

GENDER AND POLITICS: STATE FEMINISMS AND GENDERED REPRESENTATIONS

POLI 115A
Monday & Wednesday, 6:30-7:50pm
Humanities & Social Sciences, Rm. 1330
website: dss.ucsd.edu/~kshelby/115a

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Scope of the Course: In this course we will briefly examine several Western democracies' institutional responses to questions of gender. Next, we will look in greater depth at the case of the French government's response to questions of gender and its gendered response to questions of political representation. We will examine the context within which these gendered institutions arose, as well as French feminists' responses to these institutions.

Expectations: I expect you to **read** the assigned material for each class **before** you come to class that day, and to **participate** in class discussions. I expect each of you to be part of conversations that will help us all work through material that can be very complex, challenging, and that will demand careful, thoughtful attention. I also expect all classroom interactions to be respectful of others and of yourself. This includes turning off all noise-making electronic devices, and the use of computers for note-taking and consultation of material directly related to this course only. I will post course documents and updates at: dss.ucsd.edu/~kshelby/115a

Please consult the UCSD Policy on Academic Integrity at:

<http://www-senate.ucsd.edu/manual/appendices/app2.htm>

Although I encourage you to form study groups and to work collaboratively prior to taking your midterm examination or to writing your final exam, any written work you submit must be entirely your own writing. If you have any questions about what is permissible, or about how to cite sources, please discuss these with me prior to submitting your assignment(s). Failure to abide by the academic integrity policy may result in a failing grade for the assignment in question and for the entire course.

Course Materials: The book *State Feminism and Political Representation (SFPR)*, edited by Joni Lovenduski (Cambridge UP, 2005), is available at the UCSD bookstore. Additional articles required for this course will be available via electronic reserves from the UCSD library website.

Your Grade: Final grades for the course will be determined by your performance on an in-class midterm examination, worth 50% of your grade, and a final take-home examination, also worth 50% of your grade. No make-ups will be given nor late papers accepted, except with appropriate written documentation and permission of the instructor.

Monday, January 7
Course Introduction

Wednesday, January 9
Reading: *SFPR* Ch. 1 "Introduction: state feminism and representation"

Monday, January 14

Reading: *SFPR* Ch. 12 “Women’s policy agencies, the women’s movement and representation in the USA”

Wednesday, January 16

Reading: *SFPR* Ch. 11 “Party government and women’s representation debates: the UK”

Monday, January 21 NO CLASS MEETING – Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday

Wednesday, January 18

Reading: *SFPR* Ch. 10 “Party feminism, state feminism and women’s representation in Sweden”

Monday, January 28

Reading: *SFPR* Ch. 7 “Gendering the debate on political representation in Italy: a difficult challenge”

Wednesday, January 30

Reading: *SFPR* Ch. 5 “Gendering the republican system: debates on women’s political representation in France”

Monday, February 4

Reading: *SFPR* Ch. 13 “Conclusions: state feminism and political representation”

Wednesday, February 6

MIDTERM EXAMINATION – bring a bluebook and a pen

Monday, February 11

Reading: Amy G. Mazur, “Strong State and Symbolic Reform: The *Ministère des Droits de la Femme* in France” (ch. 5, *Comparative State Feminism*, p.76-94)

Wednesday, February 13

Reading: Sian Reynolds, “The French Ministry of Women’s Rights 1981-86: Modernisation or Marginalisation?” (*France and modernisation.*, ed. John Gaffney, 1988, p.149-168)

Monday, February 18 NO CLASS MEETING – Presidents’ Day

Wednesday, February 20

Reading: Gill Allwood and Khursheed Wadia, “Increasing women’s political representation” and “Parity, democracy and citizenship” (*Women and Politics in France 1958-2000*, ch. 8 & 9, p.191-225)

Monday, February 25

Reading: Isabelle Giraud and Jane Jenson, “Constitutionalizing Equal Access: High Hopes, Dashed Hopes?” (ch. 5, *Has Liberalism Failed Women*, eds. Klausen and Maier, p.69-88)

Wednesday, February 27

Reading: Eléonore Lépinard, "The Contentious Subject of Feminism: Defining *Women* in France from the Second Wave to Parity" (*Signs*, Winter 2007, v.32, #2, p.375-403)

Monday, March 3

Reading: Caitlin Killian, "The Other Side of the Veil: North African Women in France Respond to the Headscarf Affair" (*Gender and Society*, August 2003, v.17, #4, p. 567-590) **and** Catherine Wihtol de Wenden, "Young Muslim Women in France: Cultural and Psychological Adjustments" (*Political Psychology*, v. 19, #1, 1998, p.133-146)

Wednesday, March 5

Reading: Stéphanie Giry, "France and Its Muslims" (*Foreign Affairs*, September/October 2006, p.87-104) **and** Jane Kramer, "Taking the Veil" (*The New Yorker*, November 22, 2004, p.58-71)

Monday, March 10

Reading: Bronwyn Winter, "Secularism Aboard the Titanic: Feminists and the Debate over the Hijab in France" (*Feminist Studies*, Summer 2006, v.32, #2, p.279-299)

Wednesday, March 12

Conclusions and Review

Wednesday, March 19: TAKE HOME FINAL EXAM DUE ELECTRONICALLY BY 7:30 PM (Instructions for submission will be distributed later in the course; consult the course web page.)