Issues in Peace and Development I  Syllabus 2013
(Spring Semester, 2 Credits)

Ronni Alexander

Theme and Objectives

In this class we are interested in the ways gender intersects with violence in global society. Taking a feminist international relations/peace studies approach, we will look in particular at three different aspects of this problem: gender and structural violence, focusing on homelessness; gender and armed conflict and gender and human trafficking. There are three objectives: (1) To think together critically about gender in the context of transnational relations, particularly as it relates to war and peace; (2) To develop a critical and broad understanding of violence; and (3) To apply what we are learning to a particular case: poverty/homelessness.

Description and Schedule

This class uses gender as a lens. As many students do not have a background in gender studies and/or international relations and peace studies, the first part of the class will be devoted to trying to establish a common and critical understanding of 'gender' in the context of transnational relations. We will then apply this knowledge to questions pertaining to gender and armed conflict. Finally, we will address some of the related issues such as trafficking, sex work and HIV/AIDS. The class will include a field work experience in Nishinari-ku, Osaka to gain first-hand knowledge about structural violence and poverty in Japan.

* The format of this class will emphasize participation. Most will be through group work and discussion.
* This class includes a field trip, probably a Saturday in mid-May. Details will be discussed and confirmed in class.

The class schedule will be as follows:
1. Introduction: Violence and Peace
2. Gender, Sex and Sexuality
3. Feminism, Gender and IR
4. Feminism and Identity
5. Structural Violence: Gender Bias
6. Kamagaski Field Trip
7. Gender, Violence and War
8. Do Men Wage War and Women Work for Peace?
9. Women and Men in War
10. Women, War and the International Community
12. Trafficking and Migration
13. Globalized Sex Work?
14. Is "Rescue" Necessary?
15. Working for Change: NGOs

* Class content may be changed according to the needs and interests of the students

**Evaluation**

Students will be evaluated on the basis of a combination the following:
* Attendance and class participation 30%
* Group Presentations and questions 35%
* Field trip presentation on homelessness, participation and report 35%

**Information Regarding Preparation and Related Classes**

It is recommended that students take International Relations and Issues in Peace and Development 2 but there is no recommended sequence in which they should be taken.

**Office Hour and Contact Information**

Office hour will be announced.
Contact: alexroni(at)kobe(hyphen)u(dot)ac(dot)jp

**Message**

This class is challenging and time-consuming, but it will give you many opportunities to learn about and discuss issues of importance today in the fields of international cooperation, peace, and development studies. You will also gain new insights into
poverty in Japan. The class provides ample opportunities for students to learn from one another and to share knowledge about the situation in their countries.

**Textbook**
- Weekly reading assignments from a variety of texts will be assigned. These will be distributed to students as appropriate.
- A complete syllabus will be distributed by the third class, after consultation with enrolled students.

**Reference Materials**
We will use one textbook accompanied by various readings from a variety of texts and articles. The following list includes some of those materials.


**Some additional references (in alphabetical order)**

**Language in Class**

English

**Keywords**

gender, violence, homeless, development, peace, international relations
Weekly Readings (2013.4.1)

This is a provisional syllabus and will be revised according to the needs and interests of the students. Often there are additions or changes in the readings. These will be announced in class. Please be sure to check for changes if you are absent.

1. Introduction 4/11
http://song.unwomen.org/ International Women’s Day 2013 ‘One Woman’ (UN Women song)

2. Structural violence, Popoki and Peace 4/18
   (Galtung’s work on violence is important in peace studies, but is also criticized by feminist scholars. This is a sample of Galtung’s work, followed by a feminist criticism by Catia Confortini)

* relate gender, sex, sexuality and violence
   (Most of us are taught that there are two biological sexes: female and male. This article suggests that these categories are not sufficient to describe reality)
   (Bodies and sexuality are important, but often ignored. Why?)
   (A discussion of the meaning and importance of sexuality)
The following is a site which published news about issues pertaining to transsexual and transgendered people, including legislation, hate crime, lifestyle, etc. Please have a look.
**(1) Transsexual and Transgendered News
http://www.lauras-playground.com/trans_news.htm

4. Feminism, Gender and IR 5/2 *No class but please complete the reading assignment
Introducing Basic Concepts of Feminist IR
   (We will use this textbook to get an understanding of Feminist IR)
   (2) Chapter 2: “Gender, Feminism and the Fourth Debate in International Relations,” Steans 2006: 20-31
   (An introduction to different forms of feminism and how they relate to IR)
   (3) Peacock, Dean. “We exist! Voices of male feminism.” (Wilson, et. al, defending Our
(A voice from a male feminist perspective)

5. Using Gender as a Lens 5/9

Presentation 2 (5/2, 5/9) What is important? Why?
(1) Chapter 3: “Gender in the Theory and Practice of ‘State-Making’,” (Steans 2006: 3-46) (Citizenship and identity in IR, an extremely important issue)
(2) Youngs, Gillian. “Feminist International Relations: a contradiction in terms? Or: why women and gender are essential to understanding the world we live in.” International Affairs 80,1. 2004, pp.75-87.
(An overview of some of the key issues)
(3) UN Women. “In Pursuit of Justice,” Progress of the World’s Women 2011-12, pp.1-15. (The theme of this year’s report is gender justice. This brief introduction will explain some of the important documents and ideas in this area).

6. Structural Violence (1): Preparation for the Field Trip 5/16

Presentations on homelessness in your countries (1) & DVD/intro of Kamagasaki Program

7. Structural Violence (2): Preparation for the Field Trip 5/23

Presentations on homelessness in your countries (2)

8. Structural Violence (3): Preparation for the Field Trip 5/30

Presentations on homelessness in your countries (3)
(3): Handouts on Kamagasaki, including newspaper clippings websites (to be announced in class)

9. Day Labor and Homelessness 6/6

Presentation 3 (Readings from 5/16, 5/23, 5/30)

10. Kamagasaki Field Trip 6/8 (Saturday)

11. Kamagasaki follow-up session 6/13 Thank you letters, etc. due
Japan group presentation on homelessness

12. Women in War and Peace  6/20
How Feminist IR Looks at War and Peace
(1) Chapter 4: “Feminist Perspectives on War and Peace,” (Steans 2006: 47-62)
(2) Cockburn, Cynthia (2010) “Gender Relations as Causal in Militarization and War.”
International Feminist Journal of Politics, 12:2, 139-157

13. Gender, Militarism and Security  6/27
Thinking about UN Security Council Resolution 1325
(3) Bachelet, Michelle, “Women, War and Peace.” Speech delivered by Under-Secretary-General and UN Women Executive Director Michelle Bachelet during the Phyllis Kossoff Annual Lecture held at Hunter College
http://www.unwomen.org/2011/03/women-war-and-peace/ (2011.3.9)
REFERENCE:
(2) The Hague Declaration on Women and Peace-building

14. Questioning Gender and Development  7/4  Presentation 5 (Readings 7/4)
A taste of the ways Feminist IR scholars criticize aspects of development
(3) Christine Sylvester. “Bare Life as a Development/Postcolonial Problematic.” (Leckie 2009:31-50)
(4) UN Women. “Gender Justice and the Millennium Development Goals.” Progress of the World’s Women 2011-2012, pp.104-117. (See Week 5, UN Women for link)

15. Considering Trafficking in Women  7/11
VIDEO “Sacrifice”
One of the important issues facing the international community today
(1) Chapter 8: “Women’s Human Rights” (Steans 2006:106-118)
(2) Shill, Kate, “Sexual Rights are Human Rights” (Correa and Jolly 2008:45-53).
(3) International Framework for Action To Implement the Trafficking in Persons Protocol
(5) Online Toolkit to Combat Trafficking in Persons
(Readings (3)-(5) are quite long. Focus on issues of interest to you)
16. Women’s Human Rights and Trafficking in Women (7/18)

Presentation 6 (7/11, 7/18)


(An introduction to contemporary issues of human trafficking)

(3) Ditmore, Mellisa. “Sex Work, trafficking and HIV: how development is compromising sex workers' human rights” in Correa and Jolly, pp.64-66