

## WOMEN'S STUDIES DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC ECECTIVE COURSES

**Programme: M. A Women's Studies**

**Title of the Course: GENDER AND CULTURE**

**Course Code: WST521**

**Number of Credits: 4**

**Effective from Academic Year: 2022 - 2023**

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| <b><u>Course prerequisite:</u></b> | Registration in any MA Programme in Goa University                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |          |
| <b><u>Objectives:</u></b>          | Students will be introduced to theoretical positions on the understanding of culture and the methods for a gender analysis of cultural practices. Students will traverse the canvas of a variety of dimensions within custom and tradition and community identity such as the gender politics of language, dress, beauty, practices around menstruation, folklore, entertainment and festivals etc. |          |
| <b><u>Content:</u></b>             | <b>Module1:</b> What is Culture? Diverse understandings of culture. Raymond William's uses of culture. Definitions of culture in Anthropology. Culture in conventional and critical theory. An Introduction to Cultural Theory: a) Socio-biological, b) Psychoanalytical and c) Sociological Theories.                                                                                              | 15 hours |
|                                    | <b>Module 2:</b> Doing a gender analysis of culture: Understanding Culture from studying one's own - Tradition, Cultural Practices and Gender. The politics of exclusion. Folklore, gender and culture.                                                                                                                                                                                             | 15 hours |
|                                    | <b>Module 3:</b> Cultural Theory: Durkheim, Karl Marx, Max Weber, George Simmel – Action and Human Agency Theories on Culture.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 15 hours |
|                                    | <b>Module 4:</b> Gender politics of language. Dress, Beauty, Sport, Entertainment, other gender discriminatory practices that continue around the world – a critical perspective.                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 15 hours |
| <b><u>Pedagogy:</u></b>            | lectures/individual assignments/self-study/films and discussions/ group projects/public presentations and campaigns                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |          |
| <b><u>References:</u></b>          | Arnot Madeleine. 2002. <i>Reproducing Gender</i> . London: Routledge .<br>Coates Jennifer. 1986. <i>Women, Men and Language: A Sociolinguistic Account of Sex Differences in Language</i> .                                                                                                                                                                                                         |          |

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|                               | <p>London: Longman.</p> <p>Flueckiger Joyce. 1996. <i>Gender and Genre in the Folklore of Middle India</i>. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.</p> <p>Gilman Charlotte P. 2002. <i>The Dress of Women: A Critical Introduction to the Symbolism and Sociology of Clothing</i>. Westport, Connecticut, London: Greenwood Press.</p> <p>Goddard Angela. 2009. <i>Language and Gender</i>. London: Routledge.</p> <p>Handoo Lalita. 1999. <i>Folklore and Gender</i>. Mysore: Zooni Publications.</p> <p>Jayaram N. (ed.) 2011. <i>Diversities in the Indian diaspora</i>. New Delhi : Oxford University Press</p> <p>Kauffman Linda. 1989. <i>Gender and Theory: Dialogues on Feminist Criticism</i>. Oxford: Basil Blackwell.</p> <p>Leslie Julia. 2002. <i>Invented Identities: The interplay of gender, religion and politics in India</i>. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.</p> <p>Madan T. N. 2011. <i>Sociological Traditions</i>. New Delhi: Sage Publications.</p> <p>Palriwala Rajni. 1996. <i>Shifting Circles of Support: Contextualising Gender and Kinship in South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa</i>. New Delhi: Sage Publications.</p> <p>Poynton Cate. 1989. <i>Language and Gender: Making the Difference</i>. Oxford: Oxford University Press.</p> <p>Rajan Rajeswari. 1993. <i>Real and Imagined Women : Gender, Culture and Post-colonialism</i>. London Routledge.</p> <p>Smith Philip, 2000, <i>Cultural Theory: An Introduction</i>, Blackwell:NY (Introduction and Chapter 1 pp 1-21)</p> <p>Thapan Meenakshi. <i>Embodiment: Essay on Gender and Identity</i>. Delhi: Oxford University Press.</p> |
| <b><u>Course Outcomes</u></b> | <p>This course will enable the students to have a critical understanding of culture and will equip them with skills for the methodological analysis of cultural practices from a gendered perspective.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |