

IIT Mandi
Proposal for a New Course

Course Number	: HS531
Course Name	: Gender and Development
Credits	: 3-0-0-3
Prerequisites	: None
Intended for	: Ph.D./Masters/B.Tech. (3rd and 4th Yrs)
Distribution	: Discipline Elective for M.A. Development Studies, HSS Free Elective for B.Tech. and Free Elective for others
Semester	: Even/Odd

1. Preamble:

This course will primarily engage with the debates surrounding the importance of gender in development. The marginalisation of women and stereotypes regarding their capabilities have been the consequences of, as well as led to, gender biases in development. It aims at a more nuanced understanding of the relationship between gender and sustainable development. The course begins with the early feminist theoretical approaches that highlight the myopia regarding women in development, and traces the evolution of these and such debates in order to reach the current perspectives on gender. The focus is on how gendered approaches towards access to education, health, labour, security and policy lead to holistic and sustainable development.

2. Course Modules:

Module 1: Introduction to Development: Situating Gender (2 hours)

- Gender, development, locating women in development, empowerment

Module 2: Theoretical Approaches (15 hours)

- Sex and gender
- Feminist theories, feminism in India
- Intersectionality
- Women In Development (WID): advancement of women by means of development
- Women and Development (WAD): women's inclusion in development
- Gender and Development (GAD) : gender and development, relations between and role of patriarchy and capitalism
- Empowerment

Module 3: Gender, Labour, Education (6 hours)

- Causes and consequences of gender gaps

- Broadening the definitions of work, inclusion of domestic sphere and sexual division of labour
- Globalisation and effects on women
- Role of NGOs and self help groups
- Access to education

Module 4: Gender, Health, Reproductive Rights (6 hours)

- Differences in health needs, access to health facilities
- Gendered nature of epidemic
- Decision making about fertility
- Abortion laws, discussions and legislation

Module 5: Gender, Environment, Sustainable Development (5 hours)

- Ecosystems, environment and women: interdependencies
- Ecofeminism

Module 6: Women and Security (5 hours)

- Violence against women: causes and consequences

Module 7: Gender and State (3 hours)

- Decision making in public policy: women, state actors and global agencies

3. Textbooks:

- Visvanathan, Nalini, Lynn Duggan, Nan Wiegersma and Laurie Nisonoff (eds.). *The Women, Gender and Development Reader*. Second Edition, London: Zed Books, 2011.

4. References:

- Beneria, L. and S. Feldman (eds.). *Unequal Burden. Economic Crisis, Persistent Poverty, and Women's Work*. Boulder: Westview Press, 1992.
- Bouta, Tsjard, Georg Frerks and Ian Bannon. *Gender, Conflict, and Development*. Washington DC: World Bank, 2005.
- Braidotti, R., E. Charkiewicz, S. Hausler and S. Wieringa. *Women, Environment and Sustainable Development: Towards a Theoretical Synthesis*. London: Zed Books, 1994.
- Cornwall, A. and A. Welbourn, A (eds). *Realizing Rights: Transforming Approaches to Sexual and Reproductive Wellbeing*. London: Zed Books, 2002.
- Cornwall, A., E. Harrison, and A. Whitehead (eds.). *Feminisms in Development: Contradictions, Contestations and Challenges*. London: Zed Books, 2007.
- Elson, D. (ed.). *Male Bias in the Development Process*, Second Edition. Manchester: Manchester University Press, 1995.
- Harcourt, W. (ed.) *Women Reclaiming Sustainable Livelihoods: Lost Spaces, Spaces Gained*. Basingstoke, UK: Palgrave Macmillan, 2012.
- Henshall-Momsen, J. *Gender and Development*. London: Routledge, 2004.
- Jain, Devaki. *Women, Development, and the UN: A Sixty-year Quest for Equality and Justice*. Bloomington: Indiana Press, 2005.
- Jeffery, R. and A. M. Basu (eds). *Girls' Schooling, Women's Autonomy and Fertility Change in South Asia*. New Delhi: Sage, 1996.