

SW 524 Gender issues

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Course Objectives:

- To develop an understanding on the social construction of gender
- To analyse social realities through the lens of gender
- To learn about the evolution of the feminist movement in the west, in India
- To gather insight on the emergence of gender in development processes
- To gain a perspective on the rights of women
- To understand the role of NGOs and CSOs in mainstreaming gender

Learning outcome:

- Understand the concept of gender
- Apply tools of gender mainstreaming in development strategies and processes.
- Draw from biographies of feminists and understand its relevance in contemporary times
- Be informed about the rights of women.
- Learn the processes involved in the schemes and policies for women empowerment.

COURSE CONTENT

Unit I: Understanding gender and feminism

- Defining gender; Questioning gender, gendered script, gendered roles, Unpaid work; third gender; gender and sexuality.
- Doing and Undoing Gender
- Feminism- the history of the feminist movement, the theories and approaches of feminism.
- Biographies- Chandraprabha Saikiani, Mamoni Raisom Goswami, Indira Miri, Savitri Rao Phule, Amrita Pritam, Maya Angelou; Birubala Rabha, Kavita Krishnan, Kamla Bhasin.

Unit II: Women, Development and Rights

- Violence against women- Domestic violence, Intimate partner violence, Rape, Sexual harassment, commodification of women
- Women rights- Women and land rights, Reproductive rights, Women and democracy.
- Mainstreaming gender- WID, WAD, GAD; Gender budgeting;

Unit III: Institutions and mechanisms

- Legislations and policies for the protection of women- Central and State
- Schemes and policies for women empowerment- Central and State
- National commission for women, United Nations and Women- CEDAW, UN Women,
- NGOs and CSOs working for the rights of women
- Case studies- Meira Paibi, Tezpur Mahila Samiti, Gulabi Gang

Text books

Beauvoir, S. (2010). The Second Sex. RHUK

Butler, J. (2017). Bodies that Matter. T&F

Butler, J. (2017). Undoing Gender. Routledge

Friedan, B. (2010). The Feminine Mystique. Penguin

Additional Readings

Chakravarty, U. (2018). Gendering Caste: Through a Feminist Lens. India: SAGE

Dutta, N. (2016). Communities of Women in Assam; Being, Doing and Thinking. New York. Routledge

Evaristo, B. (2019). Girl, Woman, Other. Hamish Hamilton

Freedman, E. (2007). The Essential Feminist Reader. Modern Library.

John, M.E. (2008). Women's Studies in India: A Reader. India: Penguin

Maiti, S. (2016). Women Empowerment and Development: Readings from Asia. Rawat Publications

Menon, N. (2012). Seeing Like A Feminist. India: Penguin

Menon, N. (2007). Recovering Subversion. New Delhi: Orient Blackswan

Omvedt, G. and Geetha, V. (2007). Patriarchy. Bhatkal and Sen

Rehman, T. (2017). The Mothers of Manipur. Zubaan

Wolf, N. (1991). The Beauty Myth. Vintage

Woolf, V. (2016). Room of Ones Own. Fingerprint Publishing

Wollstonecraft, M. (2015). *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman* . Vintage Classics.