Outline:

Human security, liberty, political voice, economic status, education, health, freedom of expression, access to markets and public spaces as well as institutional behaviour are all fundamentally shaped by gender. This paper aims to introduce students to the various ways in which different understandings of gender (broadly conceived) impact on recent political debates. Rather than presenting holistic theoretical overviews, these lectures will discuss a range of key concepts and debates in relation to current empirical examples. Lectures will be structured by seven themes: Political Representation, Rights, Inequality, Development and Humanitarianism, Conflict and Violence, Social Movements and Radical Politics and finally Power and the Body.

Supervisions:

Supervision for this paper will be centrally organised across Michaelmas and Lent terms.

Assessment:

There will be a one three-hour written examination. Candidates must answer three questions. Example exam papers are available on Moodle. Revision will be organised in the Easter Term.

Lectures Michaelmas Term:

Gender and the Political Subject. Introduction I. [Prof Jude Browne]
Gender and the Political Subject. Introduction II. [Prof Jude Browne]
Gender and Representation I. [Prof Jude Browne]
Gender and Representation II. [Prof Jude Browne]
Gender and Rights I. [Prof Jude Browne]
Gender and Rights II. [Prof Jude Browne]
Gender and Inequality I. [Prof Jude Browne]
Gender and Inequality II. [Prof Jude Browne]

Lectures Lent Term:

Gender, Development and Humanitarianism I. [Dr Holly Porter]
Gender, Development and Humanitarianism II. [Dr Holly Porter]
Gender, Conflict and Violence I. [Dr Holly Porter]
Course Content:

1-2. Gender and the Political Subject: An Introduction

These two introductory lectures will provide students with useful key concepts and ideas relating to a range of perspectives on critical gender debates in politics relevant to the lecture series.

3-4. Gender and Political Representation

Key Themes: representation, democracy, identity, culture, political dialogue and justice.

Suggested supervision question: Can gender be represented in political assemblies?

Core Reading:


Further Reading:


5-6. Gender and Rights

**Key Themes:** human rights, gender-specific rights, minimalist and expansionist models of rights.

**Suggested supervision question:** Does it make sense to have gender-specific rights?

**Core Reading:**


**Further Reading:**


7-8. Gender and Inequality

Key Themes: global gender gaps, labour market inequality, the family, causal theories of inequality, poverty, political economy.

Suggested supervision question: What causes gender inequality?

Core Reading:


Further Reading:


9-10. Gender, Development & Humanitarianism

**Key Themes:** global responses to poverty and war, feminization of poverty, empowerment, vulnerability, NGOs, measuring 'progress', Women Peace and Security Agenda

**Suggested supervision question:** How should an understanding of gender shape responses to poverty and 'humanitarian' crises?

**Core Reading:**


**Further Reading:**


Bradshaw, S., S. Chant and B. Linneker (2017) ‘Gender and poverty: what we know, don’t know, and need to know for Agenda 2030’, Gender, Place & Culture, 24(12): 1667-1688.


11-12. Gender, Conflict and Violence

**Key Themes:** gendered dynamics of war, continuums of violence, militarization, ‘conflict-related’ sexual violence, militarized women, ‘violent’ masculinities, gender and displacement

**Suggested supervision question:** How does gender shape war or vice versa?

**Core Reading:**


**Further Reading:**


**13-14. Gender, Social Movements and Radical Politics**

**Key Themes:** sexuality, queer theory, radical politics, transnational feminist movements, anti-racist feminisms, identity politics

**Suggested supervision question:** To what extent is political mobilization around the concept of ‘gender’ capable of meeting the challenges of the contemporary political condition?

**Core Reading:**


**Further Reading:**


15-16. Gender, Power and the Body

**Key themes:** embodiment, discipline, desire, sexuality, transgender politics, performativity.

**Suggested supervision question:** To what extent does the contemporary politics of the body [such as posthumanism, LGBT/queer politics, discipline/biopower] render the concept of gender obsolete?

**Core Reading:**


**Further Reading:**


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[Also see Moodle for past exam papers and Examiners’ Reports]

NB: a previous title of this paper was POL 17]

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