

# **Master of Arts in Gender, Culture and Development Studies**

## **Eligibility**

- Graduate degree
- The intake capacity being limited, candidates will be selected through an Admission Test (Written and Interview) conducted by the KSP Women's Studies Centre.

## **Course Description**

This Degree Course (64 credits) is spread over four semesters in two years including four papers of 100 marks each (4 credits) in each semester. For each paper, there will be internal evaluation for 50 marks and the external evaluation for 50 marks. Special workshops, films and visits will be organized as part of the course. Each student is required to complete supervised dissertation (with viva voce) as part of this course. In each semester, students can opt for 4 credits outside the Department.

- Total marks for evaluation are 1600.

## **Objectives**

This Degree Course is launched with the following aims:

It seeks to provide the participants the knowledge, skills and information in the field of gender, culture and development so as to enable them-

- to engage in research nationally and internationally in gender studies at the levels of policy and practice,
- to work as gender experts in the fields of media- print and electronic- and that of information and communication technology,
- to work in the development sector in various capacities, and
- to pursue career in the area of Corporate Social Responsibility.

This Course intends to engage participants in the following:

- Mapping and analyzing perspectives, issues and debates in the field of development from gender perspectives,
- Examining through a gender lens, the inter-linkages between cultural practices, social processes and development approaches,
- Understanding feminisms in global and local contexts and mapping feminist interventions in knowledge,
- Doing a dissertation and presenting and defending its major arguments.

## **Core Courses**

WS 1: Feminist Thought and Feminist Theory (*Semester I*)

WS 2: Development: Gender Perspectives (*Semester I*)

WS 6: Feminisms: Global and Local (*Semester II*)

WS 7: Gender, Culture and Development: Theoretical Perspectives (*Semester II*)

## **Optional Courses**

### *Semester I:*

WS 3: Gendering Social History

WS 4: Legal Terrains: Gender Concerns

WS 5: Open Course

### *Semester II:*

WS 8: Culture: Gender Perspectives

WS 9: Gender and Dalit Studies

WS 10: Open Course

## *Semester I*

### **WS 1: Feminist Thought and Feminist Theory**

#### *Module I*

Introduction to Concepts in Feminisms: Feminism, Woman/Gender, Sexual Division of Labour, Patriarchy

#### *Module II*

Feminist Thought: An Introduction to Vintage Feminisms

#### *Module III*

Feminist Classics: Key Thinkers, Introduction to Classics in the Third World

#### *Module IV*

Second Wave Feminist Theory: Liberal, Radical, Marxist-Socialist Foundations of Feminist Theories

#### *Module V*

Challenges to Feminist Theory: Black Feminist Theories, Third World- Centered Feminist Theories

#### *Readings:*

- Bhagwat Vidyut, *Feminist Social Thought*, New Delhi: Rawat Publications, 2004.
- Clough P, *Feminist Thought*, Oxford, Blackwell, 1994.
- Collins, P. H., *Black Feminist Thought*, London, Routledge, 2000.
- Eagleton M. (ed.), *A Concise Companion to Feminist Theory*, Blackwell Publishing, 2003.
- Kaplan C., *Genders*, London, Routledge, 2000.
- Nicholson L. (ed.), *The Second Wave: A Reader in Feminist Theory*, New York, Routledge, 1997.
- Schneir M, *The Vintage Book of Historical Feminism*, London, Vintage, 1972.

### **WS 2: Development: Gender Perspectives**

#### *Module I*

Feminism and Development: Emergence of Women as a Constituency in Development: WID, WAD And GAD

#### *Module II*

Gender, Development and the Indian Nation State: Landmark Policies, Plans, Reports and Commissions

*Module III*

Women's Movements in India: Post- 1975 Campaigns, Issues, Challenges

*Module IV*

Gender and Institutions: Labour, Politics, Family and Household

*Module V*

Gender and Institutions: Health and Sexuality, Law, Education

*Readings:*

- Gandhi N and N. Shah, Issues at stake, New Delhi, Kali for Women, 1992.
- Haggis and Schech, Culture and Development, Oxford, Blackwell, 2000.
- Kabeer N., Reversed Realities, London, Verso 1995.
- Kapadia K. (ed.), Violence of Development: The politics of identity, gender and social inequalities in India, New Delhi, Zubaan, 2002.
- Menon, N. (ed.), Gender and Politics in India, New Delhi, Oxford University Press, 1999.
- Rao, N., Rurup, L and R Sudarshan (eds), Sites of Changes, New Delhi, UNDP and Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, 1995.
- Visvanathan N., Duggan L., Nisonoff L. and N. Wiegiersma (eds.), The Women, Gender and Development Reader, New Delhi, Zubaan, 1997.

**WS 3: Gendering Social History**

*Module I*

In Search of Our Pasts: The Significance of History: Why Social History, Different Perspectives, Debates in Feminist Historiography (Feminist Engagements with Left/ Non-Brahmin/ Subaltern/ Post Colonial)

*Module II*

Rewriting Histories: Feminist Interrogation of Periodization of Indian History: Who Was the Vedic Dasi?, The 'Saint Poetesses of Medieval India', 'The Prostitute' in Colonial India, Locating Women in Social Movements in Colonial India

*Module III*

Recasting of Women in Modern Social Institutions in India: Reconstitution of Marriage and Family, Formation of Classes, Caste Reformulations, Rise of Nation and Nationalisms, Reconstitutions of Communities

*Module IV*

Doing Social History: From Gender and Caste Perspective  
Readings From Mahatma Phule, Tarabai Shinde, Pandita Ramabai, E.V. Ramaswamy Periyar, Mahatma Gandhi, Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar

### *Module V*

Rewriting Social History: History, Memory and Gender

Reading from Women's Voices and Writings of Women in Satyashodhak, Self Respect Movement, Gandhian and Ambedkarite Movement

#### *Readings:*

- Geetha V. and S. Rajadurai, Towards Non-brahman Millenium, Calcutta, Samya, 1998.
- Gupta C., Sexuality, Obscenity, Community: Women, Muslims and Hindu Public in Colonial India, New York, Palgrave Macmillan, 2002.
- Pardeshi P., Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar and the Women's Question in India, Pune, KSP Women's Studies Centre, 1998.
- Roy K. (ed.), Women in Early Indian Societies, New Delhi, Oxford University Press, 2001.
- Scott J. (ed.), Feminism and History, New York, Oxford University Press, 1996.
- Vaid S and K. Sangari, Recasting Women, New Delhi, Kali for Women, 1989.
- Chakravarti U., Rewriting History: Life and Times of Pandita Ramabai, New Delhi, Kali for Women, 1994.

## **WS 4: Legal Terrains: Gender Concerns**

### *Module I*

Introduction to Feminist Theory and Their Perspectives on Law, Turning the Gaze back on Itself: Race and Gender in International Human Rights Law

### *Module II*

Feminist Terrains in Legal Domain: Introduction to Legal Campaigns and Legal Studies in India, Law as a Subversive Site: Feminist Perspectives

### *Module III*

Women and Law in Colonial India: A Feminist Social History (Labour Legislation, Personal Laws), Social Reform, Sexuality and the State

### *Module IV*

Sexual Violence and the Binary Logic of Law (Rape, Sexual Harassment)

Women, Citizenship, Law and the Indian State (Ameena Case)

Outlaw Women (Phoolan Case)

### *Module V*

Enforcing Cultural Codes (Case of 'Honour Killings')

Women between Community and the State: Uniform Civil Code Debate

#### *Readings:*

- Butalia, U. and T Sarkar, (eds.), Women and the Hindu Right, New Delhi, Kali for women, 1996.

- Cossman, B. and R. Kapur (eds.), *Subversive Sites*, New Delhi, Sage, 1996.
- Wing, A.K., (ed.), *Feminism: An International reader*, New York, University Press, 2000.
- Hasan, Z. (ed.), *Forging Identities: Gender, Communities and the State*, New Delhi, Kali for Women, 1994.
- Menon, N., *Recovering Subversion: Feminist Politics Beyond the Law*, New Delhi, Permanent Black, 2004.
- Sangari, K., *Politics of the Possible*, New Delhi, Tulika, 1999.
- Sunder Rajan, R., *The Scandal of the State: Women, Law and Citizenship in Postcolonial India*, New Delhi, Permanent Black, 2004.

### **WS 5: Open Course**

An open course would be designed by a faculty member and passed through the departmental committee. It will focus on the thrust area of on- going research at the Department.

## *Semester II*

### **WS 6: Feminisms: Global and Local**

#### *Module I*

Feminisms and Internationalisms, Gender and UN Conferences, Conventions, Committees

#### *Module II*

Third World Feminism and the Dislocation of Cultures

#### *Module III*

Global Feminism Since 1945: Debate over local/ global feminisms

#### *Module IV*

Feminisms in South Asia: Contexts, Issues and Perspectives

#### *Module V*

Feminisms in India: Perspectives and debates

#### *Readings:*

- Basu A. (ed), *The challenge of Local Feminism: Women's Movement in Global perspective*, Boulder Co, West view Press, 1995.
- Bhasin K. Menon R. et al (eds), *Against All Odds: Essays on Women, Religion and Development From India and Pakistan*, 1994.
- Mogdham V. M., *Identity Politics and Women Cultural Assertions and Feminisms in International Perspective*, Boulder Co, West view Press, 1994.

- Narayan U., *Dislocating Cultures: Identities, Traditions and Third World Feminism*. London, Routledge, 1997.
- Sharma R. (ed), *Representations of Gender, Democracy and Identity Politics in Relation to South Asia*, New Delhi, Satguru, 1996.
- Smith B., *Global Feminisms since 1945: Rewriting Histories*, London, Routledge, 2000.

## **WS 7: Gender, Culture and Development: Theoretical Perspectives**

### *Module I*

Trends in Development Theory and the Cultural Turn

### *Module II*

Alternative Development, Post-Development and Supply Side Approaches

### *Module III*

Women, Development and Feminist Development Theory

### *Module IV*

Feminist Post- Development Approaches and their Critiques: Review of Shiva, Datar, Dietrich, Agarwal and Nanda

### *Module V*

The Science and Body Question in Development

### *Readings:*

- Datar C. (ed), *Nurturing Nature*, Mumbai, Earth Care Books, 1998.
- DAWN [Development Alternatives with Women for a New Era], *Markers on the Way: the dawn Debates on Alternative Development*, Dawn Publications, 1995.
- Kapadia K. (ed), *The Violence of Development: The Politics of Identity, Gender and Social Inequalities in India*, Kali, New Delhi, 2002.
- Mies M and V. Shiva, *Ecofeminism*, Halifax, Fernwood Publications, 1993.
- Pieterse J. N., *Development Theory: Deconstructions/Reconstructions*, New Delhi, Vistaar, 2001.
- Saunders K. (ed), *Feminist Post-Development Thought: Rethinking Modernity, Post-colonialism and Representation*, London, Zed Books, 2002.

## **WS 8: Culture: Gender Perspectives**

### *Module I*

Gender and Culture: Basic Concepts, Approaches to the Study of Culture  
Feminist Renderings of Representation, Ideology, Hegemony, Folk- Popular- Public Culture

*Module II*

Studying Cultural Practices: A Gender, Caste And Class Perspective: Indian Television, Cinema, and Oral Traditions

*Module III*

Studying Cultural Practices: A Gender, Caste And Class Perspective: Women Writing in India, Print media

*Module IV*

Myths/Mythology, Religious Practices: Gender Concerns: Mother Goddess, Reading 'Sita', Engaging with Women in Sufism, Buddhist Bhikunis and Therigathas

*Module V*

Untangling Contemporary Cases/ Issues: Shah Bano and Roop Kanwar Cases, Practices of Anti- Mandal Protests, Controversies Against Beauty Contests/ Dress Code, 'Fire' Controversy

*Readings:*

- Das V., Critical Events: An Anthropological Perspective on Contemporary India, New Delhi, Oxford University Press, 1995.
- Dwyer R. and C. Pinney, Pleasure and the Nation: The History, Politics and Consumption of Public Culture in India, New Delhi, Oxford University Press, 2001.
- Joseph S., Interrogating Culture: Critical Perspectives on Contemporary Social Theory, New Delhi Sage, 1998.
- Mankekar P., Screening Culture, Viewing Politics: Television, Womanhood and Nation in Modern India, New Delhi, 2005.
- Niranjana T, V. Dhareshwar (eds), Interrogating Modernity: Culture and Colonialism in India, Calcutta, Seagull, 1993.
- Tharu S, and K Lalitha, Women Writing in India (600 BC to the Present), New Delhi, Oxford University Press, 1991.
- Uberoi P., Freedom and Destiny. Gender, Family, and Popular Culture in India, New Delhi, Oxford University Press, 2006.

**WS 9: Gender and Dalit Studies**

*Module I*

Emergence of Dalit Studies and Relationship to Gender Studies in India

*Module II*

Nation, Caste and Gender: Reviewing Classics on Woman's Question and Caste Question in Colonial India



### *Module III*

Caste, Class and Community (Debates on Violence of Brahmanical Patriarchy, Caste and Marxism, Caste and Hindutva, Conversion, Caste and Woman's Question)

### *Module IV*

Gender, Caste and the Public Sphere: Reading Dalit Literatures, Researching *Jalsas*, Gayan Parties, Testimonios, Pamphlets, Manifestos, Blogs, Performance Cultures.

### *Module V*

Caste, Gender and Democracy in India

Questions of Citizenship, Political Representation, Internationalization of the Caste Question, Reservation Debate

### *Readings:*

- Bandopadhyaya S., *Caste, Culture and Hegemony*, Sage, New Delhi, 2003.
- Geetha V. and S.V. Rajadurai, *Towards Non-Brahmin Millennium*, Samya, Calcutta, 1999.
- Gopal Guru, *Atrophy in Dalit Politics*, VAK, Bombay, 2005.
- Illiah Kancha, *Why I am not a Hindu*, Samya, Calcutta, 1998.
- Kumar Arun and Sanjay Kumar (eds), *Dalit Studies in Higher Education*, Deshkaal Publication, 2005.
- Narayan Badri, *Documenting Dissent*, IAS, Shimla,
- Omvedt Gail, *Dalits and the Democratic Revolution*, Sage, New Delhi, 1994.
- Shah G. (ed), *Dalit Identity and Politics*, Sage, New Delhi, 2001.
- Thorat Sukhdeo and Umakant (eds), *Caste, Race and Discrimination*, Rawat, Jaipur, 2004.

### **WS 10: Open Course**

An open course would be designed by a faculty member and passed through the departmental committee. It will focus on the thrust area of on- going research at the Department.

**Through these four semesters, an attempt will be made to build following skills among course participants through internal assignments and special workshops.**

- Concretizing and locating a theoretical perspective in material conditions, Analyzing contemporary issues/ legal cases using feminist perspectives, Tracing many paths to feminism, Mapping feminist scholarship emerging from women's movement, academy and NGOs
- Reading and analyzing statistical reports, Summarizing reports, policy recommendations, Preparing resource list, Writing press notes, Newspaper features, blogs etc.
- Analysing structures, strategies and semiotic codes in film/ television serial/ any cultural practice, Collating and collecting visual, oral, literary documents, Audio-visual presentation of cultural practices
- Using primary sources- archives, literary texts, oral narratives, Revisiting secondary sources to rewrite feminist history, Mapping feminist tour of sites in villages, cities and towns
- Critical review of the research reports of ngos, research institutes and fact finding reports of the movement, Rereading texts: Making critical notes (drawing information from the available research), Documenting development alternatives, Documenting inequalities through quantitative methods and local surveys
- Understanding processes and procedures of campaign building, Preparing small handbills, speeches, posters, skits, role-plays to democratize knowledge of law to diverse groups