INTL 4650: WOMEN AND WORLD POLITICS
Fall 2021

Instructor: Neil S. Williams  Time: T TR 2:20 – 3:35 p.m. (CRN: 49935)
Email: snpwill@uga.edu  Place: Peabody Hall, Room 115

Course Pages:
2. https://uga.view.usg.edu

Student Hours: 1:00-3:00pm Wednesday over Zoom, or by appointment.

Required Texts:
- None

Objectives: This course is an introduction to how women interact with and shape politics around the world. Although not a course on gender, we will examine gender as a framework to understanding how women’s agency is positioned in the political space. This course will also emphasize intersectional identities, including those of Black, Indigenous, and other historically excluded women. We will examine women’s relationships with subjects such as representation, gender quotas, elite and mass behavior, development, human rights, and environmental concerns. Despite this diverse list of topics, not every possible facet of women and politics can be covered in a single semester. Given this, a main goal of this course will be an effectively implemented project that creatively presents a topic of your choice related to women and politics.

Perusall: All readings and lecture slides will be available on Perusall. Perusall is a cool e-reader which allows for collaborative annotation of readings and videos with both me and your peers. Assignment due dates and reminders are also included in Perusall to help you keep track of readings. It is free to create an account. After you have done so, our course can be accessed by entering the code WILLIAMS-YXMPH.

Important Dates: Below are important test and due dates. Note that they, as well as everything else in the syllabus, may be changed as the semester continues. I will notify you in good time of any updates.

- **Midterm due** ....... Thursday October 14th, 2021
- **Project Proposal due** ....... Tuesday, October 19th, 2021
- **Project due** ....... Thursday, December 1st, 2021
- **Project memo due** ....... Tuesday, December 14th, 2021 by 11:59 P.M.
Grading

- **Participation (25%)**: Attendance will not be taken and participation will be evaluated in multiple ways. Active participation implies paying attention in class. Please come prepared to class having read and willing to discuss the assigned material. Keep in mind these points as you read:
  1. What is the author’s main point or argument?
  2. What evidence do they use to support their argument?
  3. Is there contradicting evidence?
  4. How does the author’s argument relate to the other readings from the course?

Participation will also be evaluated by your comments, annotations, and responses to the readings, videos, and slides on Persuall.

- **Midterm: (25%)** The midterm exam will be delivered electronically and will cover content up until this point. Although this exam will be open-note and book, I **HIGHLY** recommend studying beforehand.

- **Final project: (50%)** For the final project you are tasked with teaching non-experts about a concept or idea we’ve learned this semester or something else related to this course. You can use whatever medium you want, except for a standard essay or twitter threads. Otherwise, feel free to be creative. You can record a podcast, create a photo exhibit, write a magazine piece or a long-form blog post, write a set of poems, make a poster collage, write a work of fiction, a graphic novel, make a short film or documentary, a stand-up routine, play, etc. The possibilities are endless, but, regardless of the medium you choose, all projects will be graded on the following criteria:

  - **Project proposal: (10%)**: 1-2 page proposal of your project idea with description of your main points and planned approach
  - **Project: (60%)**: Project graded on the below criteria
    * (30%): Demonstrates a clear understanding of the concept. While accessibility is important, represent the concept or topic accurately and faithfully.
    * (30%) Makes clear why the concept is important for some aspects of politics (In a particular case or generally)
    * (10%) Uses language that is accessible to a broad public
    * (15%) Demonstrates effort commensurate with a final class project
    * (15%) Showcases creativity and imaginative thinking
  - **Poster response/reflection: (30%)** 3-4 page memo attached explaining your project, its method, and how it relates to your project topic.

---

Final project adapted from project assignment conceived and developed by Hakeem Jefferson, Stanford University. Contact me in good time for deadlines on make-up work.
**Grade Scale**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>&gt;= 93.00</td>
<td>77.00 - 79.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90.00 - 92.99</td>
<td>73.00 - 76.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87.00 - 89.99</td>
<td>70.00 - 72.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83.00 - 86.99</td>
<td>60.00 - 69.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80.00 - 82.99</td>
<td>&lt;= 59.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>77.00 - 79.99</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>73.00 - 76.99</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>70.00 - 72.99</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60.00 - 69.99</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>&lt;= 59.99</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Academic Honesty** *The University of Georgia seeks to promote and ensure academic honesty and personal integrity among students and other members of the university community. A Culture of Honesty, UGA’s academic honesty policy and procedures, was developed to serve these goals. All members of the academic community are responsible for knowing the policy and procedures on academic honesty.* (From UGA Academic Honesty Website)

**Disability Resources:** If you plan to request accommodations for a disability, please register with the Disability Resource Center. They can be reached by visiting Clark Howell Hall, calling 706-542-8719 (voice) or 706-542-8778 (TTY), or by visiting [http://drc.uga.edu](http://drc.uga.edu). Additionally, please contact me in good time and communicate any accommodations needed to participate in class and/or fulfill course requirements.

**Mental Health and Wellness Resources:**

- If you or someone you know needs assistance, you are encouraged to contact Student Care and Outreach in the Division of Student Affairs at 706-542-7774 or visit [https://sco.uga.edu](https://sco.uga.edu). They will help you navigate any difficult circumstances you may be facing by connecting you with the appropriate resources or services.

- UGA has several resources for a student seeking mental health services or crisis support.

- If you need help managing stress anxiety, relationships, etc., please visit BeWellUGA for a list of FREE workshops, classes, mentoring, and health coaching led by licensed clinicians and health educators in the University Health Center.

- Additional resources can be accessed through the UGA App.

**Technology:** I permit laptops and other devices such as Kindles and iPads if they are being used for class-related purposes. If you are off-task (Facebook, Instagram, Myspace, Tik Tok, Neopets, Club Penguin, etc.) while on these devices, it will be deducted from your participation grade.

**Coronavirus Information for Students**

**DawgCheck:**

Please perform a quick symptom check each weekday on DawgCheck—on the UGA app or website—whether you feel sick or not. It will help health providers monitor the health situation on campus: [https://dawgcheck.uga.edu/](https://dawgcheck.uga.edu/).

**What do I do if I have Symptoms?:**

Students showing symptoms should self-isolate and schedule an appointment with the University Health Center by calling 706-542-1162 (Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.). Please DO NOT walk-in. For emergencies and after-hours care, see [https://www.uhs.uga.edu/info/emergencies](https://www.uhs.uga.edu/info/emergencies).
What do I do if I am notified that I have been exposed?
Students who learn they have been directly exposed to COVID-19 but are not showing symptoms should self-quarantine for 14 days consistent with Department of Public Health (DPH) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines. Please correspond with your instructor via email, with a cc: to Student Care & Outreach at sco@uga.edu to coordinate continuing your coursework while self-quarantined. If you develop symptoms, you should contact the University Health Center to make an appointment to be tested. You should continue to monitor your symptoms daily on DawgCheck.

How do I get a test?
Students who are demonstrating symptoms of COVID-19 should call the University Health Center. UHC is offering testing by appointment for students; appointments may be booked by calling 706-542-1162.
UGA will also be recruiting asymptomatic students to participate in surveillance tests. Students living in residence halls, Greek housing and off-campus apartment complexes are encouraged to participate.

What do I do if I test positive?
Any student with a positive COVID-19 test is required to report the test in DawgCheck and should self-isolate immediately. Students should not attend classes in-person until the isolation period is completed. Once you report the positive test through DawgCheck, UGA Student Care and Outreach will follow up with you.
Tentative Course Outline:

Yellow indicates important information

Week 1: Introduction

Thursday, August 19th, 2021
- Introductions
- Review Syllabus

Week 2: Foundations of Gendered Analysis

Tuesday, August 24th, 2021
- Readings
  - “What is a Man?”. The Cut
  - Mitski - Your Best American Girl (Official Video)

Thursday, August 26th, 2021
- Readings
  - “Feminism”. The Cut
  - “The Dispute Between Radical Feminism and Transgenderism.” The New Yorker.
  - “Struggles, demands and innovation in Latin American feminism today.” Encyclopædia Britannica.

Week 3: Masculinities and Femininities

Tuesday, August 31st, 2021
- Readings
  - Charli XCX - Boys [Official Video]
  - SOPHIE — It’s Okay To Cry (Official Video)

Thursday, September 2nd, 2021
- Readings

Disclaimer: The course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary.
Week 4: Intersectional Feminisms

Tuesday, September 7th, 2021

- Readings
  - Blk Girl Soldier - Jamila Woods (Official video)

Thursday, September 9th, 2021

- Readings
  - Solange - Don’t Touch My Hair ft. Sampha (Official Music Video)

Week 5: Intersections of Activism

Tuesday, September 14th, 2021

- Readings
  - Balls and Strikes. Code Switch
  - On the fringe: Bedouin women in Jordan. feMENA

Thursday, September 16th, 2021

- Readings
  - What’s in a Karen?. Code Switch

Week 6: Representation

Tuesday, September 21st, 2021

- Readings
  - Political Representation (Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy)

Thursday, September 23rd, 2021

- Readings
  - African Perspective: Women in leadership positions, politics of representation.
  - “She got next”. Throughline
Week 7: Gender Quotas

Tuesday, September 28th, 2021

- Readings

Thursday, September 30th, 2021

- Readings

Week 8: Effects of Quotas

Tuesday, October 5th, 2021

- Readings

Thursday, October 7th, 2021

- Readings

  - Distribute
  - Midterm exam becomes available.

Week 9: Midterm and More

Tuesday, October 12th, 2021

- Readings

**Thursday, October 14th, 2021**

- **MIDTERM EXAM DUE: NO CLASS**

**Week 10: Elite Women**

**Tuesday, October 19th, 2021**

- **Readings**
  - Beyoncé - Formation (Official Video)

**Thursday, October 21st, 2021**

- **Readings**

**Week 11: Mass Participation**

**Tuesday, October 26th, 2021**

- **Readings**
  - We Are Ready: Women’s political participation in the Pacific. *UN Women*.

**Thursday, October 28th, 2021**

- **Readings**
  - Rina Sawayama - STFU! (Official Video)
Week 12: Welfare and Development

*Tuesday, November 2nd, 2021*

- **Readings**
  - “The Original Welfare Queen” Code Switch.

*Thursday, November 4th, 2021*

- **Readings**
  - The Family Monitoring of Bolsa Familia Program. *IPC-IG*.

Week 13: Rights and Violence

*Tuesday, November 9th, 2021*

- **Readings**
  - “Womens Rights in Central Asia” *Central Asia Solidarity Groups*.
  - “Women’s Rights”. Amnesty International

*Thursday, November 11th, 2021*

- **Readings**

Week 14: Women and the Environment

*Tuesday, November 16th, 2021*

- **Readings**

*Thursday, November 18th, 2021*

- **Readings**
  - Sisters on the Planet Series
Week 15: Thanksgiving Break

Tuesday, November 22nd, 2021

- No in-person class. Available over email and for virtual meetings

Thursday, November 24th, 2021

- No class. THANKSGIVING.

Week 16: Conclusions & Projects

Tuesday, November 30th, 2021

- Readings
  - The All-Women Mariachi Group That’s Lifting Our Spirits. 2019. *Code Switch*
  - China’s ’Kingdom of women’. 2021. *Witness History*

Thursday, December 1st, 2021

- Readings
  - Final class wrap-up and reflection
  - Final project session
  - Remember: Final project memo due Tuesday, December 14th, 2021 by 11:59 P.M.