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WAGS 08: Gender and Economic Development in a Globalizing World

Course Description

This course is designed to provide an overview of the processes, politics and policies of economic development through a gender lens. The course will begin with an introduction to alternative approaches to economics and to economic development, focusing on the neoclassical and feminist approaches before going on to examine and critique the theoretical frameworks that have shaped the gender perspective in economic development. The course will also explore the impacts of economic development policy on men and women and on gender relations in Africa, Asia and Latin America, in the context of a globalizing world economy. Special topics will include the household as a unit of analysis; women's unpaid labor, the gendered impacts of structural adjustment, international trade and economic crisis; the feminization of migration flows and the global labor force in the formal and informal sector, and the implications of these trends for economic development.

Upon completion of the course, students can expect to attain

- (1) A critical perspective and understanding of how and why gender matters as an analytical category in economics;
- (2) The ability to interpret gender-differentiated indicators and descriptive statistics;
- (3) The ability to analyze economic development policy concerns and debates in the developing world from a gender perspective.

Required Text:

The Women, Gender and Development Reader, edited by Visvanathan N. et al. (1997), Zed Books available from Food for Thought Books, Amazon.com, Barnes & Noble.com, Borders.com, Half.com

Course Requirements:

1. Attendance and class participation (20%)

2. Weekly responses (20%): You will be required to write short responses (no more than 1 page long) to the weekly readings, which you will be required to post on the course website by 12:00 noon on the day prior to the class at which the readings will be covered in order for

you to receive credit for that paper. Occasionally, I will post questions on the course website based on specific readings that you should address in your responses. It is your responsibility to note when these questions are posted on the course website and to respond to them. **If I do not post any response questions by midnight on Friday of the previous week, then you may write your responses on either Tuesday's or Thursday's readings.**

For example, the first response will be due on Monday January 31st. I have already posted a question to which you must respond by this date. In the following week, if I have not posted a question by midnight on Friday February 4th, your response will be due either on Monday February 7th, or on Wednesday, February 9th, depending on which readings you are responding to. Your responses should demonstrate some critical reflection on the readings, and will be graded on a pass/fail basis. At the end of the semester, I will look at the quality of all your responses to determine your grade for this component of the class.

3. Term papers (60%): There will be 2 short papers (3-5 pages, double-spaced, 12-point font) over the course of the semester. These papers will be based on the readings as well as on material discussed in class and are designed to encourage synthesis of and reflection on the material.

Due Dates for Term Papers:

March 10 2011: Paper 1 due in class

May 9 2011: Paper 2 due in my mailbox in WAGS Office, Grosvenor House

Attendance Policy:

Your attendance and participation is essential for making this class a success; in other words, the course cannot continue as normal without your commitment. Therefore, if you exceed 3 absences, you will have missed more than a week's worth of class time. This will result in a significant drop in your final grade. For every absence beyond your third, your grade will drop by an entire letter grade. Eg. if you are earning a B, you will receive a C.

Assignments/Late Work:

Printed copies of all assignments are due on the stated date. You must hand in all your work directly to me, unless otherwise specified. I will not accept late papers unless you have contacted me ahead of time, with a legitimate reason, and we have agreed on an alternate due date. **Please do not email me your assignment.**

Changes to syllabus

This syllabus is subject to change. Any changes will be announced in class and posted on the course website. You are responsible for taking note of any changes made to the syllabus during the semester.

A. Theoretical perspectives on gender and economic development

Week 1: Introduction to Feminist Economics

January 25: Introduction to class; No assigned readings.

January 27: Evolution of Gender and Development; Alternative Approaches to Economics

Barker, D (1999), "Neoclassical Economics" in Peterson, J. and M. Lewis (eds.) The Elgar Companion to Feminist Economics, Cheltenham UK, Northampton, MA, 1999, pp.570-577. **(ER)**

Schneider, G. and J. Shackelford (1998), Ten Principles of Feminist Economics: A Modestly Proposed Antidote, <http://www.facstaff.bucknell.edu/gschneider/FemPrncpls.htm> **(ER)**

Recommended:

Peet, R. with E. Hartwick (2009), Theories of Development, Chapter 2, Second Edition, Guilford Press, p. 23-52.

Week 2: Defining Development

February 1: What is Economic Development?

Peet, R. with E. Hartwick (2009), Theories of Development, Chapter 1, Second Edition, Guilford Press, p. 1-19. **(ER)**

Reddock, R. (2000), Chapter 2, in J. Parpart, M. Connelly and V. Barriteau (eds), Theoretical Perspectives on Gender and Development, p. 23-36 **(ER)**

Recommended:

Peet, R. with E. Hartwick (2009), Theories of Development, Chapters 5 & 6, Second Edition, Guilford Press

February 3: Evolving Development Policy: From State-led Development to Neoliberal Growth and the "Post-Washington Consensus"

Peet, R. with E. Hartwick (2009), Theories of Development, Chapter 2, Second Edition, Guilford Press, p. 63-102. **(ER)**

Stiglitz, J. (2004), "The Post-Washington Consensus Consensus," Initiative for Policy Dialogue Working Paper. Available online at http://www0.gsb.columbia.edu/ipd/pub/Stiglitz_PWCC_English1.pdf **(ER)**

Week 3 (February 8-10): Engendering Development – Part I

February 8: From Women in Development (WID) to Women and Development (WAD) to Gender and Development (GAD)

J. Parpart, P. Connelly, and E. Barriteau (2000) Theoretical Perspectives on Gender and Development, International Development Center, Ottawa, pp. 51-73, 141-145. **(ER)**

Mohanty, Chandra. 1991. “Under Western Eyes” in Visvanathan et al. (2008), *The Women, Gender and Development Reader*, Zed Books, pp 79-86 **(B)**

Young, K. (1992, reprinted 2008) ‘Gender and Development’ in Visvanathan et al. (2008), *The Women, Gender and Development Reader*, Zed Books, pp 51-54 **(B)**

Recommended:

Rathgeber, E. M. (1990), “WID, WAD, GAD: Trends in Research and Practice,” *Journal of Developing Areas* **24**: 489-502.

February 10: The Millennium Development Goals

Elson, D. (2004), *The Millennium Development Goals: A Feminist Development Economics Perspective*

<http://www.iss.nl/News/Past-Events/7-October-2004-Dies-Natalis-Address-by-Diane-Elson> **(ER)**

Sakiko Fukuda-Parr (2004), *The Millennium Development Goals: the pledge of world leaders to end poverty will not be met with business as usual*, *Journal of International Development*, Vol 16 (7) pp. 925-932 **(ER)**

Film:

The Millennium Goals: Dream or Reality? (2004): 27 minutes

Week 4: Engendering Development – Part II

February 15: Feminist Approaches to Gender and Economic Development

Beneria, L. (2003), Gender, Development, and Globalization: Economics as if All People Mattered, London: Routledge, pp 1-29 **(ER)**

Nussbaum, Martha. “Promoting Women’s Capabilities” in Lourdes Beneria and Savitri Bisnath, eds. Global Tensions, 2004. Routledge: 241-256. **(ER)**

February 17: A Feminist Economic Analysis of the Household: Neoclassical Household Models and Critiques

Sen, Amartya (1983), Economics and the Family, *Asian Development Review*, 1 (2), pp. 14-26, reprinted in Beneria, L. and S. Bisnath (2001), *Gender and Development: Theoretical, Empirical and Practical Approaches*, Vol. 1 pp. 327-340 **(ER)**

Agarwal, B. (1997), Bargaining and Gender Relations: Within and Beyond the Household, *Feminist Economics*, 3 (1) **pp. 7-22 ONLY (ER)**

Koopman, J. (reprinted 2008), The Hidden Roots of the African Food Problem: Looking within the Rural Household, in Visvanathan et al. (2008), *The Women, Gender and Development Reader*, Zed Books, pp. 132-141 **(B)**

Week 5: Engendering Development – Part III

February 22: Accounting for Women’s Work

Beneria, L. (2008), ‘Accounting for Women’s Work: The Progress of Two Decades’ in Visvanathan et al. (2008), *The Women, Gender and Development Reader*, Zed Books pp. 112-118 **(B)**

Dixon, R. (1982; reprinted 2001), Women in Agriculture: Counting the Labor Force in Developing Countries, *Population and Development Review*, 8 (3) pp. 539-566, reprinted in Beneria, L. and S. Bisnath (eds.), *Gender and Development: Theoretical, Empirical and Practical Approaches*, Vol. I, Northampton, MA: Edward Elgar Publishers, pp. 221-248 **(ER)**

Akram-Lodhi, H. (1996), “‘You are not Excused from Cooking’: Peasants and the Gender Division of Labour in Pakistan,” *Feminist Economics* 2(2), p. 87-105 **(ER)**

February 24:

Film: Who’s Counting: Marilyn Waring on Sex, Lies and Global Economics (53 minutes)

B. Gender and Macroeconomic Policy

Week 6: Structural Adjustment and Neoliberal Macroeconomic Policies (March 1-3)

March 1: Introduction to Structural Adjustment

Beneria, L. Structural adjustment policies. *The Elgar Companion to Feminist Economics*. Edward Elgar Publishing. 1994 pp. 687-695. **(ER)**

Beneria, L. (2003), *Gender, Development and Globalization*, New York: Routledge p. 47- 52. **(ER)**

March 3: Feminist Critiques of Structural Adjustment

Elson, D. (1991), "Male Bias in Macroeconomics: the Case of Structural Adjustment," in D. Elson (ed.) *Male Bias in the Development Process*, Second Edition, Manchester University Press, p. 164 – 190. **(ER)**

Film (in class):

Banking on Life and Debt, (2009), Maryknoll World Films, (30 minutes)

Week 7: Economic Crises and Gender (March 8-10)

March 8: Gendered Impacts of Economic Crisis

Deere, C. D., P. Antrobus, H. Safa (1997), "Impact of the Economic Crisis on Poor Women and Their Households", in Visvanathan et al. (2008), *The Women, Gender and Development Reader*, Zed Books, p. 267-277. **(B)**

Perez-Aleman, P. (1992), "Economic Crisis and Women in Nicaragua," in L. Beneria and S. Feldman (eds.), *Unequal Burden: Economic Crises, Persistent Poverty and Women's Work*, Boulder: Westview Press, p. 239 – 258. **(ER)**

March 10: Gendered Impacts of the Recent Global Financial Crisis

Seguino, S. (2010), *The Global Economic Crisis, its Gender Implications and Policy Responses*, *Gender and Development* Vol. 18 (2), pp. 179-199 **(ER)**

Gaerlan, K. et al. (2010), *Feminised Recession: The Impact of the Global Financial Crisis on Women Garment Workers in the Philippines*, *Gender and Development* Vol. 18 (2), pp. 229-240 **(ER)**

Spring Break – March 15, 17: No class

Week 8(March 22-24): Globalization and the Feminization of the Global Labor Force – Part I

March 22: Defining Globalization

Dicken, P. (2007) *Global Shift: Mapping the Changing Contours of the World Economy*, Guilford Press, pp. 35- 40; 437- 444 **(ER)**

Barker, D. and S. Feiner (2004), *Globalization is a Feminist Issue*, Chapter 6 in *Liberating Economics: Feminist Perspectives on Families, Work and Globalization* pp. 95-117 **(ER)**

Recommended:

Beneria, L. *Gender, Development, and Globalization: Economics as if All People Mattered*, Routledge, 2003, p.77- 83; 91-108

March 24: Globalization, Women and Work I: Women in the Informal Sector

Beneria, L. (2003) Gender, Development, and Globalization: Economics as if All People Mattered, Routledge, pp. 116-120 **(ER)**

Arizpe, L (1977), “Women in the Informal Sector: The Case of Mexico,” in *Signs* 3(1): 25 – 37. **(ER)**

R. Patel, R. Balakrishnan and U. Narayan (2007), Transgressing Rights: Workers in the Informal Sector – Special Challenges for Economic Human Rights, *Feminist Economics*, Vol. 13 (1) **pp. 101-111 ONLY (ER)**

Barker, D. and S. Feiner (2004), ‘Dickens Redux: Globalization and the Informal Economy,’ Chapter 4 in Liberating Economics: Feminist Perspectives on Families, Work and Globalization pp. 118-127 **(ER)**

Week 9(March 29-31): Globalization and the Feminization of the Global Labor Force- Part II

March 29: Globalization, Women and Work II: Debates about the impacts of labor force feminization

Elson, D. and R. Pearson (1997), “The Subordination of Women and the Internationalization of Factory Production,” in Visvanathan et al. (2008), *The Women, Gender and Development Reader*, Zed Books, p. 191 – 203. **(B)**

Fernandez-Kelly, Maria (reprinted 2008), *Maquiladoras: The View From the Inside*. in Visvanathan et al. (2008), *The Women, Gender and Development Reader*, Zed Books, p. 203 - 215. **(B)**

Yim, L. (reprinted 2008), *Capitalism, Imperialism and Patriarchy: The Dilemma of Third-World Women Workers in Multinational Factories*, in Visvanathan et al. (2008), *The Women, Gender and Development Reader*, Zed Books, p. 216 – 229 **(B)**

Recommended:

Standing, G. (1999), Global Feminization through Flexible Labor: A Theme Revisited, World Development 27 (3): 583- 602

Patricia Fernández-Kelly (2005), The Global Assembly Line in the New Millennium: A Review Essay, Signs, Vol. 32, No. 2 (Winter, 2007), pp. 509-521

March 31

Film: *China Blue* (88 minutes)

Week 10 (April 5-7). The Feminization of Global Migration Flows

April 5: Are Migration Flows becoming feminized?

Piper, N. (2005) “Gender and Migration” United Nations Global Commission of International Migration, pp. 1-18. **(ER)**

Dumont, J., J. Martin and G. Spielvogel, “Women on the Move: The Neglected Dimension of the Brain Drain”, Institute for the Study of Labor, #2920, 2007, pp. 1-13 **(ER)**

Hugo, G. (2000). ‘Migration and women’s empowerment’, in H. B. Presser & G. Sen (eds.), Women’s Empowerment and Demographic Processes, Oxford University Press, pp. 287-313 **(ER)**

Recommended:

Posel, D. and D. Casale (2003), *What has been happening to Internal Labor Migration in South Africa?* *South African Journal of Economics*, Vol. 71 (3) pp. 455-477

April 7: Migrant remittances and development

Pickbourn, L. (2010), Migration, Remittances and Intrahousehold Allocation in Northern Ghana: Does Gender Matter? Unpublished Dissertation Chapter **(ER)**

Recommended Film (watch this at home if you like): *Letters from the Other Side* (73 minutes)

Week 11: (April 12-14) Globalization of Care Work & Transnational Families

April 12:

Barker, D. and S. Feiner (2004), Love’s Labors – Care’s Costs, in Liberating Economics: Feminist Perspectives on Families, Work and Globalization, pp. 41-55 **(ER)**

Misra, J. et al. (2006), The Globalization of Care Work: Neoliberal Economic Restructuring and Migration Policy, *Globalizations*, 3 (3), pp. 317-332 **(ER)**

April 14:

Asis, Maruja. 2005. “Caring for the World: Filipino Domestic Workers Gone Global” in S. Huang, B. Yeoh and N.A. Rahman, eds., Asian Women as Transnational Domestic Workers: 21-53. **(ER)**

Beneria, L. (2007), Paid/Unpaid Work and the Globalization of Reproduction, GEM-IWG Working Paper, downloadable from <http://www.econ.utah.edu/genmac/WP/07-1.pdf>, pp. 1-15 **(ER)**

Film: *The Chain of Love*, (2001) (50 minutes)

Week 12: (April 19-21) Gender and International Trade

April 19: Introduction to Theories of International Trade

Cagatay, N., Gender Inequalities and International Trade: A Theoretical Reconsideration, downloadable from <http://www.generoycomercio.org/areas/investigacion/Cagatay.pdf>, pp. 1-8 (ER)

April 21: Analyses of Gendered Impacts of International Trade

Cagatay, N., Gender Inequalities and International Trade: A Theoretical Reconsideration, downloadable from <http://www.generoycomercio.org/areas/investigacion/Cagatay.pdf>, pp. 9-18 (ER)

Ozler, S. (2007) Export-led industrialization and gender differences in job creation and destruction, *The Feminist Economics of Trade*, pp 164-166, 170-171, 174-176 (ER)

Week 13: (April 26-28) Policies/Strategies for Reforming the Global Economic Environment

April 26: Labor Standards

Kabeer, Naila. (2004). “Globalization, Labor Standards, and Women's Rights: Dilemmas of Collective (In)action in an Interdependent World,” *Feminist Economics* 10 (1): 3-35. (ER)

April 28: Macroeconomic Reform

Elson, D. and N. Çağatay (2000), “The Social Content of Macroeconomic Policies” in *World Development* Special Issue on Growth, Trade, Finance, and Gender Inequality **28** (7), p. 1347-64. (ER)

Beneria, L. (2003), Development as if all People Mattered, Chapter 6 in Gender, Development and Globalization: Economics as if all People Mattered, pp. 161- 169(ER)

Week 14: (May 3-5) Women, NGOs and Grassroots Movements around Development

May 3:

Susser, I. (1997), “Women as Political Actors in Puerto Rico: Continuity and Change”, in Visvanathan et al. (2008), *The Women, Gender and Development Reader*, Zed Books p. 374 – 378. (B)

Kim. S. (1997), “Women Workers and the Labor Movement in South Korea”, in Visvanathan et al. (2008), *The Women, Gender and Development Reader*, Zed Books, pp. 378 – 381. (B)

Mary Beth Mills (2005) From Nimble Fingers to Raised Fists *Signs* Vol 31 Issue 1 pp. 117-144 (ER)

Lind, A. (1997), Gender, Development and Urban Social Change: Women's Community Action in Global Cities, *World Development*, 25 (8), pp. 1205-23 **(ER)**

May 5:

What have we learnt?