)
- Buddhadeb Garai. *Bharatiya Jnantantrer Parichay*. Kolkata: Avenel Press, 2025
- Rajarshi Chakraborty. "Denying Manhood and Becoming Women: Case Studies from India's Past and Present," in Sudarshana Sen (ed.) *Women in Bengal: In Reality and Through Representations*. Routledge, 2025
- *Bharat Vidya* (eds. R K Chattopadhyay & Damrupani Bhattacharyay), Vol. XVI, Dec. 2024

PG1WMNS1014: GENDER AND MEDIA

Unit-I: Theoretical Perspective

- Historical Account of Development of Media
- Feminist Media Theories
- Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs), Digital Media & Cyber World
- Cultural Constructions of Gender: Media Representations

Unit-II: Gender and Media Industry

- Control of Media
- Depiction of Women in News, Courses and Magazines
- Portrayal of Women in Radio, Television and Films
- Representation of Women in Advertisements
- Clips from Films for Case Studies: Mother India/ Aurat/ Bandini, English Vinglish, Dangal, Chandigarh Kare Ashiqui, Darlings, Dilwale Dulhania Le Jayenge, Kuch Kuch Hota Hai, Chennai Express, Chandigarh Kare Aashiqui (Selections)

Suggested Readings:

- Eagleton, Mary, ed. *Feminist Literary Theory: A Reader*. Wiley-Blackwell. 2010
- K. Prasad. *Communication and Empowerment of Women*, The Women's Press, 2004
- Bula Bhadra. "New Visage of Gendering in Hey-day of Globalization and ICTs: Archetypal Case of India" (2021), *Samaj Jijnasa*, vol.14, Nos.1& 2, pp.139-153.
- Bula Bhadra. Globalisation and Information Technology: Partners in the Gendering of Cyberspace. in *Development, Displacement and Marginalisation* (Ed) Ranjana Ray, Seminar and Public Lecture series (Kolkata: Asiatic Society, 2011), pp. 143-160
- K. Prasad. *Women, Globalization and Mass Media: International Facets of Emancipation.* B. R. Publishing, New Delhi, 2003
- K. Prasad. *Women and Media*, The Women's Press, 2005
- S. Munshi. *Images of Modern Women in Asia*, Curzon Press, 2001
- S. Bathla. *Women, Democracy and Media*, Sage, 1998
- P. Krishnan & A. Dighe. *Affirmation & Denial –Construction of Femininity on Indian Television*, Sage 1990

- David R. Croteau & William D. Hoynes. *Media/Society: Industries, Images, and Audiences*. Sage, 2002
- S. Joshi & K..Prasad. *Feminist Development Communication: Empowering Women in the Information Era,* New Delhi: The Women Press. 2009

PG1WMNS1015: WOMEN, GENDER AND ECOLOGY

[Women are the ones most impacted by environmental degradation and play a crucial role in managing natural resources at the home and community levels. Women manage woods and agricultural land, as well as water, food, and fuel supplies in communities all over the world. In developing nations particularly, women produce food, yet inheritance rules and regional norms sometimes restrict them from owning or leasing property, obtaining credit, or receiving insurance. Different environmental movements, like Narmada Banchao movement in India, emphasized the importance of women's voices and perspectives in sustainable development at all levels. Side by side, it engages itself in searching for the feminine, nay feminist principle to save the planet. This major elective course discussed patriarchy and environment, eco-feminism, and feminist environmentalism from both theoretical and practical standpoints, and from global and regional perspectives.]

Unit-1: Discovering the Feminist Ecological Principle

- Different Approaches to Environmental Crisis
- Patriarchy and Environment: Eco-Feminism
- Climate Change and Women
- Biodiversity and New Forest Laws

Unit-II: Feminist Environmentalism in India

- Resources, Livelihoods and Conflicts
- Navadanya Movement: Vandana Siva
- Indigenous Movement: Bishnoi Movement
- Forest and Water Resources: Contesting Claims
- Environmental Movements: Chipko, Appaiko, Narmada Banchao and Namami Gange

Suggested Readings:

- Dale Jamieson ed. *A Companion to Environmental Philosophy*, Blackwell, 2003
- Val Plumwood. *Feminism and the Mastery of Nature*. Routledge, 1993
- Juliet Flower MacCannell.*The Regime of the Brother: After the Patriarchy (Opening Out: Feminism for Today).* Routledge, 1991
- A M Jaggar & I A Young eds. *A Companion to Feminist Philosophy*, Blackwell, 2000
- Vandhana Shiva. *Staying Alive: Women Ecology and Survival in India*. Kali for Women, 1988
- Vandana Shiva and Maria Mies. *Eco-Feminism*. Rawat, New Delhi, 2010
- Martin Goodman. My Head for a Tree: The Extraordinary Story of the Bishnoi, the World's First Eco-Warriors Publisher. Profile Books, 2025
- Anu Lall. *Bishnois and the Blackbuck. Can Dharma Save Environment?* New Delhi: Vitasta Publishing, 2026

- Krishna Mallick. Environmental Movements of India: Chipko, Narmada Bachao Andolan, Navdanya, Amsterdam University Press, 2021

Semester-II

Major PG1WMNS2011: GENDER MAINSTREAMING AND BUDGETING

[To emphasis on the need to target government policies and unravel the role of mainstreaming gender equality in the transformation of unequal social and institutional structures into equal and just structures for both men and women.]

Unit 1: Gender Mainstreaming

- Definition and Strategies of Gender Mainstreaming
- Feminist Approaches to Gender Mainstreaming
- Developing Gender Equality Action Plan: ILO and UNO
- Gender Analysis, Engendering Policy and Programmes: Analysing developmental agenda, networking, lobbying and advocacy, Gender sensitive planning, Gender training and management support, Gender mainstreaming in programme implementation, monitoring and evaluation
- Handbook on gender mainstreaming for gender equality results: Discourses on Deficiencies and Implementations

Unit-1I: Gender Budgeting

- Introduction and objectives of Gender Budgeting
- Gender Budgeting initiatives in India
- Gender Budgeting Initiatives: Need and importance of Gender Budgeting
- Initiatives of Gender Budgeting at International Level
- Initiatives of Gender Budgeting at National Level
- Linkages between Budgeting and Gender
- Institutional Mechanisms and Implementations

Suggested Readings:

Alexander, P. and Baden, S., (2000) "Glossary on Macroeconomics from a Gender Perspective",
BRIDGE Report No 47, Brighton: Institute of Development Studies
AIILSG (2007) “Gender Budgeting”, RCUES, National Resource Centre on Urban Poverty, GOI and UNDP, Mumbai
Budlender, Debbie, Diane Elson, Guy Hewitt, Tanni Mukhopadhyay, (2002), “Gender Budgets Make Cents, Commonwealth Secretariat”, IDRC CRDI, UNIFEM
Borges Sugiyama, N. (2002) *Gendered Budget Work in the Americas: Selected Country Experiences,* Austin: University of Texas.
Carolyn Moser, (1993) *Gender Planning and Development, London*: Routledge
Sharp, Rhonda, (2003*) Budgeting for Equity: Gender Budget Initiatives Within a Framework of Performance Oriented Budgeting*. New York, UNIFEM.
Reetu Dewan and Seeta Prabhu, (2009) *Macroeconomics and Gender*, New Delhi: Zubaan.
Kabeer, N. (2003) “Gender Mainstreaming in Poverty Eradication and the Millennium

Development Goals", London (Commonwealth Secretariat)
Patel, V. (2004) "Gender Budget: Media Concerns and Policy for India" in Kiran Prasad (ed.) *Communication and Empowerment of Women: Strategies and Policy Insights from India*, The Women Press, Delhi
UNDP (2001), *Decentralisation in India- Challenges and Opportunities, United Nations Development Programme*, New Delhi.
Ranjani K Murthy (Ed.), (2001*) Building Women's Capacities: Interventions in Gender Transformation,* New Delhi: Sage Publications
Karl, Marile. (1995), *Women and Empowerment, Participation and Decision-Making,* London: Zed Books.
Jahan, Rounaq (1995). *The Elusive Agenda: Mainstreaming Women in Development,* London: Zed Books, 1995
Carolyn Hannan. *Handbook on Gender Mainstreaming for Gender Equality Results,*UNO, 2022

PG1WMNS2012: POLITICS OF BODY

[The phrase "politics of body" refers to two concepts: the first idea, "politics" that refers to the exercise of power or the relationship between different forms of power, and the second "body" referring to the physical body of the individual. Together, they simply refer to the construction, control, and regulation of the human body by the many levels of authority, whether cultural, social or anything else. Thus this major elective course seeks to understand the politics of human body which can be both colonized and socially constructed. Special efforts are made to understand the theories of the body and embodiment and representation of female body. This course also examines the ways and reasons that certain bodies are endangered, marginalized, or excluded. Discussions about racial body politics strongly emphasizes the attribution of ethical, moral, behavioral, and social attributes to people or communities based on skin tone, facial features, body types, and sexual orientation. The understanding of interaction between feminist perspective and motherhood could benefit students a lot.]

Unit 1: Social Construction of Gendered Bodies

- Social Theories of the Body and Embodiment
- The Body Politics, Social Construction and Gender
- Commodification of Female Body
- Race, Ethnicity and Class Dimensions of the Body Politics
- Bodies without Fixed Gender and their Social Construction

Unit-II: Living the Female Body

- Becoming a Woman: Social Construction of Women's Bodies and Sexuality
- Body Image, Self-Presentation and Search for Identity within Society
- Sexual Objectification of Women Bodies
- The Social Meaning of Bleeding: From Menarche to Menopause
- Feminist Perspectives on Motherhood, Disability Studies

Suggested Readings:

- Katrak, Ketu H. *Politics of the Female Body*: *Postcolonial Women Writers of the Third World.* Rutgers University Press, 2006
- Katie Conboy, Nadia Medina, Sarah Stanbury. *Writing on the Body: Female Embodiment and Feminist Theory*. Columbia University Press, 1997
- Judith Butler. *Gender Trouble, Feminism and the Subversion of Identity*, London: Routledge, 1990.
- Gail Weiss. *Body Images: Embodiment as Intercorporeality*, New York and London: Routledge, 1999.
- Iris Marion Young. "Throwing Like a Girl: A Phenomenology of Feminine Body Comportment, Motility, and Spatiality" *Human Studies* 3(2).1980 [2005],
- Ros Diprose. *The Bodies of Women: Ethics, Embodiment and Sexual Difference*, London: Routledge, 1994.
- Luna Dolezal. *The Body and Shame: Phenomenology, Feminism, and the Socially Shaped Body*, Lanham, MD: Lexington Books, 2015.
- Janet Price & Margrit Shildrick (eds). *Feminist Theory and The Body: A Reader*, Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 1999.
- Elizabeth Grosz. *Volatile Bodies: Towards a Corporeal Feminism*, London: Routledge, 1994.
- Clara Fischer & Luna Dolezal, eds. *New Feminist Perspectives on Embodiment*, Palgrave Macmillan. 2018

PG1WMNS2013 SOCIO-PSYCHOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL ISSUES OF GENDER ROLES

[This Major Course is concerned with the psychological dimensions of women's subordination. A detailed discussion on psychology of gender roles and sex difference, along with traumas related to rape, sexual abuse and domestic violence, and the like. Likewise, it aims at preparing students for counselling and guidance skills so that they can get out of the psychological pressure and make themselves empowered. This will also help in opening up some counselling centre as a profession, or get a job in similar professional jobs.]

Unit 1: Psychology of Gender Roles and Sex-Difference
- Conceptualization of Gender Roles and Gender Role Attitudes
- Gender: Aggression, Achievement, Communication, Friendship and Romantic Relationships
- Sex Differences in Mental Health.
- Women and Distress
- Trauma relating to Rape, Sexual Abuse, Domestic Violence, etc.

Unit-2: Counselling and Guidance Skills
- Gender Counselling/Feminist Therapy
- Essential Elements and Process of Counselling
- Introduction to Communication: Attending Skill, Listening Skills: Barriers to
- Listening; Responding Skills
- Values and Ethics in Counselling
- Counselling Women in Distress

Suggested Readings:
- Bhargavi Davar. *Mental Health from a Gender Perspective*. SAGE Publications. 2001

- Bhargavi Davar. *Mental Health of Indian Women*. SAGE Publications, 1999
- Richard Nelson-Jones. *Basic Counseling Skills: A Helper's Manual*. Sage. 2016
- Steven D. Brown, Robert W Lent, eds. *Handbook of Counseling Psychology*. 2000
- M. Jacobs. *Psychodynamic Counseling in Action*. Sage Publications, 1998
- H C Mishra and K Varadwaj K. *Counseling Psychology: Theories, Issues and Application*. Divya Prakashri, Bhubaneswar, 2009
- Richard Nelson. *Basic Counseling Skills: A Helper's Manual*. Sage Publications, 2002
- Perry Wayne. *Basic Counseling Techniques: A Beginning Therapist's Toolkit*. Author House, 2002

PG1WMNS 2014 MASCULINITY AND QUEER STUDIES

Unit-I: Masculism

- Meaning and History of Masculism
- Balancing Gender Studies
- Violence and Oppressions against Men
- Integrating all sorts of Violence: A General Theory of Oppression
- Backlashing/ Straining Feminism?

Unit II: Queer Studies

- Meaning and evolution of Queer as a Concept, and as a Queer Theory. (Key thinkers: Judith Butler, Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick).
- Understanding LGBTQIA+ Spectrum of sexual orientation and gender identity, Social stigma, discrimination, and identity politics.
- History of Queer Movements: Global milestones: Stonewall Riots; Development of Pride movements, Queer activism in India: Legal Fight; Role of NGOs and community organizations.
- Third Gender in Cultural Context: Traditional communities: Hijra community in India, Religious and cultural representations, Legal recognition: NALSA v. Union of India.
- Transgender Identity and Issues: Definition and distinction between transgender and transsexual, Gender dysphoria and social identity, Challenges: Discrimination in education, employment, healthcare, Rights and policies: Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019 and recent controversy on the amendment in the Act in India.
- Contemporary Issues and Representation: Media representation of LGBTQIA+ identities: Role of cinema, literature, and digital media, Mental health concerns and support systems, Inclusivity and policy frameworks.

Suggested Readings

- Crenshaw, Kimberlé. *On Intersectionality: Essential Writings*, New Press, 2017
- Gardiner, Judith K. ed. *Masculinity Studies & Feminist Theory – New Directions*. Columbia University Press, 2002
- Kimmel, Michael S. & Jeff Hearn eds. *Handbook of Studies on Men and Masculinities.* SAGE Pub. 2004

- Gottzen, Lucas, Ulf Mellstrom & Tamara Shefer, eds. *Routledge International Handbook of Masculinity Studies.* Routledge, 2019
- Samanta, Supriya. *Conceptualizing Masculinity*. Kolkata: The Shee Book Agency, 2018
- Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick. *Epistemology of the Closet.* Berkeley: University of California Press, 1990.
- Michel Foucault. *The History of Sexuality, Volume 1: An Introduction.* New York: Vintage Books, 1978.
- Susan Stryker. *Transgender History: The Roots of Today's Revolution.* New York: Seal Press, 2017.
- Leslie Feinberg. *Transgender Warriors: Making History from Joan of Arc to Dennis Rodman.* Boston: Beacon Press, 1996
- Arvind Narrain, and Gautam Bhan, eds. *Because I Have a Voice: Queer Politics in India*. New Delhi: Yoda Press, 2005.
- Laxmi Narayan Tripathi. *Me Hijra, Me Laxmi*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2015.
- Revathi. *The Truth About Me: A Hijra Life Story.* New Delhi: Penguin Books, 2010.
- Meg-John Barker, and Julia Scheele. *Queer: A Graphic History*. London: Icon Books, 2016
- Ash Hardell. *The ABCs of LGBT+*. Berkeley: Mango Media, 2018.
- Lee Edelman. *No Future: Queer Theory and the Death Drive*. Durham: Duke University Press, 2004.
- Vanita, Ruth, and Saleem Kidwai, eds. *Same-Sex Love in India: Readings from Literature and History.* New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2000.
- Vanita, Ruth. *Love's Rite: Same-Sex Marriage in India and the West*. New Delhi: Penguin Books India, 2005.
- Dave, Naisargi N. *Queer Activism in India: A Story in the Anthropology of Ethics.* Durham: Duke University Press, 2012
- Devi, Shakuntala. *The World of Homosexuals*. New Delhi: Vikas Publishing House, 1977.
- Sharma, Maya. *Footprints of a Queer History: Life Stories from Gujarat*. New Delhi: Yoda Press, 2022.
- Shahani, Parmesh. *Queeristan: LGBTQ Inclusion in the Indian Workplace*. New Delhi: Westland Books, 2020.
- Chauncey, George. *Gay New York: Gender, Urban Culture, and the Making of the Gay Male World, 1890–1940*. New York: Basic Books, 1994.
- Faderman, Lillian. *The Gay Revolution: The Story of the Struggle.* New York: Simon & Schuster, 2015
- Savage, Jon. *The Secret Public: How LGBTQ Resistance Shaped Popular Culture (1955–1979)*. London: Faber & Faber, 2024.
- Adam, The Rise of a Gay and Lesbian Movement, Boston, 1987
- Ajay Majumdaar and Niloy Basu*, Bharater Hijra Samaj*, Dip Prakashan, 2022.
- Ajay Majumdaar and Niloy Basu*, Samaprem*, Dip Prakashan.
- Rajarshi Chakraborti. Imprisoned in the 'Other Body'. Contexualizing the Body: An Indian Experience.*Bharata Vidya*. ed. Joydeb Sarkhel et al, Vol. XVI, Dec. 2024.

- Rajarshi Chakraborti. “Banglay Bihvinna Jounata o Linga Nirmaner Paryalochana”. Ebang Mahuya (ed. Madan Mohan Bera), Vol.23, No.130.
- Shraddha Chatterjee, *Queer Politics in India*.
- Ruth Vanita, *Queer India*, Routledge, 2002
- Kunal Debnath, " LGBGTQ Movement in India: A Post Civil Society Resistance? ", The West Bengal Political Science Review, Vol. 20, No. 1, 2018.
- Douglas A. Vokoch, Transgender India: Understanding Third Gender Identities and Experience, Springer, 2022.
- Serena Nanda, Gender Diversity: Crosscultural Variations, 1999
- Serena Nanda, Neither Man Nor Woman: The Hijras of India, 1990.
- Shane Patrick Ganon, Translating the Hijra: The Symbolic Reconstruction of the British Empire in India, PhD diss, 2009.
- Amar Das W. Tritiya-Prakriti: People of the Third Sex: Understanding Homosexuality, Transgender Identity and Intersex Conditions Through Hinduism, Xlibris, 2004.

PG1WMNS 1015: DISCOURSES ON MARGINALIZED WOMEN

[The Dalit minorities in South Asia have been bearing with century-old of prejudices, marginalisation, shame, and violence, somehow in seclusion from the so called mainstream. In India the marginalized and Dalit, sometimes taken to be "untouchables," suffer a life of marginalisation, exclusion, and human rights abuses. This Major Elective paper aims to provide the intersection between gender and marginalization. Given these goals, a major objective of the course is to highlight the intellectual and political action of marginalized groups in order to change the history of women’s life. As the topics below suggest, the different legal provisions of the state power, including affirmative actions, are here explored. Side by side, some of the prevalent ideologies like those of Jyotirao Phule, B R Ambedkar, M K Gandhi are here taken into consideration.]

Unit 1: Law, Justice and Democratic Rights
- Human Rights of the Dalit and Marginalized Women
- Mechanisms for the Protection of their Rights
- Special Development Schemes/Policies for Dalit and Marginalized Women

Unit 2: Socio-Political Movements: Issues on *Dalit* and other Marginalized Women
- Ideologies of Gandhi, Phule and Ambedkar on Dalit Politics
- Dalit Women’s and other Marginalized Women’s Movements
- Development of Political Consciousness & Electoral Mobilization

Suggested Readings:
- Chatterjee, Baishali. “Political Theory and Citizenship Discourses: Cast(e) in the Periphery: Understanding Representation of Dalit Women and Politics in India”. *Asien* 114-115 (April 2010), S. 50-67
- Govinda, Radhika (2006) ‘The politics of the marginalised: Dalits and women's activism in India’, *Gender & Development,* 14:2, 181–190
- Govinda, Radhika (2008) ‘Re-inventing Dalit women's identity? Dynamics of social activism and electoral politics in rural north India’*, Contemporary South Asia*, 16:4, 427-440

- Rege, Sharmila (1998). "Dalit Women Talk Differently: A Critique of 'Difference' and Towards a Dalit Feminist Standpoint Position", *Economic and Political Weekly*, 33 (44)
- Rowshan, Rabeya & Riaz Uddin Khan eds. *Bringing Dalit Women to the Forefront: Realities and Challenges.* Nagorik Uddyog & Bangladesh Dalit and Excluded Rights Movement, 2016
- Sabharwal, Nidhi Sadana & Wandana Sonalkar. "Dalit Women in India: At the Crossroads of Gender, Class, and Caste." *Global Justice: Theory Practice Rhetoric*. (8/1) 2015.
- Haque, Shafey Anwarul and Bhawesh Pant."India's Dalit Muslims, Marginalised Historically and in the Present Day, Find Scant Mention in Mainstream Discourse". *First Post.* October 08, 2020.

OR

<u>OPTION-</u> III: Only Research Thesis/ Project in Semesters-I & II

PG1WMNS1031 & PG1WMNS2031

In these Semesters the students will have to execute a research project and write a report on that for submission as examination paper, following Research Methodology **for each Semester**. They also have to go by the following directions:

1. The Project report must be on women's issue.
2. It should be of about 50 pages (20,000 words approx.).
3. The report should pass the plagiarism test before submission.
4. Advised to prepare its endnotes and bibliography following either MLA or APA format exclusively.
5. The writing style should include 1.5 spacing, 12-14 font size and left border 1.5 inches and the right 1 inch.
6. Before final submission the students submit a book review of 10 pages (4,000 words approx.)