



GENDER, FEMINISM IN TRANSNATIONAL CONTEXTS

APA Program: Multi-Country: France, Morocco, Senegal

Language of instruction: French

US semester credits: 4.0

Contact hours: 36 hours (12 hours per host city)

Term: Fall Semester | Spring Semester

Instructors: Paris - Dr. Aurelie Perrier, Professor, APA

Rabat - Dr. Taoufiq Sakhkhane

Dakar - Dr. Fatou Sow

Course Description

In this course we will identify and trace the centrality of gender to the processes and issues of colonialism, postcolonialism, nationalism, and transnationalism. We will also examine the ways in which feminism(s) have been shaped both by and within these different contexts from the late 19th century to the present. In order to address these questions, the course will examine the historical development of feminism in France and two of its former colonies, Morocco and Senegal. The course will introduce students to key aspects of gender and feminist theory, consider critiques of white feminism, and examine the relationship between gender, race, and class oppression.

The first part of the course looks at the collision of feminism and imperialism in the French context. The second part examines Moroccan women's fraught relationship to state nationalism and to Islam, while the last section focuses on Senegalese women's rights.

Learning Objective

- Introduce students to feminist theory and intersectional approaches.
- Familiarize students with major debates in the study of non-Western gender, while providing them with a sense of the interlinkages between gender and intimacy, on the one hand, and large scale sociopolitical processes on the other.
- Think critically about nationalism and its relationship to gendered processes.

Schedule

Paris - Feminism in the Imperial Center: France

Week 1 - Introduction to Gender and Feminist Theory

- What is intersectionality? Racism, sexism and class oppression

Week 2 - Colonial Feminism

- The gendered rhetoric of the French empire
- French feminists in North Africa

Week 3 - Feminism's "Others" in Contemporary France

- Veils and burqinis: do Muslim women need saving?
- White feminism and its discontent

Week 4 - Gender, Race and the French Nation

- Same-sex marriage, race and nationalism: the controversy over gay marriage
- French universalism and multiracial feminism

Rabat - Gender and Nationalism in Morocco

Week 5 - Women and National Culture

- Women and cultural authenticity in colonial and postcolonial Morocco
- Decolonizing feminism

Week 6 - Historicizing Islam

- Women in Islam: scriptures, tradition and history
- The Moroccan debate on the veil

Week 7 - Women and the State

- Gendered citizenship and state feminism
- Personal status laws and the 2004 *Mudawwana* reform

Week 8 - Feminism as Cultural Betrayal?

- Secular Moroccan feminists (Mernissi and Slimani)
- Islamic feminism: an authentic path for women? (Asma Lamrabet)

Dakar - Women's Rights in Postcolonial Senegal

Week 9 - Theory

- Introduction
- Theorizing women in African contexts

Week 10 - Religion

- Culture, religion, politics: the rise of religious and cultural fundamentalisms
- Revisiting religion and culture: towards a new secular social contract

Week 11 - Bodies

- Isn't my body mine ?
- Women's sexual, reproductive, and health rights in Senegal

Week 12 - Politics

- Women mobilizing politics in postcolonial contexts
- Conclusion

Assessment

Each host city professor will assign a grade based on the following components of a student's work. The final grade will be an average of the three grades.

Class participation (30%). Participation has several components: physical attendance, informed oral contribution to class discussions throughout the semester and surprise quizzes (testing reading of the material). Students are expected to come to all classes having completed the readings. Reading assignments listed under each class session should be completed before attending that class. Students may opt to submit an optional response paper on weekly readings for extra credit during the semester.

Written assignment (30%). You will be asked to write one 3-4 page analytical essay over the course of each four-week session of the course. A handout with more specific instructions for each assignment will be handed to students. The essays should draw on the assigned readings, lectures, and class discussions: no additional or outside research will be required. Late submissions will be docked one-third of a letter grade for every day they are late (for example, an A- essay submitted one day late will receive a B+). An essay that is seven days late automatically receives a failing grade.

Final examination (30%). The final exam will consist of short answer identifications and an essay question. A study guide will be issued for each of these exams. In the final exam the identifications will be drawn from the last half of the course (roughly Weeks 7-14), but the essay question may be cumulative.

Oral Presentation (10%). Lead a 30-minute discussion section by preparing questions for the class based on the week's readings.

Bibliography

Paris

Abu-Lughod, Lila. 1998. *Remaking Women, Feminism and Modernity in the Middle East*. Princeton University Press.

Abu-Lughod, Lila. 2002. "Do Muslim Women Really Need Saving: Anthropological Reflections on Cultural Relativism and Its Others," *American Anthropologist* 104 (3): 783-790.

Alexander, Jacqui M. and Chandra Talpade Mohanty, (eds). 2012. *Feminist Genealogies, Colonial Legacies, Democratic Futures*. London and New York: Routledge.

Benhabib, Seyla and Judith Butler, et. al (eds). 1995. *Feminist Contentions: A Philosophical Exchange*. New York, London: Routledge.

- Boitin, Jennifer Anne. 2010. *Colonial Metropolis: the Urban Grounds of Anti-Imperialism and Feminism in Interwar Paris*. University of Nebraska Press.
- Burton, Antoinette. "The White Woman's Burden," in *Western Women and Imperialism*
- Camiscioli, Elisa. 2009. *Reproducing the French Race: Immigration, Intimacy, and Embodiment in the Early Twentieth Century*. Duke University Press.
- Chaudhuri, Nupur, and Margaret Strobel, eds. 1992. *Western Women and Imperialism: Complicity and Resistance*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press.
- Clancy-Smith, Julia. 1992. "The 'Passionate Nomad' Reconsidered: a European Woman in L'Algérie Française, Isabelle Eberhardt, 1877-1904" in Nupur Chaudhuri and Margaret Strobel (eds), *Western Women and Imperialism*, pp.61-78.
- Conklin. 1998. "Redefining 'Frenchness': Citizenship, Race Regeneration, and Imperial Motherhood in France and West Africa, 1914-40" in Clancy-Smith and Gouda, eds, *Domesticating the Empire: Race, Gender and Family Life in French and Dutch Colonialism*. University of Virginia Press.
- Curtis, Sarah. 2006. "Emilie de Vialar and the Religious Reconquest of Algeria," *French Historical Studies* 29 (2): 261-292.
- Davidson, Naomi. 2012. *Only Muslim: Embodying Islam in Twentieth-Century France*. Cornell University Press
- Dean, Carolyn J., "Marriage for All, Theory of Gender for All: A Response to Éric Fassin's 'Same-Sex Marriage, Nation, and Race: French Political Logics and Rhetorics'" *H-France Salon*, Vol 7 Issue 1
- Delphy, Christine. 2006. "Antisexisme ou Antiracisme. Un faux dilemne." *Nouvelles Questions féministes*. Vol 25, No 1, pp. 59-83.
- Delphy, Christine. 2010. *Un universalisme si particulier, Feminisme et exception française*. Paris: Syllepse.
- Diallo, Rokhaya. 2013. "Le féminisme à l'épreuve du multiculturalisme," in *Après-demain*, 13 (2): 30-32.
- Dorlin, Elsa. 2009. *La matrice de la race. Généalogie sexuelle et colonial de la nation*. Paris: Editions la Découverte.
- Dorlin, Elsa. 2009. « Les frontières de la violence sexuelle », *Sexe, race, classe. Pour une épistémologie de la domination*, dir. Elsa Dorlin, PUF, 2009, p. 289-307
- Eichner, Carloyn J. 2009. "La Citoyenne in the World: Hubertine Auclert and Feminist Imperialism" in *French Historical Studies* 32 (1): 63-84.

- Fassin, Eric. 2003. "The Politics of Pacts in a Transatlantic Mirror: Same-Sex Unions and Sexual Difference in France Today", *Beyond French Feminisms. Debates on Women, Culture in France*, dir. Roger Célestin, Eliane Dalmolin et Isabelle de Courtivron. New York, Palgrave Macmillan, p. 27 – 38.
- Fassin, Eric. 2010 "National Identities and Transnational Intimacies: Sexual Democracy and the Politics of Immigration in Europe," *Public Culture* 22:3 (2010): 507-29.
- Haggis, Jane. 2003. "White Women and Colonialism: Towards a Non-Recuperative History," in Lewis, Reina and Sara Mills, eds., *Feminist Postcolonial Theory: A Reader*. Pp. 161-190.
- Levine, Philippa, ed. 2007. *Gender and Empire*. Oxford University Press.
- McCann, Carole and Kim Seung-Kyun (ed.). 2009. *Feminist Theory Reader: Local and Global Perspectives*, Routledge.
- McClintock, Anne. 1997. "No Longer in a future Heaven': Gender Race and Nationalism" in Anne McClintock, Aamir Mufti and Ella Shohat (eds.), *Dangerous Liaisons: Gender, Nation, and Postcolonial Perspectives*. Univ. of Minnesota Press, pp. 89-112.
- Mestiri, Soumaya, 2016. *Décoloniser le féminisme, une approche transculturelle*. Edition Vrin.
- Rogers, Rebecca. 2011. *A Frenchwomen's Imperial Story: Madame Luce in Nineteenth-Century Algeria*. Stanford University Press.
- Scott, Joan. 1986. "Gender: a Useful Category of Historical Analysis" in *The American Historical Review*, Vol 91, No5, pp. 1053-1075.
- Scott, Joan. 1989. "Symptomatic Politics: The Banning of Islamic Head Scarves in French Public Schools"
- Scott, Joan. 2010. *The Politics of the Veil*. Princeton University Press.
- Spivak, Gayatri. 1994. "Can the Subaltern Speak" in *Colonial Discourse and Postcolonial Theory: A Reader*, eds Williams, Patrick and Laura Christman. New York: Columbia University Press
- Stoler, Ann Laura. 2010. *Carnal Knowledge and Imperial Power: Race and the Intimate in Colonial Rule*. University of California Press.
- Surkis, Judith. "Hymenal Politics: Marriage, Secularism, and French Sovereignty," *Public Culture* (2010) 22 (3): 531-556.
- Yuval Davis, Nira. 2006. "Intersectionality and feminist politics," *European Journal of Women's Studies*, 13(3): 193-209.

Rabat

- Abul-Latif, R., & Serpe, L, "The Status of Women in the Middle East, North Africa: A Grassroots Research and Advocacy Approach, Preliminary Findings from Surveys in Lebanon and Morocco," presented for the International Foundation For Electoral Systems at the WAPOR Conference, 2010.
- Agnaou, F. 2004. *Gender, Literacy and Empowerment in Morocco*. New York: Routledge.
- An-Naim, Abdullahi,. 1995. "The Dichotomy Between Religious and Secular Discourse in Islamic Societies" in *Faith and Freedom, Women's rights in the Muslim World*, edited by Mahnaz Afkhani. London: Syracuse University Press, pp.51-60.
- Badran, Margot. 2002. "Gender Journeys in/to Arabic" in *Language and Linguistics*, No. 9: 79-97.
- Bessis, Sophie, and Belhassan Souhayer. 1992. *Femmes du Maghreb: L'enjeu*. Paris: Eddif.
- Belghazi, Taieb, and Madani Mohammed. 2001. *L'action collective au Maroc: de la mobilisation à la prise de parole*. Rabat: Publications de la Faculté des Lettres et des Sciences Humaines.
- Bourqia, Rahma. 1996. *Femmes et fécondité*. Casablanca: Afrique Orient, 1996.
- Bourqia, Rahma. 1997. *Etudes féminines: Notes méthodologiques*. Rabat: Publications de la Faculté des Lettres et Sciences Humaines. Séries colloquies et séminaires, No. 73.
- _____. 1995. "Women, Uncertainty, and Reproduction in Morocco" in *Family, Gender and Population in the Middle East*, edited by Carla Makhoul Obermyer. Cairo: American University of Cairo Press. 136-144.
- Daoud, Zakia. 1993. *Féminisme et politique au Maghreb: Soixante ans de Lutte*. Casablanca: Editions Eddif.
- _____, 1998. "Femmes, mouvements féministes et changement social au Maghreb" in Mondher Kilani (ed), *Islam et changement social*, France: Payot Lausanne, pp. 247-259.
- El-Harras, Mokhtar. 1996. "Féminité et masculinité dans la société rurale Marocaine, le cas d'anjra" in *Femmes culture et société au Maghreb*, R. Bourqia, M. Charrad and N. Gallagher. eds. Casablanca: Afrique-orient.
- Lazreg, Marnia. 1994. "Decolonizing Feminism" in *The Eloquence of Silence*. New York-London: Routledge, 6-19.
- Majid, Anouar. 1998. "The Politics of Feminism in Islam" in *Signs*, Vol. 23 (2), 321-362.
- Mernissi, Fatima. 1982. "Women and the Impact of Capitalist Development in Morocco" in *Feminist Issues*, 2(2), 69-104.

- Mernissi, Fatima. 1992. *La Peur modernité: conflit Islam démocratie*. Paris: Albin Michel.
- Mernissi, Fatima. 1991. *Le Monde n'est pas un harem: Paroles de femmes du Maroc*. Paris: Albin Michel.
- Mernissi, Fatima. "Etat planification nationale et discours scientifique sur la femme" in *Portrait de femme*, collection Approches (Casablanca: Le Fennec, 1987),21-45.
- _____. 1996. "Population Without Democracy? The Conflict between the Muslim State and Women" in *Women's Rebellion and Islam Memory*. London and New Jersey: Zed Books, pp.46-63.
- _____. 1998. Interview with Serge MENAGER in *Le Maghreb littéraire*, University of Natal, République d'Afrique du Sud. Vol II N 4 (1998): 97-119.
- Rhiwi, Leila. 2000. "Le Mouvement des femmes au Maroc" in Bulletin économique et social du Maroc: rapport du social. Rabat: Okad: 141-146.
- M. Moudden, Abdelhay. 1996. "Cultural Struggles In Morocco" in *Proceedings of the Conference Cultural Studies, Interdisciplinarity, and The University*, Mohammed Dahbi, Mohammed Ezroua and Lahcen Haddad (eds),Rabat: Publications of the Faculty of Letters and Human Sciences, 1996.135-145.
- Sherine, Hafez. 2001. *The Terms of Empowerment: Islamic Women Activists in Egypt*. Cairo: American University in Cairo Press.
- Wadud, Amina. 1999. *Qur'an and Woman*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Dakar**
- Amadiume, I., 1998, *Re-Inventing Africa: Matriarchy, Religion and Culture*. London, Zed Books.
- Ba, M.-P., « La diversité du fondamentalisme sénégalais. Éléments pour une sociologie de la connaissance », *Cahiers d'études africaines*, 2012, vol. 2 n° 206-207, p. 575-602.
- Camara, F. K. et Kandji, S., 2000, *L'union matrimoniale des peuples noirs*. Paris, L'Harmattan.
- Falquet, J., et al, 2010, *Le sexe de la mondialisation. Genre, classe, race et nouvelle division du travail*. Paris, Les Presses de Sciences Po.
- Feminist Africa: online journal of the African Gender Institute, University of the Cape - www.feministafrica.org
- Forum féministe africain. <http://fr.africanfeministforum.com/the-charter-of-feminist-principles-for-african-feminists/> La charte des principes féministes pour les féministes africaines.

- Gomez-Perez, M., éd., *L'islam politique au Sud du Sahara. Identités, discours et enjeux*. Paris, Karthala, p. 309-326.
- Guèye, N. S. , 2013, *Mouvements sociaux des femmes au Sénégal*. Dakar, UNESCO / CODESRIA.
- Imam, A., Mama, A. and Sow; F., (eds), 1977, *Engendering African social sciences*. CODESRIA, Dakar.
- Imam, A., Mama, A. et Sow; F., (éds), 2004, *Sexe, genre et société: Engendrer les sciences sociales africaines*, Paris, Karthala.
- Mama, A., Ba, 1996, *Women's Studies and Studies of Women in Africa during the 1990s*. CODESRIA Working Paper Series No. 5. Dakar, Senegal: Council for Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA).
- Mama, A. *Études par les femmes et études sur les femmes en Afrique durant les années 1990*, Document de travail 5/96, Dakar, CODESRIA, 1996.
- McFadden, P., 2001, « Standpoint: Intellectual Politics and Radical Feminist Praxis », in *Feminist Africa*, « Intellectual Politics », Cape Town, Vol 1.
- Oyěwùmí, O., 1997. *The Invention of Women: Making an African Sense of Western Gender Discourse*. Minneapolis, University of Minnesota Press.
- Oyěwùmí, O., 2003, "Abiyamo: Theorizing African Motherhood", *Jenda. A Journal of Culture and African Women Studies*, Issue 4, www.africaknowledgeproject.org/jenda/article/view/79.
- Protocole à la Charte africaine des droits de l'homme et des peuples relatif aux droits des femmes, dit Protocole de Maputo, 2003, Maputo, Mozambique, En ligne: http://www.africanunion.org/Official_documents/Treaties_Conventions_fr/Protocolesurledroitdelafemme.pdf.
- Sow, F. (éd), 2009, *La Recherche féministe francophone: Langue, identités et enjeux*, chapitre: « Langue, identités et enjeux de la recherche féministe francophone », pp. 9-57, Karthala, Paris, 2009.
- Sow, F. et Bop, C. (éds), 2004, *Notre corps, notre santé: la santé et la sexualité des femmes en Afrique subsaharienne*. Paris, l'Harmattan.
- Sow, F., 1998, « Mutilations génitales féminines et droits humains en Afrique », in Sow, F., éd., *Revisiter le genre / Gender revisited*, Afrique et Développement, vol. XXIII, n° 3, Dakar, CODESRIA, p. 9-28.
- Sow, F., 2005a, « Les femmes, l'État et le sacré », dans M. Gomez-Perez, éd., *L'islam politique au Sud du Sahara*. Identités, discours et enjeux, Karthala, Paris, p. 283-307.
- Sow, F., 2009, « L'appropriation des études sur le genre en Afrique subsaharienne », in *Genre et Sociétés en Afrique. Implications pour le développement*, Thérèse Locoh (éd), en collaboration avec, Koffi Nguessan et Pauline Makinwa-Adebusoye, INED, Paris, 2007, pp. 47-68.

- Sow, F., 2010, « Fondamentalismes et politiques néolibérales: L'administration Bush, les Mollah et les autres », in dans M. Benradi, éd., *Le féminisme face aux défis du multiculturalisme*, Rabat, Université Mohamed V - Agdal, p. 163-180.
- Sow, F., 2012, Mouvements féministes en Afrique, *Revue Tiers Monde* 2012/1 (n°209), p. 145-160.
<https://www.cairn.info/revue-tiers-monde-2012-1-page-145.htm>;
- Sow, F., and Pazello M., 2014, « The Making of a Secular Contract », in G. Sen and M. Durano, eds., *The Remaking of Social Contracts. Feminists in a Fierce World, Development Alternatives for a New Era* (DAWN), London, Zed Books, p. 181-195.
- Sutherland-Addy, E., Diaw, A., 2008, *Women Writing Africa. West Africa and The Sahel*. New York, Feminist Press.
- Thiam, A., 1978, *La parole au négresses*. Paris, Denoël-Gonthier.
- Women Living Under Muslim Laws, London (UK), website "www.wluml.org".