



## WINTER 2022

POLS 2150

**Gender and Politics**

MWF 1:30- 2:20

Virtual and MACS 209

**Professor Candace Johnson**

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Department of Political Science

Office: MCKN 511

**Office Hours:** Immediately after class (virtual)

Or by appointment

And TBD when/ if we resume in person

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### **Description**

At a time when countries like Canada and the United States are debating the full social and political inclusion of transgender citizens while they are retrenching reproductive rights (namely, access to abortion), the politics of gender become more critical to North American and global politics than they have ever been. In order to understand the politics of who is fully included into social and political arrangements, who gets offered full citizenship, and who is marginalized, it is necessary to examine the politics of gender and the ways in which they often intersect with other vectors of inequality and identity, such as race, ethnicity, and poverty. We will examine these politics and intersections through the realms of political theory, public policy, political institutions, court cases, current events, and popular culture.

This course will be a survey of topics, concepts, and analytical approaches. We will cover a lot of material and will not have time to go into great depth on any one topic. The main goal of this course is to provide students with the tools and knowledge they will need to conduct research and analysis in other courses in political science and other disciplines. It is also the goal of this course to examine and explore topics and controversies in gender and politics and to learn how to conduct scholarly analysis and engage in respectful debate. We will not be solving any of these controversies or getting to the bottom of any longstanding or recent issues.

### **Format**

Lecture/ Interactive Lecture

**Grading**

\*Reading Response Assignment 20%  
(4-5 pages, double spaced, due February 7)

\*Human Rights Rapporteur Assignment 25%  
(7-8 pages, double spaced, due March 28)

Midterm Exam 25%  
(in class on February 18)  
Format: Long answer

Final Exam 30%  
(07:00PM - 09:00PM (2022/04/13) Room TBA)  
Format: Long answer and essay

\*Assignments are to be submitted to the appropriate **Dropbox on CourseLink**. Assignments sent to the instructor via email will not be accepted. Please consult the **Political Science Writing Guide** for details about what is expected for written assignments in political science. This is available in the Content section of CourseLink.

**The Learning Objectives for this Course are the Following:**

During this course students will learn to: 1. Understand the ways in which gender is used as a concept in different fields of study in political science; 2. Understand why and how gender is a contested concept; 3. Identify the complexities of the politics of gender in theoretical and political terms; 4. Employ gender, in its various meanings, to analyze political phenomena; 5. Apply a gendered analysis in their own assignments.

**Texts**Required:

Mary Hawkesworth. 2019. Gender and Political Theory. Polity Press.

**Recommended:**

Raewyn Connell. 2020. Gender in World Perspective. Wiley.

Lisa Wade and Myra Marx Ferree. 2019. Gender: Ideas, Interactions, Institutions. New York: WW Norton and Company.

Georgina Waylen, Karen Celis, Johanna Kantola, and S. Laurel Weldon. 2013. The Oxford Handbook of Gender and Politics.

All Readings will be available through the library, Ares system, and should be accessible through the CourseLink site. All other course materials – lectures, presentations, videos, announcements – will be posted on the CourseLink site.

## Policies

### University of Guelph Policy on Academic Misconduct

“Academic misconduct is behaviour that erodes the basis of mutual trust on which scholarly exchanges commonly rest, undermines the University's exercise of its responsibility to evaluate students' academic achievements, or restricts the University's ability to accomplish its learning objectives.” Please make sure that you have read and understand the University's policy on academic misconduct: <https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-amisconduct.shtml>

### COVID

#### Illness

Medical notes will not normally be required for singular instances of academic consideration, although students may be required to provide supporting documentation for multiple missed assessments or when involving a large part of a course (e.g.. final exam or major assignment).

#### Safety

For information on current safety protocols, follow these links: <https://news.uoguelph.ca/return-to-campuses/how-u-of-g-is-preparing-for-your-safe-return/>  
<https://news.uoguelph.ca/return-to-campuses/spaces/#ClassroomSpaces>

Please note, these guidelines may be updated as required in response to evolving University, Public Health or government directives.

#### Disclaimer

Please note that the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic may necessitate a revision of the format of course offerings, changes in classroom protocols, and academic schedules. Any such changes will be announced via CourseLink and/or class email. This includes on-campus scheduling during the semester, mid-terms and final examination schedules. All University-wide decisions will be posted on the COVID-19 website (<https://news.uoguelph.ca/2019-novel-coronavirus-information/>) and circulated by email.

**Voice or audiovisual recording** of any portion of the course is prohibited.

## Schedule of Classes

### WEEK ONE

**January 10: Introduction to the course**

**January 12: What is gender?**

The Rape Crisis Centre Case

Mary Hawkesworth, Gender and Political Theory, Chapter 1.

**January 14: Conceptualizing Gender**

Raewyn Connell, Gender in World Perspective, Chapter 1.

**Recommended:**

Raewyn Connell, Gender in World Perspective, Chapter 3.

Lisa Wade and Myra Marx Ferree. 2019. Gender: Ideas, Interactions, Institutions. New York: WW Norton and Company. Chapters 1 and 2.

### WEEK TWO

**January 17: What is power?**

Mona Lloyd, "Power, Politics, Domination, and Oppression," in The Oxford Handbook, pp. 111-134.

**January 19, 21: Feminisms**

Rita Kaur Dhamoon, "Feminisms," in The Oxford Handbook, pp. 88-110.

### WEEK THREE

**January 24, 26, 28: Foundations**

What do the main texts in the history of political thought say about gender?

Mary Hawkesworth, Gender and Political Theory, chapter 3.

### WEEK FOUR

**January 31, February 2, 4: Public and Private Boundaries**

Mary Hawkesworth, Gender and Political Theory, chapter 4.

### WEEK FIVE

**Gender and Public Policy**

**February 7: Achieving Gender Equality**

Merike Blofield and Liesl Haas, "Policy Outputs," In The Oxford Handbook, pp. 703-726.

### WEEK SIX

**Review and Midterm Exam**

**February 14: Overflow/ Wrap-up**

**February 16: Review**

**February 18: Midterm Exam**

**WEEK OF FEBRUARY 21 – WINTER BREAK – NO CLASSES**

**WEEK SEVEN****February 28, March 2,4: Masculinities**

bell hooks. 2004. The Will to Change: Men, Masculinity, and Love. Chapter 2, Understanding Patriarchy. New York: Washington Square Press, 17-34.

Cynthia Enloe. 2014. Bananas, Beaches, and Bases: Making Feminist Sense of International Politics, Second Edition. Chapter 3, Nationalism and Masculinity, pp. (section with heading, "Gendered Colonialism"). Berkeley: University of California Press.

**WEEK EIGHT****March 7,9,11: Intersectionality and Beyond**

Ange-Marie Hancock. 2007. "Intersectionality as a Normative and Empirical Paradigm." Politics & Gender, 3(2): 248-254.

Jennifer C. Nash. 2019. Black Feminism Reimagined: After Intersectionality. Durham: Duke University Press, pp. 6-11.

TED Talks: Kimberlé Crenshaw: The Urgency of Intersectionality.

**WEEK NINE****March 14, 16, 18: Reproductive Rights and Reproductive Justice**

Véronique Mottier. "Reproductive Rights." In The Oxford Handbook.

Maternal Mortality in the US

<https://www.ama-assn.org/delivering-care/population-care/examining-black-us-maternal-mortality-rate-and-how-cut-it>

Birth Alerts

<https://www.ctvnews.ca/canada/indigenous-families-disproportionately-affected-by-birth-alerts-b-c-lawsuit-seeks-damages-1.5646384>

Key Human Rights Documents:

CEDAW

<https://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/cedaw.aspx>

Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action

<https://www.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/publications/2015/01/beijing-declaration#view>

**WEEK TEN****March 21, 23, 25: Self-Determination and Indigenous Women's Rights**

Rauna Kuokkanen. 2012. "Self-Determination and Indigenous Women's Rights at the Intersection of International Human Rights." Human Rights Quarterly, 34(1): 225-250.

MMIWG Final Report and Calls for Justice

<https://www.mmiwg-ffada.ca/>

Key Human Rights Document:

UNDRIP

<https://www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples/declaration-on-the-rights-of-indigenous-peoples.html>

**WEEK ELEVEN****March 28, 30, April 1: Experience, Embodiment, and Gender Justice**Mary Hawkesworth, Gender and Political Theory, chapter 6.**WEEK TWELVE****April 4, 6, 8: Overflow and Review**