**GENDER AND POLITICS**

**Capsule Statement:**

Tthraecsintagtus of w omen in traditional political thought, this course studies feminist theory of power and representation, this course examines the critical question whether women’s struggle for their empowerment has resulted in giving them access to decision-making positions in the national life through the political platforms. The main thrust of this course is to assess the role of both men and women, at family levels and at societal levels, in recognizing the need of women’s real involve ment in pol i t i c s a nd n ot t h ei r token r ep res ent a t i on . An

i mp or t ant segment of the course consists of the asnoaflywsi omen’s formal and informal

political participation and the extent this participation in improving other women’s lives. The course is developed in the context of women’s experiences in Pakistan.

#### Objectives:

After the completion of this course, students will be able to

* Examine the cultural, structural, and political factors that shape women’s access to political power worldwide
* Assess the role of women in politics
* Examine barriers to the inclusion of women and gender concerns in politics

#### Contents:

1. **Introduction to political thought**
2. **Theories of Political Science**
3. **Women’s role in the Pakistan movement:**
	1. Formal Political Participation, Informal Political Participation
	2. Women as Candidate
	3. Female politicians and the media
	4. Electing Women to national legislatures
	5. Gender equality in politics.

#### Representation of women in Local bodies, jirgas and village councils, and at grass root levels.

1. **General concepts regarding women’s political participation: a comparative study of societal attitudes and social constraints and religion oriented traditions.**
2. **Women’s representation in politics**
	1. Role in political parties
	2. Role in the parliaments
	3. Sources of empowerment and leadership
	4. Case studies of female legislators
	5. Issues of women’s representation and participation in electoral process

#### Political empowerment

* 1. Vote casting
	2. Awareness regarding political processes
	3. Equal opportunities of political representation

#### Capacity building: Women’s Leadership skills training.

1. **The roles and responsibilities as female legislators**
2. **Women’s political census; in Local Councils and in Provincial and National Assemblies**
3. **Awareness-raising**
	1. Transformational politics
	2. Political participation as human rights
	3. Electoral System in Pakistan
	4. Local Government Ordinance 2000

#### Suggested Readings:

Afzal, Nabeela. (1999). *Women and parliament in Pakistan, 1947-1977*. Lahore: Pakistan Study Centre, University of the Punjab, Quaid-e-Azam Campus.

Agnew, Vijay. 1979. *Elite women in Indian politics*. New Delhi: Vikas.

Ayaz, Aazar, and Andrea Fleschenberg. ( 2009). *The gender face of Asian politics*. Karachi: Oxford University Press.

Bennett, Clinton. ( 2010). *Muslim women of power: gender, politics, and culture in Islam*. London: Continuum.

Coole, Diana H. ( 1988). *Women in political theory: from ancient misogyny to contemporary feminism*. Sussex: Wheatsheaf Books.

Derauhl p, Drude.( 2006). *Women, quotas and politics*. London: Routledge.

Harcourt, Wendy, and Arturo Escobar. ( 2005). *Women and the politics of place*. Bloomfield, CT: Kumarian Press.

Fleschenberg, Andrea, Claudia Derichs, and Cecilia Ng. (2010). *Women in national politics in Asia: a springboard for gender democracy?* New Delhi: Sage.

Henderson, Sarah L. and Alana S. Jeydel. (2007). *Participation and Protest: Women and Politics in a Global World*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Improving Participation of Women, Youth and Non-Muslims in Electoral

Processes in Pakistan. ( 2007). *Improving participation of women, youth and non-Muslims in electoral processes in Pakistan: roundtable report*.

Islamabad: Pakistan Institute of Legislative Development and Transparency.

Iwanaga, Kazuki. ( 2008). *Women's political participation and representation in Asia: obstacles and challenges*. Copenhagen: NIAS Press.

Julie Dolan, Melissa Deckman & Michele L. Swers. 2007. *Women and Politics: Paths to Power and Political Influence.* Pearson Prentice Hall.

Krook, Mona Lena. ( 2009). *Quotas for women in politics: gender and candidate selection reform worldwide*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Moghadam, Valentine M. (1994). *Identity politics and women: cultural reassertions and feminisms in international perspective*. Boulder: Westview Press.

Sarah L. Henderson & Alana S. Jeydel. ( 2007). *Participation and Protest: Women and Politics in a Global World.* London: Oxford

Shaheed, Farida. ( 2002). *Imagined citizenship: women, state & politics in Pakistan*. Lahore: Shirkat Gah Women's Resource Centre.

Shaheed, Farida, Asma Zia, and Sohail Warraich. ( 1998). *Women in politics: participation and representation in Pakistan with update 1993-1997*. Lahore: Shirkat Gah. Toor, Saadia. ( 2011). *The state of Islam: culture and Cold War politics in Pakistan*.

London: Pluto Press.

Weiner, Myron, and Ali Banuazizi. ( 1994). *The Politics of social transformation in Afghanistan, Iran, and Pakistan*. Syracuse, N.Y.: Syracuse University Press.

Weiss, Anita M., and S. Zulfiqar Gilani. ( 2001). *Power and civil society in Pakistan*. Karachi: Oxford University Press.

Women Media Center (Pakistan), and National Endowment for Democracy (U.S.). (2007). *Changing attitude: expanding women role in media and politics*. Karachi: Women

Media Center Pakistan.