

University of Florida  
Department of Political Science  
**POS 6933/WST 6935**  
**FEMINIST POLITICAL ECONOMY**

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Office Hours: Tuesday 1-3 p.m., Thursday 3-4 p.m.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES**

This course introduces students to the key concepts of feminist political economy, a vibrant field of economic analysis, grass-roots activism, and policymaking. The structure of the course reflects the distinction between feminist political economy and gendered political economy, enabling students to acquire analytical tools for gender-sensitive policy work but also to reflect critically on their use. Throughout the semester we will explore tensions between feminist interventions that seek to recast the roles and positions of gendered and racialized subjects in economic thought and in the global political economy – and gender-informed policies which increasingly view women as significant contributors to economic activity yet remain wedded to the existing frameworks of its analysis.

In a similar vein, the readings will also encourage reflection on the limits of feminist political economy itself, still a field that grapples with nuances of intersectionality and biases of knowledge production in the Anglo-American academe. By thinking about feminist political economy as an unfinished method of “making the invisible visible,” we will consistently seek to uncover layers of invisible labor in its relation to global economic processes.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND UNIVERSITY POLICIES**

Grade will be based on three components – class participation and attendance, including class discussion and presentations (10%); a diary kept throughout the semester (40 %); and a research paper (7,000-8,000 words). A preliminary research topic should be submitted by February 13 (5%), a detailed research proposal should be submitted by March 28 (5%), and the final paper turned in by April 27 (40%). Each component in this process will be graded.

Attendance/presence in every class is expected. Similarly, it is expected that students will come to class having done all the readings and well prepared to contribute to discussions in a meaningful way. Brief questions (no more than 3) for class discussion should be submitted to the entire class in advance of our weekly meetings. The quality of the questions will be taken into consideration when finalizing the grade for the course.

Accommodations will be made for students who need to miss classes for health reasons (with documentation), religious holidays, University of Florida official functions or important conferences. Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other

work in this course are consistent with university policies. [Click here to read the university attendance policies.](#)

## **Grading Scale**

**Grading scale is 94-100 A; 90-93 A-; 87-89 B+; 84-86 B; 80-83 B-; 77-79 C+; 74-76 C; 70-73 C-; 67-69 D+; 64-66 D; 60-63 D-.**

For current academic regulations on - among other topics - academic honesty, attendance and grades and grade point averages for graduate students at the University of Florida please see [this website in the University Catalog.](#)

Students who believe that they will not be able to complete all the requirements for the course in due time have to discuss an “I” (Incomplete) grade with the instructor *before the final paper is due*. Students will have to sign an “[Incomplete Contract](#)” and complete all their requirements by a date set (in agreement with the professor) in that contract. Students should be aware that “I” grades become punitive after one term.

## **Students with Disabilities**

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the disability Resource Center. [Click here to get started with the Disability Resource Center.](#) It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

## **Course Evaluations**

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

## **REQUIRED AND RECOMMENDED BOOKS**

Readings will be available electronically – either in Files on Canvas or as E-book through University of Florida Library.

Recommended Books:

Perez, C. C. (2019). *Invisible women: Exposing data bias in a world designed for men*. Random House.

Federici, S. (2014) *Caliban and the Witch*. Autonomedia, Brooklyn NY.

Hozic, A. A., & True, J. (Eds.). (2016). *Scandalous economics: Gender and the politics of financial crises*. Oxford University Press.

Shirin Rai (2024) *Depletion*. Oxford University Press.

## **WEEKLY OUTLINE**

### **Week 1, January 16**

Welcome and introductions. Overview of the syllabus and assignments.

### **Week 2, January 23**

#### **WHAT IS FEMINIST POLITICAL ECONOMY?**

Griffin, Penny. "[Gender and the Global Political Economy](#)." *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of International Studies*. 22. Oxford University Press.

Peterson, V. S. (2005). '[How \(The Meaning of\) Gender Matters in Political Economy](#)'. *New Political Economy*, 10(4): 499–521

Agathangelou, A. (2017). "[From the Colonial to Feminist IR: Feminist IR Studies, the Wider FSS/GPE Research Agenda, and the Questions of Value, Valuation, Security, and Violence](#)." *Politics & Gender*, 13(4), 739-746.

Irving, D., Lewis, V., Bhanji, N., Connell, R., Driskill, Q., Namaste, V. (2017) "[Trans\\* Political Economy Deconstructed: A Roundtable Discussion](#)." *TSQ* 4 (1): 16–27

Prügl, E. (2020) "[Untenable dichotomies: de-gendering political economy](#)", *Review of International Political Economy*, 28:2, 295-306, DOI: [10.1080/09692290.2020.1830834](https://doi.org/10.1080/09692290.2020.1830834)

### **Week 3, January 30**

#### **INVISIBLE LABOR**

Ho, K. (2009). *Liquidated*. Duke University Press. (Chapter: [Wall Street Orientation: Exploitation, Empowerment, and the Politics of Hard Work](#)), pp.73 – 122.

Bair, J. (2010). "[On difference and capital: gender and the globalization of production](#)." *Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society*, 36(1), 203-226.

Poster, W. R., Crain, M., & Cherry, M. A. (2016). 1. "[Introduction: Conceptualizing Invisible Labor](#)." In *Invisible Labor* (pp. 3-27). University of California Press.

Stavrevska, E. B. (2021). "[Feminised work, invisible labour: Against the formal-informal economy dichotomy.](#)" In *Routledge Handbook of Feminist Peace Research* (pp. 399-408). Routledge.

Hall, K. M. Q. (2021). "[Darkness All Around Me.](#)" *Mapping Gendered Ecologies: Engaging with and Beyond Ecowomanism and Ecofeminism*, 17, pp. 17-31

#### **Week 4, February 6**

##### **BLIND DATA**

Perez, C. C. (2019). *Invisible women: Exposing data bias in a world designed for men*. Random House.

Elson, D. (1998). "[Integrating gender issues into national budgetary policies and procedures: some policy options.](#)" *Journal of International Development: The Journal of the Development Studies Association*, 10(7), 929-941.

Hoskyns, C., and Rai, S. (2007) "[Recasting the Global Political Economy: Counting Women's Unpaid Work.](#)" *New Political Economy* 12 (3), 297–317.

Tejani, S. (2019). "[What's feminist about feminist economics?](#)" *Journal of Economic Methodology*, 26(2), 99-117.

Hall, K. M. Q. (2019). "[Technology in Black Feminist World](#)" *Frontiers: A Journal of Women Studies*, 40(2), 243-257.

Mantz, F. (2019). "[Decolonizing the IPE syllabus: Eurocentrism and the coloniality of knowledge in International Political Economy.](#)" *Review of International Political Economy*, 26(6), 1361-1378.

#### **Week 5, February 13**

##### **SOCIAL REPRODUCTION**

Federici, S. *Caliban and the Witch* (Autonomedia, Brooklyn NY, 2014)

Peterson, V.S. (2002). "[Rewriting \(Global\) Political Economy as Reproductive, Productive, and Virtual \(Foucauldian\) Economies.](#)" *International Feminist Journal of Politics* 4 (1), 1–30

Bakker, I. (2007) "[Social Reproduction and the Constitution of a Gendered Political Economy.](#)" *New Political Economy*, 12:4, 541-556

Steans, J. & Tepe, D. (2010) "[Introduction – Social reproduction in international political economy: Theoretical insights and international, transnational and local sitings.](#)" *Review of International Political Economy*, 17:5, 807-815

Mezzadri, A., Newman, S., Stevano, S. (2021) "[Feminist global political economies of work and social reproduction](#)." *Review of International Political Economy* 0:0, pages 1-21.

## **Week 6, February 20**

### **HOUSEHOLD**

Elson, D. (1998). "[The economic, the political and the domestic: Businesses, states and households in the organisation of production](#)." *New Political Economy*, 3(2), 189-208.

Safri, M., & Graham, J. (2010). "[The global household: Toward a feminist postcapitalist international political economy](#)." *Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society*, 36(1), 99-125.

LeBaron, G. (2010). "[The political economy of the household: Neoliberal restructuring, enclosures, and daily life](#)." *Review of International Political Economy*, 17(5), 889-912.

Roberts, A. (2016). "Household debt and the financialization of social reproduction: Theorizing the UK housing and hunger crises." In *Risking capitalism*. Emerald Group Publishing Limited.

Basham, V. M., & Catignani, S. (2018). "[War is where the hearth is: Gendered labor and the everyday reproduction of the geopolitical in the army reserves](#)." *International Feminist Journal of Politics*, 20(2), 153-

## **Week 7, February 27**

### **DEPLETION**

LeBaron, G., & Roberts, A. (2010). "[Toward a feminist political economy of capitalism and carcerality](#)." *Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society*, 36(1), 19-44

Phillips, S. (2012). "[The subprime mortgage calamity and the African American woman](#)." *The Review of Black Political Economy*, 39(2), 227-237.

Rai, S. M., Hoskyns, C., & Thomas, D. (2014). "[Depletion: The cost of social reproduction](#)." *International Feminist Journal of Politics*, 16(1), 86-105.

Maria Tanyag (2017) "[Invisible labor, invisible bodies: how the global political economy affects reproductive freedom in the Philippines](#)." *International Feminist Journal of Politics*, 19:1, 39-54

Fernandez, B. (2018). "[Dispossession and the depletion of social reproduction](#)." *Antipode*, 50(1), 142-163.

## **Week 8, March 6**

### **POLITICAL ECONOMY OF EVERYDAY**

Smith, N. J. (2012). "[Body issues: The political economy of male sex work.](#)" *Sexualities*, 15(5-6), 586-603.

Elias, J., & Rai, S. (2015). "[The everyday gendered political economy of violence.](#) *Politics & Gender.*" 11(2), 424-429.

Elias, J., & Roberts, A. (2016). "[Feminist global political economies of the everyday: From bananas to bingo.](#)" *Globalizations*, 13(6), 787-800.

Mezzadri, A., & Majumder, S. (2020). "[Towards a feminist political economy of time: labour circulation, social reproduction & the 'afterlife' of cheap labour.](#)" *Review of International Political Economy*, 1-24.

### **Week 9, March 13**

#### **POLITICAL ECONOMY OF VIOLENCE**

True, J. (2012). *The political economy of violence against women*. Oxford University Press.

Anthias, F. (2014). "[The intersections of class, gender, sexuality and 'race': The political economy of gendered violence.](#)" *International Journal of Politics, Culture, and Society*, 27(2), 153-171.

Meger, S. (2015). "[Toward a feminist political economy of wartime sexual violence: The case of the Democratic Republic of Congo.](#)" *International Feminist Journal of Politics*, 17(3), 416-434.

Kostovicova, D., Bojicic-Dzelilovic, V., & Henry, M. (2020). "[Drawing on the continuum: a war and post-war political economy of gender-based violence in Bosnia and Herzegovina.](#)" *International Feminist Journal of Politics*, 22(2), 250-272.

Hozic, A. A. (2021). "[Follow the bodies: Global capitalism, global war, global crisis and feminist IPE.](#)" *International Relations*, 35(1), 173-177.

Gore, E. (2021). "[Understanding Queer Oppression and Resistance in the Global Economy: Towards a Theoretical Framework for Political Economy.](#)" *New Political Economy*, 1-16

### **Week 10, March 20**

#### **SPRING BREAK**

### **Week 11, March 27**

#### **GENDER MAINSTREAMING AND COOPTATION**

Cinzia Arruza, Tithi Bhattacharya and Nancy Fraser (2018) "[Notes for a Feminist Manifesto.](#)" *New Left Review* 114, Nov/Dec

True, J. (2003) "[Mainstreaming Gender in Global Public Policy](#)." *International Feminist Journal of Politics* 5 (3), 368–96.

Prügl, E. (2011). "[Diversity management and gender mainstreaming as technologies of government](#)." *Politics & Gender*, 7(1), 71-89.

De Jong, S., & Kimm, S. (2017). "[The co-optation of feminisms: a research agenda](#)." *International Feminist Journal of Politics*, 19(2), 185-200.

Calkin, S. (2017). "[Disrupting disempowerment: feminism, Co-optation, and the privatised governance of gender and development](#)." *New Formations*, 91(91), 69-86.

### **Week 12, April 3**

#### **GENDER AND FINANCE**

Marieke De Goede (2000). "[Mastering 'Lady Credit'](#)." *International Feminist Journal of Politics*, 2:1, 58-81

Fisher, M. S. (2010). "[Wall Street women: Engendering global finance in the Manhattan landscape](#)." *City & Society*, 22(2), 262-285.

Roberts, A. (2015). "[The Political Economy of 'Transnational Business Feminism' problematizing the corporate-led gender equality agenda](#)." *International feminist journal of politics*, 17(2), 209-231.

Hozic, A. A., & True, J. (Eds.). (2016). *Scandalous economics: Gender and the politics of financial crises*. Oxford University Press.

Rethel, L., Elias, J., & Tilley, L. (2019). "[Tales from Two Cities: Financialisation, consumerism and affordable housing in Kuala Lumpur and Jakarta](#)." *Muslim Piety as Economy*, 211-227

### **Week 13, April 10**

#### **GENDER IN/OF INTERNATIONAL (FINANCIAL) INSTITUTIONS**

Prügl, E. (2017). "[Neoliberalism with a feminist face: Crafting a new hegemony at the World Bank](#)." *Feminist Economics*, 23(1), 30-53.

Eisenstein, H. (2017). "[Hegemonic feminism, neoliberalism and womenomics: 'empowerment' instead of liberation?](#)" *New Formations*, 91(91), 35-49.

Herten-Crabb, A., & Davies, S. E. (2020). "[Why WHO needs a feminist economic agenda](#)." *The Lancet*, 395(10229), 1018-1020.

True, J., & Hozic, A. A. (2020). "[Don't mention the war! International Financial Institutions and the gendered circuits of violence in post-conflict.](#)" *Review of International Political Economy*, 27(6), 1193-1213.

### **Week 14, April 17**

#### **ECONOMIES OF CARE**

Yeates, N. (2005). "[A global political economy of care.](#)" *Social Policy and Society*, 4(2), 227-234.

Elias, J. (2010). "[Making migrant domestic work visible: The rights based approach to migration and the 'challenges of social reproduction.'](#)" *Review of International Political Economy*, 17(5), 840-859.

Vaittinen, T. (2015). "[The power of the vulnerable body: A new political understanding of care.](#)" *International Feminist Journal of Politics*, 17(1), 100-118.

Kofman, E. (2012). "[Rethinking care through social reproduction: Articulating circuits of migration.](#)" *Social Politics*, 19(1), 142-162.

Zhou, Y. R. (2013). "[Toward transnational care interdependence: Rethinking the relationships between care, immigration and social policy.](#)" *Global Social Policy*, 13(3), 280-298.

Wichterich, C. (2020). "[Who Cares about Healthcare Workers? Care Extractivism and Care Struggles in Germany and India.](#)" *Social Change*, 50(1), 121-140.