

Name of the Programme	M.A. Education
Course Title	Gender and Education
Course Number	OC8
Semester	II/IV
Credits	5
Course Instructor	Prof Nandini Manjrekar

Objectives

This optional course is expected to cover certain key areas in gender and education. Emphasis would be on developing a broad gender perspective to education and schooling as a social sub-system, and develop an understanding of both historical and processual dimensions of gender and education. The course would attempt to develop an understanding of the historical perspectives and experiences of women's education across different sociocultural contexts; the ability to discern gender in educational contexts (pedagogy and curriculum, school settings and policies); to gain a critical perspective on the ways in which education maintains and legitimates gender relations in society; and to critically analyse policies and programmes for their gendered basis and outcomes. In all topics, gender will be explored in connection with other aspects of identity such as caste, class, ethnicity, religion and urban/rural background. The focus would be on the Indian context, but feminist scholarship in other societal contexts will be drawn upon to explore the multiple and complex relationships of gender and education.

Description

Unit 1: Gender, patriarchy and schooling

1. Social construction of gender; gender and identity (class, caste, race, ethnicity, religion, sexuality)
2. An overview of basic concepts in gender studies: patriarchy, feminism/s, feminist theory/research in education

1. Socialisation; classroom and school processes; teachers and classroom interactions; sociology of curriculum/textbooks; the 'hidden' curriculum of gender in schools; relationship to socialization within family and community (illustrative studies should examine different social and other locations).

Unit 2: Feminist Approaches to Schooling and Education

1. Gender, power and knowledge: gender, ideology and school curriculum; heteronormativity and forms of knowledge;
2. Social reproduction, education and gender: Feminist critiques
3. Approaches to feminist pedagogy

Unit 3: Histories of women's education

1. Histories of women's education (India); gender, education and nation; gender and educational discourse in post-independence India.
2. Women's movement and education

Unit 4: Gender, education and development

1. Discourses of women's education and development

- 2. Researching gender in educational settings; Examining data; programmes and policy
- interventions at the national and international levels

Unit 5: Researching gender-education linkages

Undertaking a small self-study project examining specific gender issues in education using oral histories, analysis of literary and visual materials, narrative analysis, etc.

Expected Learning Outcomes

Through class readings, discussions of readings and films, students are expected to be able to develop an analytical lens of gender to understand systems and processes of education at the macro and micro levels. They should be able to understand gender as a complex category of social analysis, and apply it to understand education in terms of history, frames of knowledge, and development discourse.



Key Readings

Anyon, J. 1983. Intersections of gender and class: Accommodation and resistance by working-class and affluent females to contradictory sex-role ideologies in S. Walker and L. Barton (eds.), *Gender, Class and Education*. Sussex: Falmer Press. pp.1-19.

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- Gallagher, K. 2000. 'The Everyday Classroom as Problematic: A Feminist Pedagogy'. *Curriculum Inquiry*, 30 (1), 71-81.
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- Geetha V. 2002. 'Masculinity and femininity: Ideas are real', in *Gender*. Calcutta, Stree, pp. 39-49.
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- Kumar, K. 1986. 'Growing Up Male', *Seminar*, No 318, February 1986.
- Liddle, J. and Joshi, R. (eds.). 1986. *Daughters of Independence; gender, caste and class in India*. New Delhi, London: Kali for women and Zed Books Ltd.
- Macdonald, M. 1980. 'Schooling and the Reproduction of Class and Gender Relations' in L.Barton, R. Meighan and S. Walker. (eds.) *Schooling, Ideology and the Curriculum*. Lewes: The Falmer Press. pp. 29-49.
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Recommended Readings

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Bagchi, Jasodhara, Guha, Jaba and Sengupta, Piyali (eds). 1997. *Loved and Unloved: the Girl Child in West Bengal*. Kolkata: Stree Publishers.

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