

**Gender, Planning and the Politics of Development**  
University of Toronto  
JPG 1509S/Spring 2005

**Professor:** Katharine N. Rankin  
**Office Hours:** by appointment [Rm: 5041; phone: 978-1592;  
email: rankin@geog.utoronto.ca]  
**Place & Time:** Room SS2124A, Thurs., 4-6 pm

**Course Description:**

This course examines the gender politics of planning practices in the context of international development. It begins by claiming development as a feminist practice and proceeds to explore the implications of neoliberalism for doing 'feminist development'. We then consider the genealogy of the existing, mainstream field of 'gender and development', through which we explore how different strains of feminism—liberal, Marxist, postmodern, post-colonial—have informed development theory and practice. These perspectives help us to examine key themes animating debates about the role of development in feminism today: social capital, empowerment, capabilities and masculinities. We conclude by exploring [a] how feminism has/has not been institutionalized in gender training and development organizations and [b] what are the ideal institutions and methodologies for realizing a feminist theory of justice?

**Evaluation of Students:**

Classes will be conducted as seminars. It is crucial that students read the required materials and be prepared for class discussions. Each student will be expected to lead in-class discussions during the semester, as well as prepare two short written assignments related to course readings (see below for due dates). For the written assignments, students will be given 3-4 questions from which they may select one question to address in their writing. In addition, each student will have an opportunity to elaborate on one issue or case of gender planning and development through a final research paper. The production of the research paper is staged over the course of two months, with interim due dates and peer evaluation of working drafts. Papers will be presented orally to the class at the end of term.

The final grade will be based on the following criteria:

- Class discussions and participation 15%
- Short written assignments [3-4 pp.] 20% ea. Due 2/6 & 3/20
- Final paper [15 pp.] 40% Due 4/10
- Final paper--oral presentation 5% Due 4/3

**Required Texts:** The following **course books** are available for purchase at the Toronto Women's Bookstore [73 Harbord St., just West of Spadina]. It is also on reserve, Robarts Library, 3rd Floor.

Naila Kabeer. Reversed Realities: Gender Hierarchies in Development Thought (New York: Verso, 1994).

Lourdes Benería, Gender, Development and Globalization (New York: Routledge, 2003).

A **course reader**, containing other required readings for the course, can be compiled from the photocopied material in Donna's office.

### **Course Outline and Readings**

**Week 1 (Jan. 6): Course Introduction**

**Week 2 (Jan. 13): Feminists Doing Development**

Peggy Antrobus and Linda Christiansen-Ruffman, "Women Organizing Locally and Globally: Development Strategies, Feminist Perspectives", in Marilyn Porter and Ellen Judd (eds.) Feminists Doing Development: A Practical Critique (New York: Zed Books, 1999), 175-189.

Diane Wolf, "Situating Feminist Dilemmas in Fieldwork," Feminist Dilemmas in Fieldwork (Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 1996), 1-55

Sally Baden and Anne Marie Goetz, "Who Needs [Sex] When You Can Have [Gender]? Conflicting Discourses on Gender at Beijing," in Jackson and Pearson (eds.), Feminist Visions of Development: Gender Analysis and Policy (New York: Routledge, 1998), 19-38.

*Suggested Reading:*

Joanna Kerr, Ellen Sprenger and Alison Symington, eds., The Future of Women's Rights: Global Visions and Strategies (London: Zed Books, 2004) – not yet released in N. America

**Week Three [Jan 20]: Neoliberalism and the Reconstitution of Gender**

Lourdes Benería, "Markets, Globalization, and Gender," in Gender, Development and Globalization, 63-90.

Lourdes Benería, "Global/Local Connections: Employment Patterns, Gender, and Informalization," in Gender, Development and Globalization, 91-130.

*Plus, any 2 of the following 3 readings:*

Nahid Aslanbeigui and Gale Summerfield, "The Asian Crisis, Gender and the International Financial Architecture," Feminist Economics 6(3), 2000, 81-103.

Savitri Bisnath, "The WTO, GATS, and TPRM: Servicing Liberalization and Eroding Equity Goals?," in Lourdes Benería and Savitri Bisnath, eds., Global Tensions: Challenges and Opportunities in the World Economy (New York: Routledge, 2004), 155-172.

Naila Kabeer, "Labor Standards, Women's Rights, Basic Needs: Challenges to Collective Action in a Globalizing World," in Lourdes Benería and Savitri Bisnath, eds., Global Tensions: Challenges and Opportunities in the World Economy (New York: Routledge, 2004), 173-192.

*Film: Made in Thailand*

#### **Week Four [Jan 27]: Gender and Development: The Making of a Field**

Naila Kabeer, "The Emergence of Women as a Constituency in Development" and "Treating Cancer with a Bandaid? The Theoretical Underpinnings of WID," in Reversed Realities, 1-39.

Naila Kabeer, "Same Realities, Different Windows: Structuralist Perspectives on Women and Development," in Reversed Realities, 40-68.

Naila Kabeer, "Connecting, Extending, Reversing: Development from a Gender Perspective," Reversed Realities, 69-94.

#### *Suggested Reading:*

Diane Elson, Male Bias in the Development Process (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 1991).

Gita Sen and Caren Grown, Development, Crises, and Alternative Visions: Third World Women's Perspectives (New York: Monthly Review Press, 1987).

Caroline Moser, Gender Planning and Development (London: Routledge, 1993).

*Film: Beyond Beijing*

#### **Week Five [Feb. 3]: Feminist Economics of Development**

Lourdes Benería, "On Development, Gender and Economics," in Gender, Development and Globalization, 1-30.

Lourdes Benería, "The Study of Women and Gender in Economics: An Overview," in Gender, Development and Globalization, 31-62.

*Plus*

Diane Elson, "Integrating Gender into Government Budgets Within a Context of Economic Reform," from Gender Budgets Make Cents: Understanding Gender Responsive Budgets (London: Commonwealth Secretariat 2001) [www.gender-budgets.org](http://www.gender-budgets.org)

*Or*

Diane Elson, Barbara Evers, Jasmine Gideon, Gender Aware Country Economic Reports: Working Paper Number 1: Concepts And Sources (Manchester: University Of Manchester Graduate School Of Social Sciences GENECON Unit), July 1997

First short paper due

**Week Six [Feb 10]:                    Development and its Discontents: Contributions of Postmodern and Post-colonial Feminisms**

Mridula Udayagiri, "Challenging Modernization: Gender and Development, Postmodern Feminism and Activism," in Feminism/Postmodernism/Development, 159-178.

Arturo Escobar, "Discourse and Power in Development: Michel Foucault and the Relevance of his Work to the Third World." *Alternatives X* (Winter 1984-85): 377-400.

Tania Li, "Compromising Power: Development, Culture, and Rule in Indonesia." *Cultural Anthropology* 14(3), 1999: 295-322.

*Suggested Reading:*

Arturo Escobar, Encountering Development (Princeton: Princeton University, 1995).

Chandra Talpade Mohanty, "Under Western Eyes: Feminist Scholarship and Colonial Discourses," in Visvanathan, ed., Women, Gender and Development Reader, 79-85.

Inderpal Grewal and Caren Kaplan, "Introduction: Transnational Feminist Practices and Questions of Postmodernity," in Grewal and Kaplan, eds., Scattered Hegemonies: Postmodernity and Transnational Feminist Practices (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota, 1994), 1-36.

Jane Parpart and Marianne Marchand, "Exploding the Canon: An Introduction/Conclusion," in M. Marchand and J. Parpart (eds.), Feminism/Postmodernism/Development (London: Routledge, 1995), 1-22.

\*\*\*\* **READING WEEK: FEB. 14-18** \*\*\*\*

**Week Seven [Feb. 24]: Social Capital, Civil Society, and the Feminization of Development**

John Hariss, "The Trojan Horse? Social Capital in the World Bank?" and "Conclusion", in Depoliticizing Development: The World Bank and Social Capital (London: Anthem Press, 2001).

Katharine N. Rankin, "'Social Capital, Microfinance, and the Politics of Development,'" Journal of Feminist Economics 8(1), 2002, 1-24.

*Plus*

Marilyn Waring, "Civil Society, Community Participation and Empowerment in the Era of Globalization," AWID Spotlight papers, no. 1, May 2004.

<http://www.awid.org/publications/OccasionalPapers/spotlight1.pdf>

*Or*

Kanishka Goonewardena and Katharine Rankin, "The Desire Called Civil Society: A Contribution to the Critique of a Bourgeois Category," Planning Theory 3(2), 2004, 117-149.

*Suggested Reading:*

Ben Fine, Social Capital versus Social Theory: Political Economy and Social Science at the Turn of the Millenium (London: Routledge, 2001).

**Week Eight [Mar. 3]: Empowerment and Social Movements**

Naila Kabeer, "Empowerment from Below: Learning from the Grassroots," Reversed Realities, 223-306.

Zo Randriamaro, "African Women Challenging Neo-Liberal Economic Orthodoxy: The conception and mission of the GERA programme," Gender and Development 11 (1), 2003, 44-51

[http://www.awid.org/publications/gen\\_dev/randriamaro.pdf](http://www.awid.org/publications/gen_dev/randriamaro.pdf)

*Plus:*

Nori Andriyani, "Taking Development in our Hands: a Reflection on Indonesian Women's Experience", in Marilyn Porter & Ellen Judd (Eds.), Feminists Doing Development: A Practical Critique, 112-125.

*OR*

Habiba Zaman, "Labour Rights, Networking and Empowerment: Mobilizing Garment Workers in Bangladesh", in Marilyn Porter & Ellen Judd (Eds.), Feminists Doing Development: A Practical Critique, 158-171.

*Film: Made in India*

### **Week Nine [Mar 10]: The Capabilities Approach**

Amartya Sen, "Poverty as Capability Deprivation," and "Women's Agency and Social Change," in Development as Freedom (New York: Anchor Books 1999), 87-110 and 189-203.

Martha Nussbaum, "Promoting Women's Capabilities," in Human Capabilities, Female Human Beings," in Lourdes Benería and Savitri Bisnath, eds., Global Tensions: Challenges and Opportunities in the World Economy (New York: Routledge, 2004), 241-258.

Lourdes Benería, "Development as if All People Mattered," in Gender, Development and Globalization, 161-170.

UNIFEM, "Assessing the Progress of Women: Linking Targets to Indicators," in Progress of the World's Women 2000 (New York: UNIFEM, 2000): 37-60.  
[http://www.unifem.org/index.php?f\\_page\\_pid=123](http://www.unifem.org/index.php?f_page_pid=123)

Second short paper due

### **Week Ten [Mar. 17]: Masculinities in Development**

Andrea Cornwall, "Men, Masculinity and 'Gender in Development'," in Gender and Development 5(2), 1997, 8-13.

Cecil Jackson, "Men at Work," European Journal of Development Research 12(2), 2000, 1-22.

Sarah White, "Making Men and Issue: Gender Planning for 'the Other Half'," in Mandy Macdonald (ed.), Gender Planning in Development Agencies: Meeting the Challenge (Oxford: Oxfam, 1994), 98-109,

### **Week Eleven [Mar 24]: Gender Training**

Caroline Moser, "Training Strategies for Gender Planning," in Gender Planning and Development (London: Routledge, 1993), 173-89.

Naila Kabear, "Triple Roles, Gender Roles, Social Relations: The Political Subtext of Gender Training Frameworks," Reversed Realities, 264-305.

Irene Guijt and Meera Kaul Shah, "Waking up to Power, Conflict and Process," in Guijt and Shah (eds.) The Myth of Community: Gender Issues in Participatory Development (London: Intermediate Technology Publications, 1998), 1-23.

*Suggested reading:*

Gender Training Sourcebook (Oxford: Oxfam Publishing, 1998).

Suzanne Williams, The Oxfam Gender Training Model (Oxford: Oxfam Publishing, 1994).

## **Week Twelve [March 31]: Getting the Institutions Right**

Anne Marie Goetz, "Introduction," in Anne Marie Goetz (ed.), Getting the Institutions Right for Women in Development (New York: Zed Books, 1997), 1-30.

Aruna Rao and David Kelleher, "Institutions, organizations and gender equality in an era of globalisation", Gender and Development, 11(1), 2003, 142-149.

Susie Jolly, Gender and Cultural Change: Overview Report (Bridge, Institute of Development Studies, July 2002) [http://www.ids.ac.uk/bridge/reports\\_gend\\_CEP.html](http://www.ids.ac.uk/bridge/reports_gend_CEP.html)

*Plus*

Emma Bell, Emerging Issues in Gender and Development: An Overview (Bridge, Report No 58, Institute of Development Studies, November 2000), 1-7.

[http://www.ids.ac.uk/bridge/reports\\_general.htm](http://www.ids.ac.uk/bridge/reports_general.htm)

*Or*

CIDA's Policy on Gender Equality, 1999.

<http://www.acdi->

[cida.gc.ca/cida\\_ind.nsf/0/6F0D1A14114696288525672900660DE5?OpenDocument](http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/cida_ind.nsf/0/6F0D1A14114696288525672900660DE5?OpenDocument)

*Suggested Reading:*

Caren Levy, "Institutionalization of Gender through Participatory Practice," Guijt and Shah (eds.) The Myth of Community: Gender Issues in Participatory Development (London: Intermediate Technology Publications, 1998), 1-23.

## **Week Thirteen [Apr. 7]: Class Presentations:**

Oral presentations based on research papers

*Final papers due*

Questions for gender and development policy in the twenty-first century. Sylvia Chanta,\* and Matthew C. Gutmann. aLondon School of Economics and Political Science, London, UK bDepartment of Anthropology, Brown University, Providence, USA.Â in 1985 is now replicated by the tendency of "gender planning"™ to slip subtly and imperceptibly into the much older "projects for women"™. A relational approach to gender is replaced by a focus on women while male gender identities lie unexamined in the background.Â Examining masculinity and the role it plays in the development process is not simply an analytical exercise, but has widespread implications for the effectiveness of programmes that seek to improve economic and social outcomes in virtually every country . . .

Politics & Gender is an agenda-setting journal that publishes the highest quality scholarship on gender and politics and on women and politics. It aims to represent the full range of questions, issues, and approaches on gender and women across the major subfields of political science, including comparative politics, international relations, political theory, and U.S. politics. The Editor welcomes studies that address fundamental questions in politics and political science from the perspective of gender difference, as well as those that interrogate and challenge standard analytical categories.

Politics and Decision Making. Gender and Environment Gender Based Violence. Health. Media and ICTS. POLICY GOAL To eradicate gender discrimination and inequalities in all spheres of life and development. Table of contents. Acronyms .I.Â The policy and legislative framework and the prevailing social, economic and political developments provide a firm basis to pursue gender equality and equity defined in this NGP. 2.0 SITUATION ANALYSIS. 2.1. Overview. Since 2004, significant progress has been made towards providing the legislative, planning and implementation frameworks for gender equality programming.