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**SECOND SEMESTER 2020-2021**

# Course Handout Part II

Date: 16-01-2021

In addition to part-I (General Handout for all courses appended to the time table) this portion gives further specific details regarding the course.

*Course No.* : BITS F385

## Course Title : Introduction to Gender Studies

## Instructor-in-Charge : Aswathy Raveendran

**Scope and Objective of the Course:**

This introductory course offers a wide range of perspectives to understand gender, from biological to sociological theories. It adopts an intersectional approach to understanding gender, emphasizing its intersections with other social categories such as class, race, caste and ethnicity. Through a feminist lens, the course critically examines how gender-relations operate within the family, educational institutions, the workplace, politics and the media. The students are also introduced to landmark legal judgements that safeguard gender equality and the history of feminist movements in the international and the Indian context

**Textbooks:**

1. Mary E. John (ed). (2008). *Women’s studies in India: A Reader*, New Delhi: Penguin Books India Pvt. Ltd.

**Reference Material:**

1. Menon, N. (2012). Seeing like a feminist. UK: Penguin.
2. Fausto-Sterling, A. (2012). Sex/gender: Biology in a social world. Routledge.
3. Kumar, R. (1997). The history of doing: An illustrated account of movements for women's rights and feminism in India 1800-1990. Zubaan.
4. Rosser, S. V. (1989). Feminist scholarship in the sciences: Where are we now and when can we expect a theoretical breakthrough. Feminism & science, 03-14.

**Course Plan:**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Lecture No.** | **Learning objectives** | **Topics to be covered** | **Chapter in the Text Book** |
| 1-12 | Comprehend “gender” and what the field of gender studies is about | Sex and Gender  Sociological theories about gender  Sexuality  Femininity and Masculinity  Gender Stereotypes  Feminism | TB ch.12  RM1- 53-90 , 93-110,149-171,175-212 |
| 13-17 | Critically engage with the institutions that safeguard normative gender relations and to understand gender based violence | Gender and Family, Gender Bias  Gender and Violence: Dowry, Sexual Harassment, gender and human rights | TB ch.5  RM1 p.113-146 |
| 18-21 | Analyze gender in education, science and technology | Gender and Education  Gender and Science  Gender and employment opportunities | T.B.-ch.7  R.M.4 |
| 22-26 | Get familiarized with the women’s movements-their history and focus | Women’s movement- International perspective, Indian perspective | TB-ch.1 (p.23-27)  RM 3 |
| 27-33 | Appraise the debates on gender within the domains of politics and law | Women and Politics, women in *Panchayati Raj* Institutions, women, law and policy | TB ch.2, ch 6 |
| 34-35 | Explain gender and development | Key debates related to gender and development, gendered nature of work | TB ch.4 |
| 35-42 | Understand gendered ‘ways of seeing” | Women and the media:  Representation, objectification (in visual and print media) | TB ch.13  RM2, ch.3 |

NOTE: In addition to the textbook and reference material mentioned above, based on perceived need, students may be required to go through reference material made available at various stages of the course.

**Evaluation Scheme:**

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| **Component** | **Duration** | **Weightage (%)** | **Date & Time** | **Nature of Component** |
| Assignment 1 | - | 15 | TBA | Open book |
| Mid-semester exam | 90 minutes | 30 | 06/03 11.00 - 12.30PM | Open book |
| Assignment 2 | - | 15 | TBA | Open book |
| Comprehensive exam | 120 minutes | 40 | 17/05 AN | Open book |

**Chamber consultation hour:** A Google Meet link along with consultation hours will be shared on the CMS

**Notices:** Will be put up on CMS

**Make-up Policy:** Make ups will be granted only for exceptionally deserving cases and should be communicated at least two hours before the missed component along with sufficient evidence.

**Academic Honesty and Integrity Policy:** Academic honesty and integrity are to be maintained by all the students throughout the semester and no type of academic dishonesty is acceptable.

Aswathy Raveendran

**INSTRUCTOR-IN-CHARGE**