Global Gender Relations

ULMS078  5 credit module (equivalent to 2.5 ECTS)

1. Module Leader

Dr Giulia Sirigu

Biography
Dr Giulia Sirigu has multi-year teaching experience started in 2010 and has been involved in teaching undergraduate and postgraduate students in Global Gender Relations, International Business, Globalisation, International Development, International Relations and Global Political Economy in both the United Kingdom and Mexico. Expert in international communication and international campaigns, she has a PhD in International Relations from the University of Manchester. Furthermore, she holds a MA in International and Diplomatic Studies and a BA in International Communication. She also works as manager of the Italian Chamber of Commerce and Industry for the North West and as consultant in international campaigns and projects. Her other research interests include processes of Globalisation in Latin America, New and Social Media Communication, Foreign Policy and Global Governance.

2. Module Description

The module intends to enable students to critically understand and analyse the relation between gender and globalisation processes in relation to the ever-changing global policies and political economic trends. This module will provide students with an opportunity to study basic theories and policy questions around globalisation and gender. It will enable them to understand how global dynamics can influence and determine the presence/absence of gender issues in different regional contexts. The course will develop students’ critical evaluation of the importance of gender in international development, and in the improvement of global political and economic processes.

3. Module Aims

This module aims to:
- To develop confidence in understanding and communicating complex ideas.
- To develop skills in research, collaborative learning and producing and delivering presentations.
- To introduce students to the understanding of gender dynamics and issues in relation to the recent globalisation processes, enabling them to critically analyse the development and impact of global gender relations and the key concepts concerning efforts and requests related to the presence of new global dynamics.

4. Content

The following topics will be considered on the module:
- History of Feminism
- Gender and Globalisation
- Gender and Institutions
- Gender and Global Political Economy
- Gender and International Development

5. Module structure
The module will be delivered over a three-week period in six two hour sessions (four
hours per week, total 12 hours contact time). The final block will be an assessment
session.

Each session will consist of short lecture style sessions interspersed with practical
activities and group discussions. The teacher will demonstrate the approaches used in
teaching Global Gender Relations and students will have a number of opportunities to put
what they are learning into practice with their classmates. Students will be expected to
participate fully and actively throughout the sessions.

In addition, it is expected that students will spend 38 study hours outside of the classroom
contact hours on activities including assigned reading, optional reading of areas of
personal interest, homework tasks, web research and preparation for assessment. The
‘flipped classroom’ approach will be used, requiring students to prepare in advance for
the sessions, and so students should be aware that in order to fully benefit from the face-
to-face classroom sessions, they will need to have done the preparation work assigned
beforehand.

6. Teaching methods

The teaching approach will include the following:
- Taught sessions
- Flipped classroom – preparation work
- Small group working
- Group discussions
- Presentations
- Online learning
- Use of multimedia and interactive materials
- Use of case studies
- Workshops

7. Assessment:

Assessment will be by:
- Group presentation (worth 25% of the overall mark)
- Written essay/reflection of 750-850 words (worth 75% of the overall mark)

Standard University policies apply with regard to late submission of assessments. There is no
re-assessment opportunity.

8. Course structure:

The course will be practical in nature, with the sessions highly focused on giving the
students as much practical experience as possible, and encouraging them to put theory
into practice throughout.

The Indicative schedule is as follows:

**Session One:**

*History of feminism*

The course will begin with some general information about the module, including the
aims and assessment. Then it moves on to consider the feminist political thought and
related historical events, the key globalisation theories and historical and global
achievements related to the application of concepts as Feminism, Masculinism and
Gender roles. Student activity: historical case study and implications on actual life.
**Session Two:**
*Gender and globalisation*
This session will introduce students to the relation between gender and politics, introducing them to the concept of gender quotas, positive discrimination and positive actions. This will be useful in order to analyse the global trends. Students will have the opportunity to practise reflecting on a video case study.

**Session Three:**
*Gender and Institutions*
Students will learn about the differences and similarities between different global and regional institutions, diversified regional and global goals. They will have the opportunity to reflect on how global governance and the global civil society are related to gender (in)equality.

**Session Four:**
*Gender and Global Political Economy*
In this session the focus will be on women and global political economic processes through the analysis of issues and initiatives related to the gender pay gap, women migration and labour. They will also be introduced to the concepts of social reproduction and intersectionality. Students will have the chance to analyse data and discuss the application of different methods.

**Session Five:**
*Gender and International Development*
Students will look at the features of the global goals in relation to gender issues (namely MDGs and SDGs), will learn how to evaluate global and global initiatives focused on gender and development considering microfinance and positive actions in this field. In this lesson they will also look at choosing and analysing international initiatives developed in matter of gender development.

**Session Six:**
*Group Presentation of gendered case studies*
In this final session the students will give a short presentation about their selection of a global gendered topic of their choice analysis a selected and geographically limited case study.

9. **Learning outcomes**

On completion of this module, students will be able to:

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<tr>
<th>Learning outcome</th>
<th>Assessment component which assesses this learning outcome</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students will be able to develop confidence in understanding and communicating complex ideas in written and spoken language.</td>
<td>Written essay/reflection Group presentation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Students will be able to research a topic and work collaboratively to produce a presentation and deliver it</td>
<td>Group presentation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Students will be able to demonstrate an introductory understanding of key issues regarding gender in international relations and in global and local institutions, particularly with respect to globalisation and development</td>
<td>Written essay/reflection Group presentation</td>
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10. Skills

Key skills that will be developed:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Skill</th>
<th>How this skill is developed</th>
<th>Mode of assessment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Teamwork</td>
<td>Group discussions, activities and tasks in class</td>
<td>Group presentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication skills</td>
<td>Orally in class discussions, activities and debate in class; written</td>
<td>Written essay/reflection</td>
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<td></td>
<td>communication skills via completion of written assignment</td>
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11. Books, ebooks and websites:

The University Website at [www.liv.ac.uk/library](http://www.liv.ac.uk/library) provides access to many relevant books and electronic books, as well as academic journals and databases.

**Recommended Pre-Course Reading**


Blakeley G. and Bryson V. (eds), The impact of Feminism on political concepts and debates, Manchester: Manchester University Press.


All three of these books are excellent introductions to gender related issues and debates, but it is not necessary or required to read all of them. We would recommend choosing and reading one, or at least dipping into the chapters of particular interest to you.

We may also assign readings from these books as preparatory work during the course.

If you are not familiar with the concepts related to the gender debate, it would be advisable to also buy or borrow a good handbook of reference.

Examples can include:


**Core Texts**


Blakeley G. and Bryson V. (eds), *The impact of Feminism on political concepts and debates*, Manchester: Manchester University Press.


**Journals:**

*European Journal of Women’s Studies*

*Feminist Review*

*Feminist Studies*

*Feminist Theory*
Useful Websites

BRIDGE, Institute of Development Studies http://www.bridge.ids.ac.uk
Women and Development Resources on the Internet http://www.gdrc.org/gender/link-resources.html
UN Development Programme http://www.undp.org
UN Development Fund for Women http://www.unifem.org/
‘Development Gateway’ World Bank http://home.developmentgateway.org
UK Department for International Development http://www.dfid.gov.uk
African Gender Institute, University of Cape Town http://web.uct.ac.za/org/agi/
Women in Development Southern Africa Awareness http://www.sardc.net/widsaa/
UN HeForShe Programme http://www.heforshe.org/