

SEMESTER AT SEA COURSE SYLLABUS
University of Virginia, Academic Sponsor

Voyage: Spring 2016

Discipline: Anthropology

ANTH 3590-102: Gender in Cross Cultural Perspective

Division: Upper

Faculty Name: Annapurna Devi Pandey

Credit Hours: 3; Contact Hours: 38

Pre-requisites:

COURSE DESCRIPTION

During the last few decades gender has emerged as an important site for anthropological studies that usually differentiate gender from sex and sexuality. Gender is a cultural construct and perceptions of men and women differ from culture to culture or even during different periods even in a single culture or society. While we in the west are still privileging the binary between men and women as a lens to look at the gender difference, many non –western cultures have developed a concept of third gender in order to accommodate the emerging political movements dealing with transgendered subjects. Gender is often related to development and invariably female members have been marginalized in relation to their male counterparts in government policies and development projects. We will explore the question of women's, men's and transgender's power and agency and the creative strategies employed cross-culturally with relation to their political, economic, social and cultural roles. In this course, ethnographic examples will be selected to illustrate some of the discourses relating to these subjects from diverse cultural contexts, such as India, China, Japan, Africa and Middle East and we will draw case studies from most of the sites we will be visiting during this voyage.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Toward the end of the course, students are expected to be able to:

1. understand the basic concepts of gender and the diversity of gender in different cultural contexts;
2. analyze how gender and sexuality work as guiding principles in daily lives;
3. apply anthropological concepts to explain gender phenomena of particular cultures, particularly in Asia; Africa; and
4. develop a gender awareness that could contribute toward a greater respect for cultural and social diversity.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

1. AUTHOR: Nanda, Serena.

TITLE: Gender Diversity: Cross-cultural Variations
PUBLISHER: Waveland Press. Long Grove, IL
DATE/EDITION: 2000
ISBN 10: 1-4786-1126-X

2. Author: Shostak, Marjorie
Title: Nisa: The Life and Words of a !Kung Woman
Publisher: (Harvard University Press 1981).

Optional reading:

3. Author: Kris Holloway
Title: Monique and the Mango Rains: Two Years with a Midwife in Mali
Publisher: Waveland Press
DATE/EDITION: July 20, 2006

4. Author: C.B. Brettell and C.F. Sargent eds.
Title: Gender in Cross Cultural Perspective
Publisher: Peachpit Press
ISBN-13: 978-0-205-24728-8
Published on: 07/25/2012 on reserve [R]

TOPICAL OUTLINE OF COURSE

Depart Ensenada- January 5:

A1- January 7: Feminism and anthropology.

Overview of the anthropology of gender; Anthropological terms; Introduction to the course, overview of requirements; in-class diagnostic writing assignment.

Readings: Nanda, Serena. 2000. "Introduction." *Gender Diversity: Cross-cultural Variations*, Introduction and chap.1

Visweswaran, Kamala (1997). "Histories of feminist ethnography" *Annual Review of Anthropology*, 1997, volume 26, pp. 591-621. [E]

Lorber, Judith (1994). "Night to his day: The social construction of gender" excerpts from *Paradoxes of Gender* (Chapter 1) by Judith Lorber, Yale University Press. [E]

A2- January 9: Nature/Culture and Domestic/Public debates

Readings: Lamphere, Louise. "The Domestic Sphere of Women and the Public World of Men: The strengths of an Anthropological Dichotomy" (in GCCP 6e). [R]

- Estioko-Griffin, Agnes and P. Bion Griffin. 1997. "Woman the Hunter: The Agta," in (in GCCP 6e).[R]
- Ortner, Sherry B. 1996. "The Problem of 'Women' As an Analytic Category," in *Making Gender; The Politics and Erotics of Culture*. Pp. 116-138. Boston: Beacon Press. [E]

A3- January 11: Understanding Sex and Gender in Cultural and Cross-Cultural Perspectives.

Steinem, Gloria, 1978 [1986]. "If Men Could Menstruate," Ms. Magazine, Oct.1978. (about 2 pages) [E]

Roughgarden, Joan. 2004. "Sex versus Gender,"from Roughgarden, Evolution's Rainbow: diversity, gender, andsexuality in nature and people. Berkeley: U of California Press, pp. 22-9.[E]

Martin, Emily. 1991. "The Egg and the Sperm: How Science Has Constructed a Romance Based on Stereotypical Male-Female Roles."

Signs,16(3):485-501.[E]

Wittig, Monique. 1981 [1993]. "One is not born a woman," In Henry Abelove,Michele Aina Barale, David M. Halperin (eds.) The Lesbian and Gay Studies Reader. NY: Routledge, pp. 103-9 [E]

Honolulu: January 12

A4- January 14: Westernizing our understanding of Gender – Women in Third world perspective

Readings: Mohanty, Chandra Talpade. 1991. "Under Western Eyes: Feminist Scholarship and Colonial Discourses," in Third World Women and the Politics of Feminism. Eds. C.T. Mohanty, A. Russo, and L. Torres. Pp. 51-80. Bloomington: Indiana University Press.[E]

A5- January 17: Gender in egalitarian societies -Theories

Definitions and cross-cultural variations. Foragers and horticulturalists in small-scale societies. Matrilineality: kinship systems that center on women.

Readings: Endicott, Kirk, and Karen Endicott 2008. The Headman Was a Woman: The Gender Egalitarian Batek of Malaysia. Long Grove, IL: Waveland Press. Pages 111-126.[E]

Serena Nanda, pp.chap.2

Study Day: January 19

A6- January 20: Gender in Asia : Colonialism and Representation Equality and Inequality

Stoler, Ann L. "Making Empire Respectable: The Politics of Race and Sexual Morality in 20th-Century Colonial Cultures." American Ethnologist 16, no. 4 (1989): 634-660 [E]

Educating Desire in Colonial Southeast Asia: Foucault, Freud, and Imperial Sexualities." In Sites of Desire Economies of Pleasure: Sexualities in Asia and the Pacific. Edited by Lenore Manderson and Margaret Jolly. University of Chicago Press, 1997, pp. 27-48. [E]

Hang, Chong-suk. 2008. "Sexy like a Girl and Horny like a Boy: Contemporary Gay 'Western' Narratives about Gay Asian Men" *Critical Sociology* 34(6):829-850. [E]

First short essay assignment due in class on January 20th. The details will be discussed in class on the first day of instruction.

A7- January 22: Performing gender

Spielvogel, Laura. 2003. "Young, Proportionate, Leggy, and Thin: the Ideal Female Body". In *Working Out in Japan*, pp.142-172. Durham: Duke University Press. [E]

Dasgupta, Romit. 2010. "Globalization and the Bodily Performance of 'Cool' and 'Un-cool' Masculinities in Corporate Japan." *Intersections: Gender and Sexuality in Asia and the Pacific*. Issue 23, January 2010 <http://intersections.anu.edu.au/issue23/dasgupta.htm>

Josephine Caldwell Ryan, *Japanese Mothers and Obentos: The Lunch-Box as Ideological State Apparatus* In GCCP 6e) [R]

Miriam Silverberg. "The Modern Girl as Militant," in Bernstein, Gail Lee. ed. *Recreating Japanese Women*. (University of California Press, 1991), 239-266. [E]

Film: "Shinjuku Boys." http://wn.com/shinjuku_boys

Yokohama: January 24-25

In-Transit: January 26

Kobe: January 27-28

A8- January 29: Personhood: What Makes You Wo/man?

Watson R. 1986. *The Named and the Nameless: Gender and Person in Chinese Society*. *American Ethnologist* 13: 619-31. 3 [E]

Amartya Sen, *More Than 100 Million Women Are Missing*

<http://www.nybooks.com/articles/archives/1990/dec/20/more-than-100-million-women-are-missing/>

Monica Das Gupta World Bank - Development Research Group (DECRG)

"Family Systems, Political Systems, and Asia's 'Missing Girls': The Construction of Son Preference and its Unraveling" December 1, 2009 World Bank Policy Research Working Paper No. 5148 [E]

Film: Yang, Mayfair Mei-hui. 1997. *Through Chinese women's eyes*
NY: Women Make Movies

Shanghai: January 31-February 1

In-Transit: February 2-3

Hong Kong: 4-5

A9- February 6: Gender and State

Readings: Ong, Aiwah. 1987 [1997]. "Spirits of Resistance," in Louise Lamphere, Helena Ragona, and Patricia Zavella (eds.),

Situated Lives: Gender and Culture in Everyday Life.
NY: Routledge, pp. 400-19. [E]

Tran, Angie Ngoc. 2008. "Contesting 'Flexibility:' Networks of Place, Gender, and Class in Vietnamese Workers' Resistance." in Joseph Nevins and Nancy Lee Peluso (eds.), *Taking Southeast Asia to Market: Commodities, Nature, and People in the Neoliberal Age*, Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, pp. 56-72.
Film: Surname Viet Given Name Nam

Ho Chi Minh: February 8-12

A10- February 13: Gender and Religions

Readings: Serena Nanda, chap 3-4

Ferguson, Jane M. *Sexual systems of Highland Burma/Thailand: Sex and gender perceptions of and from Shan male sex workers in northern Thailand*

Source: [South East Asia Research](#), Volume 22, Number 1, March 2014, pp. 23-38(16) [E]

Menon, Usha. 2002. "Making akti: Controlling (Natural) Impurity for Female (Cultural) Power," *Ethos*, Vol. 30, No. 1/2 (Mar. - Jun., 2002), pp. 140-157 [E]

A11-February 15: MIDTERM EXAM

Yangon: February 17-21

A12- Gender, Kinship and Marriage Cross-Culturally

Readings: Sahlins, Marshall, "What kinship is (part one),"

Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute. Vol. 17(1), pp. 2-19. [E]

- Menon, Shanti. "Male Authority and Female Authority: A study of the matrilineal Nayars in Kerala, South India" (GCCP 4e pp. 354-363) [E]
- Geertz, Clifford. "The Visit," *New York Review of Books*, October 18, 2001, pp. 27-30. [E]
- Nanda, Serena (1992). "Arranging a marriage in India." From *The Naked Anthropologist*, edited by Philip Deveita. New York: Wadsworth Publishing Company, pp. 149-156. [E]
- Film: Lee, Kijung. 2002. *Wedding Through Camera Eyes: A Trilogy of Wedding Photography in Korea*. Watertown, MA: Documentary

A13- February 24: Gender: Politics and Resistance

Readings

Kurian, Priya A. 2000. "Generating power: gender, ethnicity and empowerment in India's Narmada valley,"

Ethnic and Racial Studies,23(5): 842856.

Phadke, Shilpa. 2013. "Unfriendly Bodies, Hostile Cities: Reflections on Loitering and Gendered Public Space." *Economic and Political Weekly*, Sep 28, 2013, XLVIII(39):50-59. Rita Banerji *The Pink Panties Campaign*. 2010.

“The Indian Women's Sexual Revolution”. <http://intersections.anu.edu.au/issue23/banerji1.htm>
Vance, Carole. 2013. “What’s Wrong with this Picture?” <http://kafila.org/2013/02/18/what-is-wrong-with-this-picture-carole-vance-2/>

Caroline Osella and Filippo Osella, *Migration, Money and Masculinity in Kerala* (GCCP 6e)

Cochin: February 26-March 2

Field lab project: A visit to a village: an ethnographic experience

- Home Visit (Women’s self help groups) and Political leadership

Film: India Cabaret

A14- March 3: Gender, Politics and Reproduction

- Nisa pp. 1- 40
- FILM: *The Business of Being Born*

Study Day: March 5

A15- March 6: Growing up female in cross-cultural perspective. Gender and the life course. Culture, personal autonomy, and social transformations.

Readings: Nisa pp. 41- 91

Rasmussen, Susan. “Pastoral Nomadism and Gender” (GCCP 6e pp. 155-169)

Port Louis: March 12

A16- March 9: Women and men in religion and ritual. Religion and gender ideologies. Goddesses, shamans, priestesses, healers, witches.

Reading: Nisa pp. 92- 157

Magliocco, Sabina, 2004, Making magic: training the imagination. In *Witching Culture: Folklore and Neo-Paganism in America*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press. Chapter 3, pages 95-121. [E]

Study Day: March 11

A17- March 12: Discussion of changes in !Kung culture 1950-1980s, and 1980s to the present.

Video selections from *Death by Myth* (part of the Kalahari Family video series).

- *Nisa pp. 158-235
- * The following from *Cultural Survival Quarterly* 26(1), Spring 2002, “Progress or Poverty;” “Foragers to First Peoples: The Kalahari San Today;” “Controlling Their Destiny;” “Removals, Politics and Human Rights;” and “Will Tourism Destroy San Cultures?” by Kxao Moses T!oma and Axel Thoma, Lee, R., R. Hitchcock, and M. Biesele. (Suggested reading at: <http://www.culturalsurvival.org/publications/cultural-survival-quarterly/261-spring-2002-kalahari-san>) [E]

Cape Town: March 14-19

A18- March 20: Gender, Development and Globalization

Pandey Annapurna, "Globalization, Swadeshi and Women's Movement in Orissa, India", in Nandini Gunewardena and Ann Kingsolver eds. *The Gender of Globalization: Women Navigating Cultural and Economic Marginalization*, School of American Research Press, U.S. 2008 [E]

Female Traders and their Insertion into the Global Economy. In *The Gender of Globalization*. Nandini Gunewardena and Ann Kingsolver, eds. Santa Fe: School for Advanced Research Press, pp. 61-83. [E]

- Suggested Reading:
 - Scott, Catherine. "Tradition and Gender in Modernization Theory" *Gender and Development: Rethinking Modernization and Dependency Theory* (Lynne Reiner 1996). Pp. 23-32. [E]

A19- March 22: Aging and the Life Course

*Nisa pp. 237-272

*Brown, Judith "Cross Cultural Perspectives on Middle-Aged Women," Current Anthropology 23(2), April 1982, pp. 143-156. [E]

A20- March 24: Women's Political experience

Video: N!ai: The Story of a !Kung Woman.

FINISH NISA

Van Allen, Judith. 1997. "Aba Riots" or Igbo "Women's War"? Ideology, Stratification and the Invisibility of Women," in *Gender in Cross-Cultural Perspective*. Eds. C.B. Brettell and C.F. Sargent. Pp. 513-528. Upper Saddle River, New Jersey: Prentice Hall. [R]

[Yanagisako, Sylvia and Carol Delaney. 1995. "Naturalizing Power," in *Naturalizing Power: Essays in Feminist Cultural Analysis*. Eds. Sylvia Yanagisako and Carol Delaney. Pp. 1-22. London: Routledge.[E]

Tema: March 26-28

Takoradi: March 29-30

A21- March 31: Gender and Islam

Readings: Rapp, Rayna "Thinking about Women and the Origin of the State" (GCCP 5e pg. 302) [R]

Chapter 4: Women in Society

<http://www.pewforum.org/2013/04/30/the-worlds-muslims-religion-politics-society-women-in-society/>

Film: Unveiled Views

A22- April 2: Gender and Islam

Abu-Lughod, Lila. "Do Muslim Women Really Need Saving? Anthropological Reflections on Cultural Relativism and its Others" *American Anthropologist* 104(3):738-790 (2002). [E]

Film: Some Women of Marrakech

A 23- April 4 Gender and the Global Economy

Megan Moodie , *Enter Microcredit: A New Culture of Women's Empowerment in Rajasthan* (GCCP 6e) [R]

M. Laetitia Cairolì, *Factory as Home and Family: Female Workers in the Moroccan Garment Industry* (GCCP 6e) [R]

Denise Brennan, *Sex Tourism, Globalization, and Transnational Imaginings* (GCCP 6e) [R]

Film: Vivian Price, *The Transnational Tradeswomen*

Suggested readings:

Winning Women's Rights in Morocco

https://www.ids.ac.uk/files/Rs_Morocco_final.pdf

Lamia Bazir, "The Women's Movement in Morocco: Bridging the Progressive – Islamic Feminist Binary," June 11, 2013,

<http://www.cihablog.com/the-womens-movement-in-morocco-bridging-the-progressive-islamic-feminist-binary/>

PBS video on "Morocco trains female spiritual guides to fight extremism and empower women",

<http://www.pbs.org/newshour/bb/morocco-trains-female-spiritual-guides-fight-extremism-empower-women/>

Casablanca: April 6-10

Study Day: April 11

A24- Finals, April 12

April 15: Disembarkation Day

FIELD WORK

Experiential course work on Semester at Sea is comprised of the required field lab led by your instructor and additional field assignments that span multiple ports.

FIELD LAB (At least 20 percent of the contact hours for each course, to be led by the instructor.)

Field lab attendance is mandatory for all students enrolled in this course. Do not book individual travel plans or a Semester at Sea sponsored trip on the day of your field lab.

The field lab for this course takes place in India on: Date TBA

Field lab: A visit to a village: an ethnographic experience

Kerala is the microcosm of India in many ways. The uniqueness of Kerala is that for thousands

of years, three major religions are practiced here. The state boasts one hundred percent literacy, the skilled laborers and predominantly women, have gone to the Middle Eastern countries as well as to the western worlds. They have sent money back to Kerala, which has helped in the development of the state.

We will visit a village in Kerala where students will learn about various roles played by women as daughter, wife, mother, and a widow and expectations of them in Indian society. In the village, students will learn about the gender focused development program. They will interact with women in Govt led Self Help groups (SHGs) promoting their economic self sufficiency, and women leaders in the Village Panchayat (like City Council in the United States) to assess women's role in the economy and politics of the state. I would also like the students to observe a religious ritual to experience women's vibrant roles in religious activities.

Academic objectives:

1. Learn about women's identity in terms of their roles compared to gender defined in the western context.
2. Learn about religious and culinary activities of women as markers of cultural identity.
3. Examine the role of SHGs in women's economic self-sufficiency and political leadership.
4. To understand and analyze how gender is culturally constructed.

Field Lab paper: Please write up a three-page (double-spaced) critical reflection on the field lab, engaging course readings to back up your arguments. How do the readings help you make sense of your fieldwork experience? How does your experience help you evaluate the readings?

This is due two class meetings after the field lab in India.

FIELD ASSIGNMENTS

Fieldwork is critical to the construction of anthropological knowledge. We will be doing fieldwork at all the sites we visit during our voyage. Students' in-depth observation will be comparative, analytical and reflective.

In-country, students will be asked to explore and pay attention to evidence of gender roles, status in relation to the economy and society. You will read on participant observation and relate their textual analysis to the contextual hands on learning.

Please use your pocket field notebook to take notes whenever possible!

Back aboard the ship -- select **five** port visits and type up a 2-page journal entry describing and analyzing the evidence of gender roles you have observed. Turn them in to Professor Pandey at the beginning of each class after leaving a port. Come to class ready to discuss your observations.

These field journals are required for grades.

All the field journals and papers based on fieldwork will be discussed in the class meetings.

METHODS OF EVALUATION

Class attendance and participation - 10%

Field Journals - 20%

Field Labs/Reports - 30%

Midterm Exam - 20%

Final Exam - 20%

RESERVE BOOKS AND FILMS FOR THE LIBRARY

Throughout the syllabus I have marked books on reserve in the library [R].

Books:

1. Gender in Cross Cultural Perspective. Eds. C.B. Brettell and C.F. Sargent. Upper Saddle River, New Jersey: Prentice Hall.

Films:

1. AUTHOR: Vivian Price

Title: Transnational Tradeswomen

PUBLISHER: Women Make movies

ISBN #: Order No. W07911

DATE/EDITION: 2006, 62 minutes, Color, DVD, Thai, Chinese, Tamil, Urdu, Japanese,

2. Author/ director: Hayao Miyazaki

Title: Spirited Away

Date: July 20, 2001

3. Author: Trinh T. Minh-ha

Title: Surname Viet Given Name Nam

Date 1989

4. Author: Alba Sotorra

Title: Unveiled Views

Publisher: Women Make Movies

Year: 2009

5. Title: India Cabaret

Year: 1985

Director: Mira Nair

6. Title: N!ai: The Story of a !Kung Woman

58 minutes Colour

Year: 1980
Filmmakers: John Marshall and Adrienne Linden
Anthropologist: Patricia Draper

7. Title: Some Women of Marrakech
Year: 1977
Director: Melissa Llewelyn-Davies

8. Title: The business of being born
Director: Abby Epstein 2008

9. Author: Yang, Mayfair Mei-hui.
Year: 1997.
Title: Through Chinese women's eyes
Publisher: WomenMake Movies, Yang, NY:

10. "Shinjuko Boys." http://wn.com/shinjuku_boys

ELECTRONIC COURSE MATERIALS

Throughout the syllabus I have marked the material to be scanned for electronic folder [E].

HONOR CODE

Semester at Sea students enroll in an academic program administered by the University of Virginia, and thus bind themselves to the University's honor code. The code prohibits all acts of lying, cheating, and stealing. Please consult the Voyager's Handbook for further explanation of what constitutes an honor offense.

Each written assignment for this course must be pledged by the student as follows: "On my honor as a student, I pledge that I have neither given nor received aid on this assignment." The pledge must be signed, or, in the case of an electronic file, signed "[signed]."