CERTIFICATE COURSE IN GENDER & SOCIETY

Department of English

Overview:
This is an introduction to gender & women’s studies course with a global perspective. Students will be asked to think critically about the power relations that affect the lives of diverse women in India – diverse in terms of race, class, ability, sexuality and other markers of power – and will be asked to contemplate the positions of diverse women from around the world. The class focuses on gender and race as key social institutions which shape people’s lives around the world. It also focuses on social change – in particular, the roles of women in inspiring social change.

Objectives: Want students
• To trace the evolution of Gender as category of social analysis.
• To trace the emergence of women’s movement in India and abroad.
• To sensitise the students to gender issues
• To strengthen student’s basic knowledge on gender issues
• To raise student’s awareness on the importance of integrating gender research for societal health and development

Prerequisite: An open mind

Suggested Texts:
• Estelle Freedman. 2007. The Essential Feminist Reader
• Structure and transformation in Indian society : Theory and Society in India, OUP : New Delhi.

Audio visual materials, field work, research and case studies will be used to supplement these texts.

Assignments & Evaluation:
25% Ongoing
10% Participation
15% Case Study / Field work
20% Research Paper / project
30% Final
COURSE SCHEDULE

UNIT 1. Introduction  8 Hours
   Basic concepts
   Sex and Gender, Masculinity & Feminity, LGBTQ Studies, Patriarchy, Sexual
   Division of Labour, Public / Private Dichotomy, Identity Polities

UNIT 2. Feminisms  8 Hours What is Feminism, Definition of Feminism, Different
   Approaches to Feminism, Liberal, Socialist, Radical, Post-modernism

UNIT 3. Contemporary Women’s Movements  8 Hours
   The roots of contemporary women’s movements
   Feminist consciousness since the 1970s
   The challenges of the 1980s
   The challenges of the 1990s
   The challenges of the 21st century
   Strategies and programmes of autonomous Women’s groups
   Strategies and programmes of the Government for Women

UNIT 4. Violence Against Women  8 Hours
   Concept of violence
   Violence within the home : Girl child abuse, wife beating and battering, mental
   abuse, female foeticide and infanticide
   Within and between communities : communal conflict, witch
   hunting Public places : rape, molestation and eve-teasing

UNIT 5 Gender Issues  8 Hours
   Gendered definition of work
   Types of women’s and men’s work
   Division of women’s & men’s work today
   Wage differentials
   Sexual harassment at work place
   Classification of sexual harassment at workplace
   Sexual harassment & law