**POLITICAL EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN AND GRASS ROOT LEVEL ISSUES IN PAKISTAN**

**Capsule Statement:**

This course explores the ways in which the social and cultural constructions of gender influence the nature and practice of political life in Pakistan. . The course is organized around a variety of topics, blending issues of exclusion and empowerment. The course begins by laying out debates surrounding gender and economics. We then move to examine specific synergies between gender and politics, exploring the issues of political representation, political participation, public policy, the body politic, the political economy, development, violence, rights, political mobilization and transnational issues. Using case studies, as well as lessons from practitioners, the course surveys a variety of issues and debates related to gender and politics.

#### Objectives:

After attending this course, the students will be able to;

* Understand gender in power relations
* Importance of women in political fields
* Evaluate societal and state responses related to gender
* Examine contemporary political issues tied with gender

#### Contents:

1. **Women in Political Philosophy**
   1. Liberal Feminism
   2. Feminism and Marxism
   3. Difference Feminism

#### Masses and Movements

* 1. Women’s Political Citizenship Movements in the 20th and 21st Century
  2. Trends in Women’s Political Participation
  3. “Gender Gap” in Voting

#### Women Political Participation and Public Opinion

* 1. Gender Gaps
  2. Women role in political economy
  3. Women politics and developed world
  4. Women politics and developing countries

#### Impact of Women on Politics

* 1. Where and How Women Impact Politics
  2. Critical Arguments
  3. Comparative Analysis

#### Women in Politics and Policies

* 1. Women in politics and governance impact
  2. Understanding women politics and social context

#### Women and Governance

* 1. Women and Electoral Politics
  2. Behavior and the Influence of Women in Legislatures

#### Future Trends

**Suggested Reading:**

Beckwith, Karen and Kimberly Cowell-Meyers. 2007. “Sheer Numbers: Critical Representation Thresholds and Women’s Political Representation.” *Perspectives on Politics* 5(3): 553- 565.

Goetz, Anne Marie. (1991). "*Feminism and t he claim to know: Contradictions in feminist approaches to women in development*." Gender and International Relations. Bloomington: Indiana University Press. Pp. 133-155.

Herz, Barbara and Gene B. Sperling. 2004. *What Works in Girls’ Education: Evidence and Policies from the Developing World.* New York: Council on Foreign Relations.

Kabeer, Naila. (1994). “Connecting, Extending, Reversing: Development from a G ender Perspective.” *Reversed Realities: Gender Hierarchies in Development Thought*. New York: Verso. Pp. 69-94.

Mohanty, Chandra Talpade. (1991). "*Under Western Eyes: Feminist Scholarship and Colonial Discourses*." In Third World Women and the Politics of Feminism. Pp. 51-80.

Paxton P, Hughes MM, Green JL. (2006). “The international women’s movement and women’s political representation, 1893–2003.” *American Sociological Review* 71:898–920.

Papart, Jane. (1993). "Who is the *Other*? a Post Modern Critique of Women and Development Theory and Practice." *Development and Change* 24(3): 439-464.

Inglehart, Ronald and Pippa Norris. (2000). “The Developmental Theory of the Gender Gap: Women’s and Men’s Voting Behavior in Global Perspective.” *International Political Science Review* 21(4): 441-463.

Sarah L. Henderson and Alana S. Jeydel. (2009). *Women and Politics in a Global World.* (2nd Edition) New York: Oxford University

Whelan, Daniel. (1998). "*Recasting WID: A Human Rights Approach."International Center for Research on Women*, Working Paper No. 6. September.

Wangnerud, Lena. (2009). “Women in Parliaments: Descriptive and Substantive Representation.” *Annual Review of Political Science* 12:51-69.