

Spring 2008 HNRU301 Gender, Conflict and Militarism

Tuesday 5:00-8:00 in 10 West Village F
Class website: <http://www.blackboard.neu.edu>

Professor: Gordana Rabrenovic
g.rabrenovic@neu.edu

571 Holmes 373-4998
office hours: T: 2:00-5:00

COURSE OUTLINE

Since World War II, 80 percent of all war casualties have been civilian. Improved military technology not only has made war more deadly to combatants but also significantly increased civilian casualties. Importantly, most of these deaths and injuries have been inflicted by political authorities against their own people. Violent conflicts among nations and within nations are often examined using frameworks that come from the fields of political science and international affairs. What is missing is an analysis that looks more deeply into the gendered nature of conflict and violence.

This course is designed to review the phenomena of conflict and militarization from a gender perspective and to highlight the policy and operational implications that arise from such an analysis. The course will examine issues such as changing nature of masculinity in contemporary world and its potential relationship to violent conflict, the use of violence to resolve conflict within and between nations, the connection between issues of peace, human rights and social justice, and role of women and women-led organizations in the resolution of ethnic conflict.

1. Course Readings

There are three books that are required for this course. There are also articles that will be posted on the blackboard. You are responsible for reading assigned book chapters and articles in advance of the date in which it appears in the syllabus or is announced in the class. For the success of our classes it is **crucial** that you are all familiar with assigned materials.

Books:

- Cynthia Enloe: **Maneuvers: The International Politics of Militarizing Women's Lives**
- Kayla Williams: **Love My Rifle More Than You: Young and Female in the U.S. Army**
- Nadjé Sadig Al-Ali: **Iraqi Women**

2. Examinations.

Portfolio assessment will be used as a tool to evaluate student performance. The portfolio will consist of:

1. Each week one or two students will make a presentation on one of the books from the reading list to the class. This will include:

- (a) a 1-2 page written summary of key issues in both hard and soft copy to be placed on the web site or circulated via email,
- (b) a 20 minute presentation framing the readings,
- (c) additional questions to help guide the class discussion.

Questions and the draft summary are due via email to me 24 hours before class.

Presentations are expected to present ideas from readings fairly and accurately and show critical analysis of the theoretical and empirical claims raised there. The intention is to engage the class in thinking about the issues and to create a structured and open forum for discussion. (20% of the grade)

2. An 8 to 10 page paper based on class readings will be due in week 8. This will focus on the relationship of the idea of militarism to the student's own academic discipline. For example, what assumptions does your discipline make about militarism? How are the readings and discussions in the class so far, moving you from your discipline to seeing multiple ways of seeing militarism and what are they? Has this changed over time? These questions are not meant to limit your papers but give a sense of issues that you may wish to think about. Papers are expected to defend a thesis on the issues using good reasons and evidence and will be assessed according to clarity, persuasiveness, accuracy and thoroughness. (20 % of the grade)

3. A 15 to 20 page research paper on a topic of the student's choice that engages with the issues of "militarism" and "peacemaking". I will give comments on a draft paper if it is handed in before week 12. (50 % of the grade)

4. Class participation. (10% of the grade)

In order to be eligible for an incomplete grade in this course, students have to complete at least two thirds of class assignments and requirements

Grades:

A-	90-94	A	95-100		
B-	80-83	B	84-86	B+	87-89
C-	70-73	C	74-76	C+	77-79
D-	60-63	D	64-66	D+	67-69
F	Under 60				

3. Office Hours.

My office is in 571 Holmes Hall, and my phone number is 373-4998. I will have office hours on Tuesday 2:00-5:00. During these hours, feel free to come and talk with me about any problems or concerns that you might have. If you find it impossible to call or come to my office during my office hours, then please speak to me and we will arrange another time. You can also send me an e-mail message at anytime.

4. Student Responsibilities.

Students are expected to attend classes regularly, to be on time, and not to leave the classroom before the class is over. They are encouraged to participate in class discussions and to respect freedom of others to express their views. Class assignments should be completed on time. Students having problems in the class should seek help from me. Students who submit somebody else's work as their own will receive a failing grade for the course.

Tentative schedule of readings

Week 1 January 8: Introduction

Week 2 January 15: Gendered Nature of Conflict and Social Change

J. Ann Tickner: "Gendered Dimensions of War, Peace, and Security" in *Gendering World Politics*. Columbia University Press (2001), pp. 36-64

Cynthia Cockburn: "The Continuum of Violence. A Gender Perspective on War and Peace," in *Sites of Violence*, (eds.) Jennifer Hyndman and Wenona Giles, University of California Press: Berkeley (2004), pp. 24-44.

Student Presentation: Betty A. Reardon. *Women and Peace: Feminist Visions of Global Security*. SUNY Press 1993

Student Presentation : Laura Sjoberg. *Gender, Justice and the Wars in Iraq*. Lexington Books. (2006)

Week 3 January 22: Feminist Analysis of War

Dyan Mazurana. "Gender and the Causes and Consequences of Armed Conflict," in *Gender, Conflict, and Peacekeeping*, (eds.) Dyan Mazurana, Angela Raven-Roberts, and Jane Parpart, Rowman & Littlefield: Oxford & Boulder (2004).

Judy El-Bushra, "Transforming Conflict: Some Thoughts on a Gendered Understanding of Conflict Processes," in *States of Conflict: Gender, Violence and Resistance*, (eds.) Susie Jacobs, Ruth Jacobson, and Jennifer Marchbank, Zed Press: London (2000), pp. 66-86.

Wenona Giles and Jennifer Hyndman, "New Directions for Feminist Research and Thought" in *Sites of Violence* (eds.) Jennifer Hyndman and Wenona Giles, University of California Press, Berkeley (2004) pp. 301-309.

Student Presentation: Jean Bethke Elshtain: *Women and War*. The University of Chicago Press, 1995

Week 4 January 29: Men and Women as Combatants

Kayla Williams: *Love My Rifle More Than You*. Norton, 2005

Karen Kampwirth: "New Roles for Sandino's Daughters" in *Women & Guerrilla Movements*, The Pennsylvania State University Press (2002) pages: 21-44

Segal, M. W. (1995). Women's Military Roles Cross-Nationally: Past, Present, and Future. *Gender & Society*, 9(6):757-775.

Student Presentation: Anthony Swofford: *Jarhead: A Marine's Chronicle of the Gulf War and Other Battles*. Scribner 2005

Student Presentation: *Children at War*. University of California Press 2006

Student Presentation: Tanya Lyons: *Guns and Guerilla Girls: Women in the Zimbabwean National Liberation Struggle*. Trenton: Africa World Press, 2004.

Week 5 February 5: Militarization of Women's Lives

Cynthia Enloe. *Maneuvers: The International Politics of Militarizing Women's Lives*. Ch. 1-3

Nadje Sadig Al-Ali: *Iraqi Women* Ch. 1-3

Student Presentation: Joshua S. Goldstein: *War and Gender. How Gender Shapes the War System and Vice Versa*. Cambridge University Press. 2001

Student Presentation: Dyan Mazurana and Khristopher Carlson, *From Combat to Community: Women and Girls of Sierra Leone*,
<http://www.womenwagingpeace.net/content/articles/SierraLeoneFullCaseStudy.pdf>

Week 6 February 12: Leaving with Wars on Many Fronts

Nadje Sadig Al-Ali: *Iraqi Women* ch. 4-6

Student Presentation: Catherine Lutz: *Homefront: A Military City and the American 20th Century*. Beacon Press. 2001.

Student Presentation: *Baghdad Burning* by Riverbend. The Feminist Press. 2005

Week 7 February 19: The Functionality of Violence and Rape in War

Cynthia Enloe. *Maneuvers: The International Politics of Militarizing Women's Lives*. Ch. 4-7

Catherine N. Niarchos, N. "Women, War, and Rape: Challenges Facing the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia" *Human Rights Quarterly*, 1995 Vol.17:649-690.
http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/human_rights_quarterly/v017/17.4niarchos.html

Martin T. Donohoe, (2004). War, rape and genocide: Never again? *Medscape Ob/Gyn. and Women's Health*, 9(2). 2004 <http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/491147>

Student Presentation: Madeline Morris By force of arms: Rape, war, and military culture. *Duke Law Journal*, 1996, 45(4):651-781
<http://www.jstor.org/view/00127086/ap050209/05a00020/0>

Student Presentation: Linda Green: *Fear as a Way of Life: Mayan Widows in Rural Guatemala*. Columbia University Press. 1999

Week 8 February 26: Peacekeepers as Violators

Paul Higate and Marsha Henry: "Engendering (In)security in Peace Support Operations," *Security Dialogue*, Vol. 35, No. 4, 481-498 (2004)
<http://sdi.sagepub.com/cgi/reprint/35/4/481>

Sarah Martin: Must Boys Be Boys? Ending Sexual Exploitation & Abuse in UN Peacekeeping Missions. Refugees International, 2005
http://www.refugeesinternational.org/files/6976_file_FINAL_MustBoys.pdf

Student Presentation: Sandra Whitworth: *Men, Militarism, and UN Peacekeeping: A Gendered Analysis*. Lynne Rienner, 2004

Week 9 March 4: Spring break

Week 10 March 11: Engendering Policies and Institutions: Opportunities, Issues and Constraints

"Gender Mainstreaming in Peace Support Operations: Moving beyond Rhetoric to Practice," *International Alert*, July 2002,
<http://www.international-alert.org/publications/81.php>

Colleen Keaney-Mischel. *The Role of Gender Advisers in Implementing United Nations Gender Mainstreaming Policy in Peacekeeping Operation*. Chapter from the dissertation

Cynthia Cockburn and Meliha Hubic: "Gender and the Peacekeeping military; a view from Bosnian Women's Organizations" in Cynthia Cockburn and Dubravka Zarkov, editors. *Postwar Moment: Militarities, Masculinities and International Peacekeeping*. Lawrence & Wishart, London 2002, pages 103-121

Week 11 March 18: Managing Crisis: A Community View

Kate Fearon: "The Talks" chapter 4 from *Women's Work: The Story of the Northern Ireland Women's Coalition*. Blackstaff Press, 1999 <http://cain.ulst.ac.uk/issues/women/fearon99.htm>

Megan Meyer: A Comparative View: Peace and Conflict-Resolution Organizations in Three Protracted Conflicts. Pp. 175-201 in *Mobilizing for Peace*, edited by Benjamin Gidron, Stanley N. Katz and Yeheskel Hasenfeld. Oxford University Press 2002.

Student Presentation: Rita Arditti: *Searching for Life: The Grandmothers of the Plaza de Mayo and the Disappeared Children of Argentina*. University of California Press. 1999

Student Presentation: Cynthia Cockburn: *The Space Between Us, Negotiating Gender and National Identities in Conflict*. Zed Books London. 1998

Week 12 March 25: Gender and Humanitarian Intervention

Lesley Abdela: "Kosovo: Missed Opportunities, Lessons for the Future" in *Development, Women and War: Feminist Perspectives*, Oxfam: Oxford (2004) pp. 87-98.

Jennifer Hyndman: "Refugee Camps as Conflict Zones: The Politics of Gender" in *Sites of Violence*, (eds.) Jennifer Hyndman and Wenona Giles, University of California Press: Berkeley (2004) pp. 193-212.

Madeleine Rees: "International Intervention in Bosnia-Herzegovina: The Cost of Ignoring Gender," in *The Postwar Moment*, (eds.) Cynthia Cockburn and Dubravka Zarkov, Zed Books: London (2002) pp. 51-67.

Student Presentation: Mark Duffield: *The New Humanitarianism: Global Governance and the New Wars: The Merging of Development and Security*, Zed Books: London (2001).

Week 13 April 1: Post-Conflict Recovery

Birgitte Sørensen, B. (1998) *Women and Post-Conflict Reconstruction: Issues and Sources*, Occasional Paper No.3, United Nations Research Institute for Social Development, Programme for Strategic and International Security Studies.

Natasa Mrvic-Petrovic and Ivana Stevanovic. "Life in refuge-changes in socioeconomic and familial status" in *Women, Violence and War*, edited by Vesna Nikolic-Ristanovic, Central European University Press 2001: 151-169

Maja Korac. "War, Flight, and Exile: Gendered Violence among Refugee Women from Post-Yugoslav States." in *Sites of Violence*, (eds.) Jennifer Hyndman and Wenona Giles, University of California Press: Berkeley (2004), pp.249-272

Marcia E. Greenberg and Elaine Zuckerman. "The Gender Dimensions of Post-Conflict Reconstruction." Research Paper No. 2006/62 UNU-Wider 2006
<http://www.wider.unu.edu/publications/rps/rps2006/rp2006-62.pdf>

Week 14 April 8: Student Project Presentations

Week 15 April 15: Student Project Presentations