

**Ambedkar University Delhi**

**Course Outline**

**Winter Semester (January -May 2018)**

**School:** School of Human Studies

**Programme with title:** MA Gender Studies

**Semester to which offered:** IV semester

**Course Title:** **State, Nation, Citizenship and Law**

**Credits:** 2

**Course Code (new):**

**Course Code (old):** SHS202808

**Type of Course:** Core

**For SUS only** (Mark an X for as many as appropriate):

1. Foundation (Compulsory)
2. Foundation (Elective)
3. Discipline (Compulsory)           X
4. Discipline (Elective)            X
5. Elective

**Course Coordinator and Team:** Prof. Krishna Menon

**Email of course coordinator:** [krishnamenon@aud.ac.in](mailto:krishnamenon@aud.ac.in)

**Pre-requisites:** Any Post Graduate student, Ivth semester student if Gender Studies

**Aim:** This course aims to unpack the gendered nature of some of the key concepts (State, Nation, Citizenship and Law) that are central to politics and impinges upon almost all aspects of life in contemporary times. In order to unsettle the established conventions about the nature of the 'political'

the course will employ the insights of feminist theory. The course seeks to demonstrate how the conventional terms of reference for debating these concepts has been significantly transformed by a feminist critique. It is in this context that this course also seeks to examine some of the complexities of gender questions beyond the simple binary of masculinity and femininity.

The course will also examine the nature of feminist debates in India on the State, nation, citizenship and law by raising some important questions:

What does the discussion on the Indian State look like from feminist perspectives? How does the debate on the Indian nation and questions of nationalism appear in this context? What is the nature of Indian citizenship when evaluated from a feminist perspective and last but not the least what has been the nature of feminist engagement with law in India?

#### **Brief description of modules/ Main modules:**

##### **Module 1**

*Understanding the State*

##### **Module 2**

*Understanding the Nation*

##### **Module 3**

*Understanding Citizenship*

##### **Module 4**

*Understanding Law*

#### **References:**

##### Module 1

- Johanna Kantola- *Feminists Theorize the State*. Palgrave. 2006. Chapters 1 and 2.
- Catherine A. MacKinnon- *Toward a Feminist Theory of the State*. Harvard University Press. 1989. Chapter 3 pages 155- 170.
- Veronique Mottier- *Feminism and Gender Theory: The Return of the State in Political Theory* edited by Gerald F. Gaus and Chandran Kukathas. Sage, 2004.
- [Nirmala Banerjee](#)- *Whatever Happened to the Dreams of Modernity-The Nehruvian Era and Woman s Position*. Vol. 33, Issue No. 17, 25 Apr, 1998. *Economic and Political Weekly*
- Nivedita Menon and Aditya Nigam- *Power and Contestation*. Orient Longman. 2007. Chapters 3 and 4.

- Jyoti Puri- Sexual States. Orient Blackswan. 2016. Chapters 1, 5 and 6: Governing Sexuality, Constituting States ( chapter 1), Pivoting toward the State Phase One of the struggle against Section 377 ( chapter 5), State vs. Sexuality ( chapter 6)

## Module 2

- Nira Yuval-Davis- 2003 (PDF available) Nationalist Projects and Gender (Nar. umjet. 40/1, 2003, pp. 9-36, N. Yuval-Davis, Nationalist Projects and Gender)...
- Suruchi Thapar –Bjorkert- Gender, Nations and Nationalism from The Oxford Handbook of Politics and Gender. 2013.
- Kumari Jayawardena-Feminism and Nationalism in the Third World. Kali for Women. 1986. Introduction.
- Mrinalini Sinha- Gendered Nationalism: from women to gender and back again? (Routledge Handbook of Gender in South Asia) edited by Leela Fernandes. 2014.

## Module 3

- Judith Squires – Gender in Political Theory. Polity Press. 2008. Chapter 6- Citizenship.
- Birte Siim- Citizenship from The Oxford Handbook of Politics and Gender. 2013.
- Niraja Gopal Jayal- Citizenship and its Discontents. Permanent Black. 2013. Chapter 2.
- Anupama Roy- Gendered Citizenship. Orient Longman. 2005. Chapters five and six.
- · Naila Kabeer (edited) - Inclusive Citizenship. Zubaan. 2005. Chapter 1.

## Module 4

- Judith A. Baer- Feminist Theory and The Law from Oxford Handbook of Law and Politics. 2008
- Catherine A. MacKinnon- Toward a Feminist Theory of the State. Harvard University Press. 1989. Chapter 13 Feminist Jurisprudence.
- Nivedita Menon- Recovering Subversion. Permanent Black. 2004. pages 17-21, 54-59, 204-208
- Because I Have a Voice- edited Arvind Narrain and Gautam Bhan. Yoda. 2012. Chapter 2 -Challenging the Limits of Law
- Jyoti Puri- Sexual States. Orient Blackswan. 2016. Part 2, Chapters 3 and 4- Sexual lives of Juridical Governance

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

<b>Weightage</b>	<b>Date/period in which Assessment will take place</b>	<b>Assessment</b>	<b>S.No</b>
20%	January-April 2017	Class attendance and participation	1
40%	January 30th, 2017	Class test	2
40%	February 27th, 2017	Class test	3