BSRS2011: Norms, Values, Language and Culture
20th June – 1st July 2011

PhD-Research Course: GENDER AND GLOBALIZATION: THEORETICAL AND METHODOLOGICAL CHALLENGES

Lecturers
Professor Ellen Mortensen, Center for Women’s and Gender Research (SKOK)
Associate Professor Marit Tjomsland, Gender and Development (GAD)
Postdoctor Kari Jegerstedt, Center for Women’s and Gender Research (SKOK)
Postdoctor, Cecilie Ødegaard, Gender and Development (GAD)
Postdoctor Gaudencia Mutema, Center for Women’s and Gender Research (SKOK)

Guest lecturers:
Professor Anne Hellum, Institute of Women’s Law, University of Oslo
Professor David L. Eng, Department of English, University of Pennsylvania, USA
Professor Teemu Ruskola, Emory Law, Emory University, USA

Course description
This interdisciplinary course will explore how globalization processes affect how we conceive of gender today. Concepts of gendered, sexual, ethnic and religious identity, which traditionally have been understood within the context of the nation-state, are now being subject to radical redefinitions due to the global spread of finance capital, new technologies, and the transnational migration of people, cultures and customs. This course will give students insight into gendered expressions of processes of globalization by analyzing gender and identity from the perspective of citizenship, migration, democracy, human rights, armed conflict and military intervention and the reproduction of uneven power relations between the North and the South. The course will address issues related to women’s right to use, access and control of natural resources, by approaching development from a gendered and rights-based perspective. Students will be introduced to both theoretical and methodological challenges involved in gender-related research on these issues, from theoretical/philosophical, juridical, anthropological and sociological perspectives, using various feminist/gender and postcolonial theories.
Goals and objectives

This is a multidisciplinary course that aims to explore the interconnections of gender and globalization, both theoretically and empirically in various contexts. Students will be introduced to how categories of difference such as race, ethnicity, class, religion, age and sexual orientation intersect with gender to produce different experiences of globalization. The main aim of the course is to enable students to achieve a critical understanding of gendered dimensions of globalization processes, through engagement with theoretical debates, ethical and methodological questions and practical realities in processes of globalization. This will be done through critical engagement with key feminist/gender theories as they relate to broader issues in processes of globalization that include: female work migration, citizenship and the making and un-making of community in processes of mobility, women’s right to use, access and management of natural resources, conflict and post-war reconstruction and efforts for freedom, justice and social change.

Texts from the fields of feminist/gender studies, comparative literature, law and human rights, sociology, anthropology, conflict, labour migration and forced migration studies will be used to guide students to understand key concepts on how processes of economic, cultural and political globalization(s) are embedded in gendered representations, discourses and policies. Group discussions, doctoral presentations and film discussions will provide students with an interactive framework in which to locate the content of the course within their individual projects and to interrogate the contribution of different disciplines in better understanding globalization and its gendered ramifications.

Activities

- Group sessions: Presentation of doctoral projects

Students will present their projects and receive feedback from the instructors:
Prof. Ellen Mortensen
Assoc. Prof. Marit Tjomsland
Postdoctoral Fellow Kari Jegerstedt
Postdoctoral Fellow Cecilie Ødegaard
Postdoctoral Fellow Gaudencia Mutema
Postdoctoral Fellow Synnøve Bendixsen

- Written assignments

Social activities

- Reception at SKOK

- Viewing of selected films related to gender and globalization
Targeted students

The course welcomes PhD students from different professional and disciplinary backgrounds related to the fields of gender and globalization.

Course literature, which will be ready by 15 April 2011, must be read prior to the course. Group work and presentations will be set during the course. After the course, students are expected to present a written assignment redefining their own research utilizing the course curriculum. Deadline for delivery will be specified by the course leaders, and the papers will be graded according to pass/not pass.

Students are required to attend all sessions of the course and participation is also mandatory in the plenary events of the overall programme of the Bergen Summer Research School 2011 (the programme will be published on the web in June 2011).

There is an option of receiving either 3 or 10 ECTS credits. Students will be awarded 3 ECTS on the requirements of preparations (readings) and successful participation of the full programme. 10 ECTS will be awarded upon successful participation of the full programme and the delivery of a research paper submitted after the course which is successfully approved by the course leaders. Information on length of the essay and date of submission will follow.

Reading list

Lecture and Literature Overview

1. Introductory lecture and theories of Gender (21st of June, 14:00 – 16:00)
   Prof. Ellen Mortensen

   Literature

2. Theories of Globalization (22nd of June, 9:00 – 11:00)
   Guest lecturer Prof. David L. Eng

   Literature

   Supplementary
3. Theories of Globalization, with open discussion (22\textsuperscript{nd} of June, 11:30 – 13:00)
Guest lecturer Prof. David L. Eng

\textit{Literature}

\textit{Supplementary}

4. Gender and Law (23\textsuperscript{rd} of June, 14:00 – 16:00)
Guest lecturer Prof. Anne Hellum

\textit{Literature}

\textit{Empirical examples from South Africa and Tanzania:}


5. Gender and Law, with open discussion (24\textsuperscript{th} of June, 9:00 – 11:00)
Guest lecturer Prof. Anne Hellum

\textit{Literature}
Hellum, Anne; Ali, Shaheen Sardar; Stewart, Julie & Tsanga, Amy (2007). Paths are made by walking: introductory thoughts, in Anne, Hellum; Shaheen Sardar, Ali; Amy, Tsanga & Julie, Stewart (ed.), \textit{Human rights, plural legalities and gendered realities: paths are made by walking}. Weaver Press.

Hellum, Anne (2007). \textit{One size fits nobody}, Hellum in interview with KILDEN, Available at: \url{http://eng.kilden.forskningsradet.no/c52778/nyhet/vis.html?tid=52899}

6. Law, Gender and Sexuality (24\textsuperscript{th} of June, 15:00 – 17:00)
Guest lecturer Prof. Teemu Ruskola

**Literature**


7. **Methods** (27th of June, 9:00 – 11:00)

**Methods: Humanities – Textuality**  
Prof. Ellen Mortensen (9:00 – 10:00)

**Literature:**  

**Methods: Social Sciences – Politics and Ethics of Research**  
Postdoc. Gaudencia Mutema (10:00 – 11:00)

**Literature:**  

**Case Study**  

8. **Mobilities, Communities, Citizenship** (28th of June, 9:00 – 11:00)  
Postdoc. Cecilie Ødegaard

**Literature**  

Supplementary


9. Globalisation and Feminisation of Work Migration (29th of June, 9:00 – 11:00)
Assoc. Prof. Marit Tjomsland

Literature


10. Globalisation and Feminisation of Work Migration, with open discussion (29th of June, 11:30 – 13:00)
Assoc. Prof. Marit Tjomsland

Literature


11. Gender, Forced Migration, and Globalization (29th of June, 14:00 – 16:00)
Postdoc. Gaudencia Mutema

Literature

Case Study

12. Current Challenges: Gender, Politics, Globalization
Postdoc. Kari Jegerstedt (30th of June, 9:00 – 11:00)

Literature


Supplementary


GENDER AND GLOBALIZATION FILM LIST
(a selection of films from which we will choose titles relevant for the students of the course)

1. Maria full of grace
   Irregular migration, the drug trade, development
   Colombia/USA

2. Why is Kofi Annan not a woman? Gender & leadership at the United Nations
   International relations, gender, leadership
   USA
3. **UMEMULO: Animal Sacrifice, Human Rites, and AIDS in South Africa**  
   Religion, rites of passage, human rights, HIV/AIDS  
   South Africa  

4. **SASA!**  
   Women, Violence and HIV/AIDS  
   Tanzania and Uganda  

5. **Last Resort**  
   Immigration, survival, political asylum  
   UK  

6. **Between the Lines: India’s Third Gender**  
   Gender and sexuality, religion, community, politics and activism  
   India  

7. **Dadi's family**  
   Patriarchy, marriage and gender roles  
   India  

8. **Women of the Yellow Earth**  
   Women’s reproductive health  
   China  

9. **Encounters - Do Girls Want It?**  
   Gender, age, purity, ritual, objectification, HIV/AIDS  
   South Africa  

10. **Disgrace**  
    Race and gender relations, post-apartheid, sexuality, masculinity  
    South Africa
11. The Stoning of Soraya M.

*Sharia* law, patriarchy, justice

Iran

12. La teta asustada

Armed conflict, symbolic universe of violence, trauma, gender and class difference

Peru

13. Children of Men

Immigration, global warming, globalized capitalism

14. Through My Eyes: A Film about Rwandan Youth

The arts and self-expression, youth, coping with poverty, AIDS, post-genocide trauma

Rwanda