



Jindal School of International Affairs
India's First Global Policy School



O.P. Jindal Global University
A Private University Promoting Public Service
NAAC Accreditation - 'A' Grade

Women in Conflict Zones

Elective

Course Information

Course Duration: 14 weeks

Credit Hours: 4 Credits. This course will have 3 contact hours per week in the form of lectures. Additionally, students are expected to read & prepare for the class.

Course Level: B.A & MA

Course code: M.A. (DLB)0744

Location:

Instructor Information

Instructor: Bilquees Daud

Email: bdaud@jgu.edu.in

Office: FOB 4A West Side

Office Hours: Wednesdays from 11:00 to 12:00 (By email appointment)

1. Course Description

The course attempts to draw attention to the gendered experiences of conflict. Women often bear the heaviest brunt of misogynistic sexual and domestic violence, poverty, social injustice, inequity and cultural restrictions. The use of sexual violence against women by armed groups and their sympathizers is frequently used as a weapon of war and as a means of disrobing the community of its “honor” by targeting their women. Consider for instance statistics indicate an estimated 50,000 women were raped during the Bosnian war; an estimated 250,000 women were raped during the Rwandan genocide; over 80% of Syrian women refugees in Iraq live in daily fear of abuse; nearly 90% of Afghan women experience domestic abuse during their lifetime; and 27% of DRC’s women have survived sexual violence, and 57% domestic violence. The course will cover the foremost cases of conflict around the globe and its impact on women. The case studies are Afghanistan, Partition, Kashmir, Liberia, Bosnia and Iraq.

2. LEARNING AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

This course will help students:

- To understand the gendered impact of conflict in different settings
- To analyze women’s roles in resistance and peace building as leaders and negotiators
- To critically engage with various case studies on how armed conflict uniquely affects women
- To identify forms of sexual violence, forced displacement, and exploitation as tools of war and control
- To comprehend the voices of women by sharing their personal narratives of war and suffering

3. Evaluation Breakup

Class Participation (10%): The class is a combination of lecture-seminar format. During the discussion students are expected to actively contribute to the discussion.

Midterm (Quiz 25%): Students will be given a quiz during the class. The quiz will consist of multiple choice, short essay and/ or short definition questions. The quiz will test your knowledge of the topics covered in class.

Presentation (35%): A group of students should choose a topic from different sessions of the course manual to do an analytical presentation. The presentation should be based on independent research by students. Students are expected to do research, apply critical thinking, and prepare 25-30 minutes presentation to be presented in the class.

End Term Exam (30%): The end term examination will be conducted in the examinations period. The examination will test your knowledge from amongst the topics covered in class.

4. Grade Definition

Letter Grade	Percentage of Marks	Grade Points	
O	80 and above	8	Outstanding: Exceptional knowledge of the subject matter, thorough understanding of issues; ability to synthesize ideas, rules and principles and extraordinary critical and analytical ability.
A+	75 - 79	7.5	Excellent: Sound knowledge of the subject matter, thorough understanding of issues; ability to synthesize ideas, rules and principles and critical and analytical ability.
A	70 - 74	7	Very Good: Sound knowledge of the subject matter, excellent organizational capacity, ability to synthesize ideas, rules and principles, critically analyse existing material and originality in thinking and presentation.
A-	65 - 69	6	Good: Good understanding of the subject matter, ability to identify issues and provide balanced solutions to problems and good critical and analytical skills.
B+	60 - 64	5	Fair: Average understanding of the subject matter, limited ability to identify issues and provide solutions to problems and reasonable critical and analytical skills.
B	55 - 59	4	Acceptable: Adequate knowledge of the subject matter to go to the next level of the study and reasonable critical and analytical skills.

B-	50 - 54	3	Marginal: Limited knowledge of the subject matter and irrelevant use of materials, and poor critical and analytical skills.
P1	45 - 49	2	Pass 1: Pass with Basic understanding of the subject matter.
P2	40 - 44	1	Pass 2: Pass with Rudimentary understanding of the subject matter.
F	Below 40	0	Fail: Poor comprehension of the subject matter; poor critical and analytical skills and marginal use of the relevant materials. Will require repeating the course.

5. Academic Integrity

Note Bene A: If you miss **more than two classes consecutively** you would be required to furnish a doctor's certificate from the University's medical center. Failure to do so would automatically result in a loss of credit for this seminar. In case of an emergency please inform me via email or phone. You must submit your medical certificates to Ms. Swarnima Singh at the JSIA executive office within one week of joining university. Students who have an attendance of less than 75% will be debarred from taking the end term exam and will receive a FAIL grade for this seminar. Failure to actively participate in the class discussions will be noted and will negatively affect your grade for class participation.

Note Bene (B): If you are more than 10 minutes late for the class, attendance for that seminar will not be granted.

Note Bene (C): Plagiarism and/ or use of unfair means will result in a **FAIL Grade**. If you are not sure what constitutes plagiarism please consult your academic writing instructor, your course instructor and/ or read the university's handbook.

Note Bene (D): Deadlines are non-negotiable. Failure to submit assignments on time will result in negative marking (**Move down by one grade for every 30 minutes of delay**). **Submissions more than 2 hours late will automatically result in a FAIL grade.**

Note Bene (E): The course instructor reserves the right to change the course content at any time during the semester, depending on the needs of specific students taking the course.

Please check your university email id's REGULARLY for course related announcements and for course readings.

Note Bene (F): Use of mobile phones, tablets and laptops in class is strictly prohibited unless they are required for the project group or any other in class assignment,

Session Plan

Session (with Date)	General Topic	Readings	Approach/Pedagogy
<u>WEEK 1</u>	Introduction:		All sessions would be in the form of a lecture-seminar format.
<u>Week 2</u>	Theoretical Frameworks: Gender Based Violence as Weapon of War	<p><i>Cohn, C. (2013). Women and wars: Toward a conceptual framework. In C. Cohn (Ed.), Women and wars (pp. 1–35). Polity Press.</i></p> <p><i>Praveen, N. (2022). Gender based violence in armed conflict and displacement and sustainable development goals: A case study in international law. Women in the Mountains Conference, Utah Valley University.</i></p> <p><i>UN Women. (2023). In brief: Women, peace and security. UN Women Asia-Pacific.</i></p>	Both formative and summative assessment techniques would be employed to assess the students throughout the semester.
<u>WEEK 3</u>	The Rights and Struggles of Kashmiri Women	Guest Lecture	
<u>WEEK 4</u>	Afghan Civil War's and its Impact on Afghan Women	<p><i>Human Rights Watch (2005). Blood-Stained Hands Past Atrocities in Kabul & Afghanistan's Legacy Of Impunity. United States of America ISBN: 1-56432-334-X</i></p> <p><i>Webpage: http://www.hrw.org</i></p> <p><i>Ashraf, A., & Kennedy-Pipe, C. (2022). Woman, war, and the politics of emancipation in</i></p>	

		<p><i>Afghanistan. LSE Public Policy Review.</i></p> <p>https://www.npr.org/2021/09/08/1035224822/what-the-last-20-years-of-war-did-to-women-in-rural-afghanistan</p>	
<u>WEEK 5</u>	Liberia Women Mass Action for Peace	Documentary screening & discussion	
<u>WEEK 6</u>	Midterm		
<u>WEEK 7</u>	Bosnia Wartime Rape in 1990s Conflict	<p><i>Çaputlu, Ö. N. (2021). A feminist analysis: Sexual violence in the Bosnian War (1992–1995). Balkanistic Forum.</i> Retrieved from: https://www.academia.edu/49350685</p> <p><i>Rape as a strategy of war: Gender-based violence during the Bosnian War (1992–1995). Just Access Journal (2022). Retrieved from: https://just-access.de/rape-as-a-strategy-of-war-gender-based-violence-during-the-bosnian-war-1992-1995/</i></p> <p><i>Hunt, S. (2004). This was not our war: Bosnian women reclaiming the peace (Foreword by W. J. Clinton). Duke University Press. (pp 1-170)</i></p>	
<u>WEEK 8</u>	Gender and Power in Taliban-Controlled Afghanistan	<p><i>Zadaa, S. Q., & Zadaa, M. Z. Q. (2024). The Taliban and women's human rights in Afghanistan: The way forward. The International Journal of Human Rights.</i> https://doi.org/10.1080/13642987.2024.2369584</p> <p><i>Beuria, A., & Behera, A. R. (2023). A review of literature on the fate and endurance of Afghan women and girls under Taliban jurisdiction. IOSR Journal of Humanities and Social Science, 28(1), 60–63</i></p>	

<u>WEEK 9</u>	The Gendered Cost of Partition	Documentary screening & discussion	
<u>WEEK 10</u>	Conversation with Afghan Refugee Women		
<u>WEEK 11</u>	Students' Presenting Final Paper Outline		
<u>WEEK 12</u>	ISIS occupation of Iran & Yazidi Women's Genocide	<p><i>Kaya, Z. (2020). Sexual violence, identity and gender: ISIS and the Yezidis. Conflict, Security & Development, 20(5), 559–582.</i></p> <p><i>Ibrahim, H., Hassan, A., Post, J., & Steinisch, M. (2018). Trauma and perceived social rejection among Yazidi women and girls who survived enslavement and genocide.</i></p> <p><i>Sarac, B. N. (2020). UK newspapers' portrayal of Yazidi women's experiences of violence under ISIS. Journal of Strategic Security, 13(1), 56–76.</i></p>	
<u>WEEK 13</u>	Revision		
<u>WEEK 14</u>	Final Exam		