

EM7436 Gender, War and Peace

Module type Option (approved module: Identities and Cultures of Europe)

Term / hours Michaelmas / 22

ECTS 10

Coordinator(s) Dr Gillian Wylie
(wylieg@tcd.ie)

Lecturer(s) Dr Gillian Wylie

Module description

What does gender analysis reveal about the causes and dynamics of war and peace? In this module we begin by exploring and criticising some basic gendered assumptions – such as that war is the business of men and peace that of women. Instead we challenge these dichotomies by examining issues such as the complicated relationship between the social construction of masculinity and soldiering and the challenge posed to militaries by the inclusion of women in their ranks. We ask why peace processes have generally excluded women and what the consequences of that are for the sustainability of peace, while at the same time querying the assumption that ‘women’ as an essentialized group have particular skills to bring to the peace table. Through these debates we examine the ways in which war and peace are gendered experiences which also shape our understanding of what it is to be a gendered person.

Assessment

The module is assessed through an in-class group presentation (20%) and a 3,000-word essay (80%).

Indicative bibliography

- Bradley, H., *Gender* (Polity Press, 2007).
- Cockburn C., *From Where We Stand: War, Women's Activism and Feminist Analysis* (Zed Books, 2013).
- Cheldelin, S., (ed.), *Women Waging War and Peace: International Perspectives of Women's Roles in Conflict and Post-Conflict Reconstruction* (Continuum, 2011).
- Duncanson, C., *Gender and Peacebuilding* (Polity Press, 2016).
- Kronsell, A., and Svedberg, E., (eds.), *Making Gender, Making War: Violence, Military and Peacekeeping Practices* (Routledge, 2012).
- Leatherman, J., et al, *Sexual Violence and Armed Conflict (WCMW - War and Conflict in the Modern World)* (Polity Press, 2011).
- Sharoni, S., Welland, J., Steiner, L., and Pedersen, J., *Handbook on Gender and War* (Edward Elgar, 2016).
- Sjoberg, L., *Gendering Global Conflict: Towards Feminist Theory of War* (Columbia UP, 2013).
- Sjoberg, L., *Gender, War and Conflict* (Polity Press, 2014).
- Whitworth, S., *Men, Militarism and UN Peacekeeping* (Lynne Rienner, 2007).

Learning outcomes

Upon successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

- LO1 Understand the foundational and ongoing debates in Gender Studies concerning sex and gender, femininity and masculinity, gender and difference, and be able to engage in discussion of these.
- LO2 Comprehend and enter into arguments made concerning the gendered nature of war, the perpetration of gender-based violence, the relationships between masculinity and violence/femininity and peace, and the necessity of the inclusion of gender concerns in peacebuilding.
- LO3 Demonstrate knowledge of key international political and legal developments in this area such as UNSC Resolution 1325 and the Yugoslav and Rwanda tribunals.
- LO4 Show a familiarity with the literature in this field and engage in informed discussion of it.
- LO5 Present persuasive written work with analytic arguments based on evidence, reading and reason.