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Course Outline for WMST 2

GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE OF WOMEN

Effective: Fall 2011

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

WMST 2 — GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE OF WOMEN — 3.00 units

Examines the cultural, historical, political and economic experiences of women globally. Introduces feminist perspectives on a wide range of issues affecting women including globalization, war, education, work, family and religion in Asia, Africa, the Middle East and Latin America.

3.00 Units Lecture

Grading Methods:

Discipline:

	MIN
Lecture Hours:	54.00
Total Hours:	54.00

II. NUMBER OF TIMES COURSE MAY BE TAKEN FOR CREDIT: 1

III. PREREQUISITE AND/OR ADVISORY SKILLS:

IV. MEASURABLE OBJECTIVES:

Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to:

- A. Explore the theoretical background of the interdisciplinary study of women internationally;
- B. Identify the economic and political aspects of globalization and how they affect women;
- C. Synthesize material from primary and secondary sources in order to analyze the role of women globally;
- D. Explore human rights from a feminist perspective;
- E. Examine the effect of the social and political women's movements in Asia, Africa, the Middle East and Latin America;
- F. Investigate cultural challenges for women globally;
- G. Discuss the way women fight oppression around the world.

V. CONTENT:

- A. Introduce the historical and theoretical framework of Women's Studies as an interdisciplinary field of study internationally
- B. Recognize social classification of gender at the global level
- C. Examine the faces of feminism in Africa
- D. Explore the experience of lesbians around the world
- E. Analyze the relationship of women to globalization
- F. Analyze the women's movements in Asia, Africa, the Middle East, and Latin America
- G. Examine the politics of women's health internationally including reproductive choice
- H. Investigate the educational opportunities for women and girls internationally
- I. Explore feminist critiques of religion
- J. Examine the role of women in the world's major religions: Islam, Buddhism, Judaism and Christianity
- K. Analyze violence against women and girls
- L. Explore gender and transnational labor and migration patterns
- M. Investigate sex work and human trafficking
- N. Examine the impact of war and occupation on women in the Middle East and Africa
- O. Explore the relationship between women and the environment through ecofeminism, environmentalism and sustainability
- P. Investigate women and political activism internationally
- Q. Examine women's status and power within the family

VI. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

- A. **Discussion** -
- B. Small group work
- C. Audiovisual material and analysis
- D. **Lecture** -
- E. Writing about primary and secondary sources
- F. Group presentations
- G. **Guest Lecturers** -
- H. Reading of primary and secondary sources

VII. TYPICAL ASSIGNMENTS:

- A. Reading of assigned texts and discussion of material
- B. Writing 1. Research an international women's rights

organization. Possible organizations include but are not limited to: a. International Planned Parenthood Federation b. Global Fund for Women c. Amnesty International OUTFront! Human Rights and Sexual Identity d. U.N. Population Fund e. The Female Genital Cutting Education and Networking Project f. UNIFEM's Global Campaign to Eliminate Violence against Women g. Development with Women for a New Era (DAWN) h. Coalition against Trafficking of Women i. Maryam's Net: Muslim Women and Their Islam j. Center for Women's Global Leadership k. MADRE C. Multimedia viewing: 1. View documentaries in class and provide analysis. Possible films: Transnational Tradeswomen; The Greatest Silence: Rape in the Congo; Zanzibar Soccer Queens; Beauty in China; Chinese Foot Binding: The Vanishing Lotus; A Small Happiness; Behind the Veil: Afghan Women Under Fundamentalism; Beyond Borders: Arab Feminists Talk About Their lives East and West; Daughters of Afghanistan; Divorce Sharia Style; Muslim Women Talk Sex; Dangerous Living: Coming Out in the Developing World; Fires Eyes D. Guest Lectures

VIII. EVALUATION:

A. **Methods**

1. Exams/Tests
2. Quizzes
3. Research Projects
4. Papers
5. Group Projects
6. Class Participation

B. **Frequency**

1. Frequency
 - a. Quizzes as needed
 - b. One or two midterm exams and one final exam
 - c. Daily participation (small or large group discussion)
 - d. One paper on an international women's rights organization
 - e. Four journal writings and/or critiques
 - f. One group presentation

IX. TYPICAL TEXTS:

1. Basu, Amrita, ed *Women's Movements in the Global Era: The Power of Local Feminisms.*, Westview Press, 2010.
2. Bose, Christine E. and Minjeong Kim, eds *Global Gender Research: Transnational Perspectives.*, Routledge, 2009.
3. Burn, Shawn Meghan *Women across Cultures: A global perspective.*, McGraw Hill, 2005.
4. Ehrenreich Barbara and Arlie Russell Hochschild *Global Woman: Nannies, Maids, and Sex Workers in the New Economy.*, Holt, 2002.
5. Kristof, Nicholas D. and Sheryl WuDunn *Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide.*, Alfred A. Knopf, 2009.
6. Thayer, Millie *Making Transnational Feminism: Rural Women, NGO Activists, and Northern Donors in Brazil.*, Routledge, 2010.

X. OTHER MATERIALS REQUIRED OF STUDENTS:

- A. Greenbooks and Internet access