



and labour studies. Further the course aims to foreground the contested terrain of labour through feminist debates that took place in the 70s and continue till date.

Feminist engagement with both work and labour has been extensive and varied with rich theoretical implications for analysis of gendered oppression. Feminists looked at labour systems and the role of the force of gender in its sustenance and ongoing reconstitutions. Thus, the course will also argue that it is unproductive and in some senses, inaccurate, to think about systems of production without simultaneously thinking about gender. Feminist theoretical engagement with 'work' has expanded the terms of reference used in Labour Studies by transforming definitions of work, systems of accounting and by implication opened up the notion of a 'male worker' to critical scrutiny.

The course looks at the political economy of the production and reproduction of social identities. Simultaneously, the argument will also be that social identities and cultural meanings and practices significantly organize labour and class processes. Who does what work? What is recognized, valued and productive is also made possible by the multiple cultural, moral, ethical and social meanings. Daily regeneration of life and of death, of societies and institutions is made possible by laboring bodies. Bodies framed by stigmas, shame, disgust, terror and worship.

The broad aim of the course is to find multiple points of entry into debates on culture and labour as categories of analysis and see possibilities of a feminist appropriation to think through strategies for feminist politics.

### **Theme One: Introducing Work and Labour as critical terms**

Veblen, Thorstein (2003) *The Theory of the Leisure Class*, Pennsylvania State University Electronic Classics Series.

Oakley, Ann (1975) *The Sociology of Housework*, New York: Pantheon Books

Mintz, W Sydney () *Sweetness and Power. The Place of Sugar in Modern History*, Penguin Books.

Braverman, Harry (1998) *Labour and Monopoly Capitalism. The Degradation of Work in the Twentieth Century*, Monthly Review Press, New York.

Wolkowitz, Carol (October 2009) 'Challenging Boundaries: An Autobiographical Perspective on the Sociology of Work', *Sociology*, Vol. 43, No. 5, Special Issue on *Re-thinking Sociologies of Work: Past, Present and Future*, pp. 846-860, Published by: Sage Publications, Ltd.

Halford, and Strangleman, Tim (October 2009) 'Editorial Introduction: In Search of the Sociology of Work: Past, Present and Future', *Sociology*, Vol. 43, No. 5, Special Issue on *Re-thinking Sociologies of Work: Past, Present and Future*, pp. 811-828, Published by: Sage Publications, Ltd.

Jefrey, Craig (2010) *Timepass. Youth, Class and the Politics of Waiting in India*, Cambridge University Press India Pvt. Ltd. New Delhi.

Marx, Karl Selections from Capital, Vol 1; Introductory lecture on 'Labour' as theorized by Marx

## **Theme Two: conceptualizing gender discrimination with special reference to South Asia**

This module deals with some basic facts about discrimination faced by women. The focus will be on sex ratio and low work participation rate outside the home. Low attainments of girl children and women in all walks of life and its impact on work. A particular focus will be also on child marriage and how it affects women's possibilities of outside work and vice versa. The theoretical and empirical debates in this regard will be discussed to basically set the stage for discussion in the later two modules:

Some selected references

Sen, A., 2003. Missing women—revisited: reduction in female mortality has been counterbalanced by sex selective abortions. *BMJ: British Medical Journal*, 327(7427), p.1297.

Dreze, J. and Sen, A., 1999. India: Economic development and social opportunity. *OUP Catalogue*.

Sen, A., 2001. The many faces of gender inequality. *New republic*, pp.35-39.

Sen, A., 1995. Gender inequality and theories of justice. *Women, culture and development: A study of human capabilities*, pp.259-73.

John, M.E., 2008. *Women's studies in India: a reader*. Penguin Books.

John, M.E., 1996. Gender and development in India, 1970s-1990s: Some reflections on the constitutive role of contexts. *Economic and Political Weekly*, pp.3071-3077.

Osmani, S. and Sen, A., 2003. The hidden penalties of gender inequality: fetal origins of ill-health. *Economics & Human Biology*, 1(1), pp.105-121.

Klasen, S., 2008. *Missing women: some recent controversies on levels and trends in gender bias in mortality* (No. 168). Discussion papers//Ibero America Institute for Economic Research.

Jose, A.V. ed., 1989. *Limited options: Women workers in rural India*. International Labour Organization.

Kabeer, N., 2005. Gender equality and women's empowerment: A critical analysis of the third millennium development goal 1. *Gender & Development*, 13(1), pp.13-24.

Kabeer, N., 1999. Resources, agency, achievements: Reflections on the measurement of women's empowerment. *Development and change*, 30(3), pp.435-464.

Guha, P., 1974. *Towards Equality: Report of the Committee on the Status of Women in India*. Government of India, Ministry of Education & Social Welfare, Department of Social Welfare.

Walby, S., 1988. *Gender segregation at work*. Open University Press.

Some more references will be suggested during teaching

### **Theme three: Caste-Gender-Race--- Work and Labour**

Sharmila Rege, 'Conceptualising Popular Culture: 'Lavani' and 'Powada' in Maharashtra', *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. 37, No. 11 (Mar. 16-22, 2002), pp. 1038-1047

Meena Gopal 'Ruptures and Reproduction in Caste/Gender/Labour' *Economic & Political Weekly*, EPW may 4, 2013 vol xlvi no 18

Laws relating to minimum wages. 2004; Published by: Alternative Law Forum, Bangalore

Death of Three Manual Scavengers - 9th May 2009 - Karimsaab Layout

Death of two persons engaged in the cleaning of a soak pit in Kenchamma Hoskote, Alur Taluk, Hassan District : Fact-finding Report by the People's Union for Civil Liberties- Karnataka

Jenny Rowena, 'The 'Dirt' in Dirty Picture'; (<http://www.dalitweb.org/?p=736>) OR Jai Bheem Comrade

Meena Gopal 'Caste, sexuality and labour: The troubled connection'; 2012 60: 222 *Current Sociology*

Omvedt, Gail ( 2005) 'Capitalism and Globalisation. Dalits and Adivasis', *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. 40, No. 47 (Nov. 19-25), pp. 4881-4885

Gorringe, Hugo and Rafanell, Irene (2007) 'The Embodiment of Caste: Oppression, Protest and Change' *Sociology*, Volume 41(1): 97–114, Sage Publications

Tania Das Gupta with Rebecca Hagey and Jane Turrutin, "Racial Discrimination in Nursing" in *Interrogating Race and Racism*, Vijay Agnew, eds. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2007, p.261-301.

Madheswaran, S., and Paul Attewell. "Caste discrimination in the Indian urban labour market: Evidence from the National Sample Survey." *Economic and political Weekly* (2007): 4146-4153.

Thorat, Sukhadeo, and Katherine S. Neuman. *Blocked by caste: economic discrimination in modern India*. Oxford University Press, 2012. Chapter One.

Borooah, Vani K., Amaresh Dubey, and Sriya Iyer. "The effectiveness of jobs reservation: caste, religion and economic status in India." *Development and change* 38.3 (2007): 423-445.

Sachar Committee Report (also with reference to 'Towards Equality' Report)

Ferguson, Susan (2008) 'Canadian Contributions to Social Reproduction Feminism. Race and Embodied labor', *Race, Gender & Class*; Volume 15, Number 1-2, (42-57) *Race, Gender & Class*, Website: [www.sunu.edu/sunorgc/](http://www.sunu.edu/sunorgc/)

Davis, Angela () *Women, Race and Class*; selections

Yan Hairong (2003) 'Spectralization of the Rural. Reinterpreting the labor mobility of rural young women in post-Mao China,' *American Ethnologist* 30(4):578-596; American Anthropological Association.

#### **Theme Four: Unitary household, job segregation, domesticity and the emergence of the male breadwinner family**

This module introduces the neoclassical conceptions of harmonious households and their critiques. It then takes up the questions of job segregation- Rowbotham, Hartman, Michel. Domesticity: Emergence of the ideology of separate spheres for men and women in Victorian England and colonial India: its implications for present day Indian society (Maria Mies). Male bread winner family: Samita Sen, Radha Kumar. The module ends with the question of family as an unit of cooperative bargaining- theories of cooperative conflict- Amartya Sen; Along with the theoretical ideas this module deals extensively with the applications and critics of theory from empirical points of views: The female bread winner (Neetha), girl child bread winner (Chakravarty and Chakravarty)

Some selected references

Mitra, A., 1964. *Census of India 1961*.

Rowbotham, S., 1977. *Hidden From History: 300 Years of Women's Oppression and the Fight Against It*. Pluto Press.

Janssens, A., 1997. The rise and decline of the male breadwinner family? An overview of the debate. *International Review of Social History*, 42(S5), pp.1-23.

Mitchell, J., 2015. *Woman's estate*. Verso Books.

Mies, Maria (1981)'Dynamics of Sexual Division of Labour and Capital Accumulation. *Women Lace Workers of Narsapur*, EPW, Annual Number, March 1981, pp487-500.

Folbre, N., 1986. Hearts and spades: Paradigms of household economics. *World development*, 14(2), pp.245-255.

Becker, G.S. and Becker, G.S., 2009. *A Treatise on the Family*. Harvard university press.

Hartmann, H.I., 1979. The unhappy marriage of Marxism and feminism: Towards a more progressive union. *Capital & Class*, 3(2), pp.1-33.

Hartmann, H., 1976. Capitalism, patriarchy, and job segregation by sex. *Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society*, 1(3, Part 2), pp.137-169.

Sen, A., 1987. *Gender and cooperative conflicts* (No. 1342). Helsinki: Wider.

Sen, A., 1989. Cooperation, inequality, and the family. *Population and Development Review*, 15, pp.61-76.

Agarwal, B., 1997. "Bargaining"and gender relations: Within and beyond the household. *Feminist economics*, 3(1), pp.1-51.

Chakravarty, Deepita and Ishita Chakravarty. *Women, Labour and the Economy in India: From Migrant Menservants to Uprooted Girl Children Maids*. Routledge, London, New York, 2016.: Chapters 3, 5 and 7.

And some other readings will be mentioned during the lectures

### **Theme Five: Women and property rights:**

Intervention of Bina Agarwal claiming property right as more important factor than work opportunity ; Did women have property rights in pre colonial India? Sukumari Bhattacharya, Indrani Chatterjee; Women's property rights in colonial India: Flavia Agness, Kanaklata Mukund; Present day India.

Some selected references

Engels Frederich (1891) '*Origin of Family, Private Property and State*' Resistance Books, Australia, 2004, Introduction by Pat Brewer

Agarwal Bina, *A field of one's own; Gender and land rights in South Asia*, 1994

Agnes, F., 2009. Conjuality, property, morality and maintenance. *Economic and Political Weekly*, pp.58-64.

Mukund, K., 1999. Women's Property Rights in South India: A Review. *Economic and Political Weekly*, pp.1352-1358.

Deere, C.D. and De Leal, M.L., 2014. *Empowering women: Land and property rights in Latin America*. University of Pittsburgh Pre.

Hann, C.M. ed., 1998. *Property relations: renewing the anthropological tradition*. Cambridge University Press.

**Tentative Assessment schedule with details of weightage:**

S.No	Weightage	Date/period in which Assessment will take place	Assessment
1	20%	Continuous Class Assessment	Assesement 1
2	40%	Feb-March	Assesement 2
3	40%	April-May	Assesement 3