

**Gender and Politics: Poli 335 Spring 2011**

TWF 8:30-9:30 am Cor B143

OH: Mon 1-2pm Weds 1-3pm

Office: SSM 308

**Dr. Aragon**

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Twitter: @janniaragon

Facebook: Prof. Aragon

**Course:** In this course, we will examine politics through the lens of gender. We will examine the intersection of gender and politics, policies, and ideology. We will review various topics such as political participation, representation, activism, power, and masculinity. Gender is often equated with sex or women; however, in this course we will study gender, masculinity, femininity, and feminism. Politics cannot be fully understood without unpacking gender. By the end of the course, students will be able to think critically about gender and understand the implications of gender *in* politics.

**Required Texts:**

Bashevkin, Sylvia, ed. 2009. *Women, Power, Politics: The Hidden Story of Canada's Unfinished Democracy*. NY: Oxford University Press. Bashevkin

Newman, Jacquetta and Linda White. 2006. *Women, Politics, and Public Policy: The Political Struggles of Canadian Women*. Ontario: Oxford University Press. Newman

Additional readings are in the Library in folders, via e-reserve, or as PDFs on Moodle. My reserve lists can be found at <http://triton.library.uvic.ca/voyager/cr.cgi?id=1731> These additional readings are noted in the syllabus with the RR (Reserve Reading)

**Examinations:** There will be a mid-term and final exam in this course. The exams might be take-home and are a combination of short answer and essay.

**Paper:** 10 page paper. There are three paper options all included in the syllabus on pages 5-8. Do not cite Wikipedia, Encyclopedia.com or Dictionary.com as sources in your assignments. Papers will be submitted to my mailbox and uploaded via Moodle.

**13-14 Minute Student Led Discussions:** Groups of 4 students will lead class discussion for a reading, provide the class with a handout based on the presentation. Students have the option of providing a 3-5 minute video journal of their assignment <http://www.wikihow.com/Make-a-Video-Journal> or a 500 word blog post that comments on the reading or website presented to the class. Students will provide me with the link for the video journal or blog. Free riders earn a lower score than the group grade. Sign up for your SLD immediately.

**Participation/Attendance:** Come to class prepared to participate with the discussion, as I take roll.

Check for announcements on the Poli 335: Gender and Politics shell on the UVIC Moodle site.

**Twitter:** <http://support.twitter.com/groups/31-twitter-basics>

There is also a Web 2.0 component to the class. You will also be expected to participate on the Twitter for the course with one substantive posts per week. When you post your micro-blog add #335, the hashtag for our class.

You are *not* expected to use your real name. Assume a handle that will work for you and one that protects your privacy. Please let me know what your handle is and I will share the handles with the class. We will use Twitter time for questions and discussion. You can choose to participate during the Twitter time or later that day. You can log into Twitter at [www.twitter.com](http://www.twitter.com).

**Course Breakdown:**

Student Led Discussions	15%
Participation/Attendance/Twitter	10
Mid-Term/Final	35 (20 mid, 15 final)
Paper	40

**Schedule: We do not meet during Reading Break! Enjoy your week of reading!**

**Week 1 Jan 5 and 7 Course Introduction**

<http://www.realwomenca.com/index.html> Real Women of Canada

Johnson Ch 1-2 RR

Tarrant “This is What a Feminist Looks Like” RR

**Week 2 Jan 11, 12, and 14 Gender: Fluidity and Learning**

<http://www.nomas.org/> National Organization for Men Against Sexism

*Mars, Venus or Planet Earth?*

Vincent 1-4 RR

**Week 3 Jan 18, 19, 21 Gendering Political Science and Politics**

<http://womenvoters.ca/> Canadian Women’s Voter Congress

Newman and White 1, 4

Hawkesworth “Engendering Political Science: An Immodest Proposal” RR

Beckwith “A Common Language of Gender?” RR

Bashevkin “Preface and “Intro”

**Week 4 Jan 25, 26, 28 Politics & Policies**

Green “Balancing Strategies” RR

Bashevkin Ch 2 & 3

Orloff and Palier “The Power of Gender Perspectives” RR

Dobrowolsky “Charter Champions?” RR

Familiarize yourself with the Helena Guergis inquiry and the ways in which Belinda Stronach was covered by the Canadian media. This will add to our readings and discussion for next week.

### **Week 5 Feb 1, 2, 4 Gender and Politics: Case Studies with 2008 and Stronach**

<http://www.ipu.org/iss-e/women.htm> Women In Parliaments

Belinda Stronach <http://www.torontolife.com/features/the-belinda-stronach-defense/>

Carroll “Reflection on Gender and Hillary Clinton’s Presidential Campaign: The Good, the Bad, and the Misogynic” RR

Burns “Comparison and Intersection” RR

Hancock “An Untraditional Intersectional Analysis of the 2008 Election” RR

Htun “What It Means to Study Gender and the State” RR

### **Week 6 Feb 8, 9, 11 Social Policies and Practices**

<http://www.feministing.com/> Feministing

Bashevkin Ch 4, 5

Waltman “Legal Challenges to Pornography and Sex Inequality in Canada and the United States” RR

Newman 5, 7

### **Week 7 Feb 15, 16, 18 Health, Body Image and Abortion**

Newman 11

Grogan and Richards “Body Image: Focus Groups with Boys and Men”

Baumgardner Ch 2-4 from *Abortion & Life* RR

Pozner Responding to “No Easy Decision”

<http://www.realitybitesbackbook.com/2010/12/29/liveblogging-16-pregnant-reunion-and-mtv-abortion-special-no-easy-decision/>

### **Week 8 Mar 1, 2, 4 Violence: Against Women and By Women**

<http://stopvaw.org/> Stop Violence Against Women

Humphreys “Marshalling the Evidence: Using Intersectionality in the Domestic Violence Framework” RR

Sjoberg 1-4 RR

Public Service Alliance of Canada (PSAC) “Women’s Lives Count: 14 Actions” RR

### **Week 9 Mar 8, 9, 11 Pop Culture and Gender**

<http://www.racialicious.com/> Racialicious

*Generation M: Misogyny in Media & Culture*

Hess “A Brief History of the New York Times Gender Essentialist Trend Piece” RR

Leage and Chalmers “Degrees of Caution: Arab Girls Unveil on Facebook” RR

Pozner “Reality TV (Re)Rewrites Gender Roles”

[http://www.ontheissuesmagazine.com/2011winter/2011\\_winter\\_Pozner.php](http://www.ontheissuesmagazine.com/2011winter/2011_winter_Pozner.php)

**Week 10 Mar 15, 16, 18 Where are We Now?**

<http://www.equalvoice.ca/index.htm> Equal Voice

Traister “Five Myths about Female Candidates” RR

Flaherty “Year of the Woman’ Part II on Agenda for 2012” RR

PSAC National Women’s Conference 2010 “A Short History of Pay Equity” 19-28 RR

Dobrowolsky “Introduction: Neo-liberalism and After?” RR

Bashevkin Ch 6

**Week 11 Mar 22, 23, 25 Sexuality: Sexual Education and Sexual Violence**

<http://teensexualhealth.vch.ca/> Teen Sexual Health

Yee “Sustainable Justice Through Knowledge Transfer” RR

Sudderth et al, “If They Don’t Tell Us, It Never Happened” RR

Pietsch “I’m Not That Kind of Girl’: White Femininity, the Other...” RR

TheUndomestic: How #MooreandMe Worked <http://bit.ly/g615O1>

Murphy “Can ‘Men’ Stop Rape? Visualizing Gender in the ‘My Strength is Not for Hurting’ Rape Prevention Campaign” RR

**Week 12 Mar 29, 30 Apr 1 Concluding Thoughts: Resistance, Trade and Technology**

Johnson Ch 10 RR

Newman 13

Pollitt “Feminist Mothers, Flapper Daughters?” RR

Chidgey “Free, Trade: Distribution Economies in Feminist Zine Networks” RR

Shapiro “New Biomedical Technologies, New Scripts, New Genders” 137-174 RR

**Group Presentation Schedule:**

**Week 4 Jan 25, 26, 28 Politics & Policies**

Orloff and Palier “The Power of Gender Perspectives” RR

**Week 5 Feb 1, 2, 4 Gender and Politics: Case Studies with 2008 and Stronach**

Belinda Stronach <http://www.torontolife.com/features/the-belinda-stronach-defense/> + 1

Dobrowolsky “Charter Champions?” RR

**Week 6 Feb 8, 9, 11 Social Policies and Practices**

<http://www.feministing.com/> Feministing

Waltman “Legal Challenges to Pornography and Sex Inequality in Canada and the United States”

**Week 7 Feb 15, 16, 18 Health, Body Image and Abortion**

Grogan and Richards “Body Image: Focus Groups with Boys and Men”

Baumgardner Ch 2-4 from *Abortion & Life* RR (Choose One Ch coordinate with Aragon)

**Week 8 Mar 1, 2, 4 Violence: Against Women and By Women**

Humphreys “Marshalling the Evidence: Using Intersectionality in the Domestic Violence Framework” RR

**Week 9 Mar 8, 9, 11 Pop Culture and Gender**

Leage and Chalmers “Degrees of Caution: Arab Girls Unveil on Facebook” RR

Pozner “Reality TV (Re)Rewrites Gender Roles“

[http://www.ontheissuesmagazine.com/2011winter/2011\\_winter\\_Pozner.php](http://www.ontheissuesmagazine.com/2011winter/2011_winter_Pozner.php)

**Week 10 Mar 15, 16, 18 Where are We Know?**

PSAC National Women’s Conference 2010 “A Short History of Pay Equity” 19-28 RR

Dobrowolsky “Introduction: Neo-liberalism and After?” RR

**Week 11 Mar 22, 23, 25 Sexuality: Sexual Education and Sexual Violence**

Murphy “Can ‘Men’ Stop Rape? Visualizing Gender in the ‘My Strength is Not for Hurting’ Rape Prevention Campaign” RR

Pietsch “‘I’m Not That Kind of Girl’: White Femininity, the Other...” RR

**Week 12 Mar 29, 30 Apr 1 Concluding Thoughts: Resistance, Trade and Technology**

Chidgey “Free, Trade: Distribution Economies in Feminist Zine Networks” RR

Shapiro “New Biomedical Technologies, New Scripts, New Genders” 137-174 RR

**Official Business: All the fine print for the course. The assignment of letter grades is as follows per the UVIC guidelines:**

A+ = 90-100	B+ = 75-79	C+ = 60-64	Below 50 F
A = 85-89	B = 70-74	C = 55-59	No curving
A- = 80-84	B- = 65-69	D = 50-54	No extra credit

**Communication:** Place Gender and Politics or Poli 335 in the subject heading of any email sent to me. It is the students’ responsibility to add, drop, or withdraw from the course. If arrangements need to be made regarding the accommodation of a disability, see me as soon as possible. Make sure you register with the RCSD. No early exams are given.

Participation is necessary in this course. I will lecture outside of the course materials. Students are expected to be familiar with their group presentations. Please respect the class and try to avoid late arrival, as it is disruptive. And, please note that texting during lecture is distracting to your classmates and the professor. Please practice collegiality in the classroom.

Absences are not excusable and late work is NOT accepted, however in instances of verifiable illness or family emergencies *some* exceptions can be made with an *accident report* or a *fax from funeral home*, etc. Medical exceptions might be made, when there is satisfactory evidence of an illness. Medical notes alone are not always sufficient for an extension and the point penalty might still apply. See me if you are deathly ill *before* the assignment is due. It is extremely important that you have a course buddy or two.

All assignments are due in class and via Moodle. Note that Moodle offers a time/date stamp for all uploaded documents. An assignment is not considered submitted unless both the hard copy and uploaded copy are submitted. All assignments uploaded to Moodle might be assessed by Turnitin (plagiarism detecting software).

Assignments turned in late will be docked 10 points per day. If you turn an assignment in to my mailbox during or after our class meeting, it is considered late. Any late work that is accepted does not field any comments. Do not email me any “soft” copies of your assignments before, during or after class, please upload them to Moodle. All assignments are to be typed with Times New Roman 12 font, double-spaced, with one-inch margins throughout and stapled in the left-hand corner. Use MLA or APA citation for the papers. Not following these basic style guidelines will cost students points on the assignment. Please remember to save all of your assignments on a USB or email the latest copy to yourself. **No paper extensions are granted with computer hardware/software crashes.**

### **Paper Assignment: Topic 1**

The paper can focus on Gender and Public Policy, Gender and Politics or theorizing gender. The region of analysis should be Canada or the US; however, upon approval other regions might be acceptable. Our main textbooks will be useful for analysis.

There are countless interesting articles and other readings on reserve under my name—spend some time looking through these readings for paper ideas or come to office hours for a chat. I am more than happy to discuss your paper topic and suggest some readings or help you fine tune your paper’s vision. However, I do prefer these consultations take place face-to-face and not via long emails, Moodle messages, and FB messages.

#### **Topics:**

Gender and Health (Kathleen O’Grady, Sandra Morgen, Rayna Rapp, Dorothy Roberts)  
Gender and the Prison Industrial Complex (Angela Davis, Liz Comack, Paul Wright, Julia Sudbury)  
Gender and Politics (Tremblay, Henderson & Jeydel, Carroll and Fox, Kim Kahn, *New Socialist*)  
GLBTQ Community/Politics (Shane Phelan, Sheila Jeffreys, Mark Blasius, Craig Rimmerman)  
Gender & Raunch Culture (Levy, Pam Paul, Bob Jensen, S. Jeffreys, Rebecca Whisnant)  
Gender and Sexuality (Merri Lisa Johnson, Valverde, Rubin, Jennifer Baumgartner, J. Valenti)  
Gender and Education (Henderson & Jeydel, World Bank, UN, Judith Glazer-Raymo)  
Masculinity in Popular Culture (Levy, M. Kimmel, R.W. Connell, Robert Jensen, Adam Jones)  
Indigenous Rights (Andrea Smith, Jerry Mander, Pam Martin, Erick Langer, Kay Warren)  
New Reproductive Technologies (NRTs) (Royal Commission on NRTs, Kathleen O’Grady)  
Father’s Rights (Leora Rosen, H. Charles, Jocelyn Crowley, Leslie Cannold)

Paper Guidelines: Your paper will cite at least 8 sources with four coming from the course syllabus and/or reserve reading list. You will ground your essay with specific reference to the theoretical explanation of gender explained in Beckwith, Hawkesworth, Burns, and/or Htun in *Politics and Gender*. You should cite scholarly journal articles, books, and internet (reliable) sources. The papers will not exceed 12 pages and will follow all the noted guidelines in this syllabus and stated in lecture.

There are two due dates: the first due date means that your paper will field comments, due Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup> by Noon to Moodle and to my mailbox. The second due date is Monday, March 28<sup>th</sup> by noon to Moodle and my mailbox these papers will field less comments. There is no point penalty with the second due date. I will not accept any papers after March 30<sup>th</sup> and the point penalty will apply from March 28<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>.

### **Paper Assignment: Topic II**

This paper topic focuses more explicitly on formal politics in Canada. You will use the Bashevkin volume as your starting point for this research. Your paper will use at least one of the chapters in that volume for your research. You might choose to examine a particular race in the last BC elections or Federal elections.

#### **Possible Topics:**

Gender and Media Coverage

Gender and Controversies

Gender and the Economy

Gender and Leadership

Gender and Elections

Research Hints for other articles/book: Tremblay, Brodie, Bashevkin, Newman and White, Henderson & Jeydel and the list of authors in each edited volume, as well as Georgia Duerst-Lahti, Rita Mae Kelly, Pippa Norris, and more. This list of names is merely a start.

Paper Guidelines: Your paper will cite at least 8 sources with four coming from the course syllabus and/or reserve reading list. You will ground your essay with specific reference to the theoretical explanation of gender explained in Beckwith, Hawkesworth, Burns, and/or Htun in *Politics and Gender*. You should cite scholarly journal articles, books, and internet (reliable) sources. The papers will not exceed 12 pages and will follow all the noted guidelines in this syllabus and stated in lecture.

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### **Paper Assignment: Theoretical Book Assessment**

Clare, Eli. 1999. *Exile & Pride: Disability, Queerness, and Liberation*. Cambridge, Mass: South End Press.

Chunn, Dorothy E., Susan B. Boyd, and Hester Lessard, eds. 2007. *Reaction and Resistance: Feminism, Law, and Social Change*. Vancouver: UBC Press.

Edwards, Anne. 2009. *Seeking Balance: Conversations with BC Women in Politics*. Halfmoon Bay: BC: Caitlin Press.

Friedman, Jaclyn and Jessica Valenti, eds. 2008. *Yes Means Yes! Visions of Female Sexual Power & A World Without Rape*. Berkeley: Seal Press.

Jeffreys, Sheila. *The Industrial Vagina: The Political Economy of the Global Sex Trade*. NY: Routledge.

Murphy, Peter F., ed. 2004. *Feminism and Masculinities*. NY: Oxford University Press.

Tarrant, Shira, ed. 2008. *Men Speak Out: Views on Gender, Sex, and Power*. NY: Routledge.

Your assessment will be a strong rumination of the piece. You will ground your assessment with specific reference to the theoretical explanation of gender explained in Beckwith, Hawkesworth, Burns, and/or Htun in *Politics and Gender* these articles are on reserve and noted as “Politics and Gender, Selections” XPR 65221. How does your book categorize gender? You should also refer to at least another two readings in the syllabus.

Paper Guidelines: Your paper will cite at least 8 sources with four coming from the course syllabus and/or reserve reading list. You will ground your essay with specific reference to the theoretical explanation of gender explained in Beckwith, Hawkesworth, Burns, and/or Htun in *Politics and Gender*. You should cite scholarly journal articles, books, and internet (reliable) sources. The papers will not exceed 15 pages and will follow all the noted guidelines in this syllabus and stated in lecture.

There are two due dates: the first due date means that your paper will field comments, due Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup> by Noon to Moodle and to my mailbox. The second due date is Monday, March 28<sup>th</sup> by noon to Moodle and my mailbox these papers will field less comments. There is no point penalty with the second due date. I will not accept any papers after March 30<sup>th</sup> and the point penalty will apply from the 28<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>.

### **Department of Political Science Policy on Academic Integrity**

Academic integrity requires commitment to the values of honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Any action that contravenes this standard, including misrepresentation, falsification or deception, undermines the intention and worth of scholarly work and violates the fundamental standards upheld in a fair and transparent fashion. Refer to the UVIC calendar or Prof. A with any additional questions.

This courses uses the qualitative criteria associated with each letter grade in the University of Victoria Calendar (p. 37) when marking assignments. University Policy on Academic Integrity is strictly enforces in this course as per the University of Victoria Calendar (p. 33-34). I reserve the right to use plagiarism-detection software, like Turnitin, in cases of suspected plagiarism.

**Disclaimer:** I reserve the right to alter the Course Calendar at any time without prior notice. It is the students’ responsibility to attend class, verify the course calendar, and the Moodle site