

International Human Rights Exchange Programme (IHRE)

GENDER AND HUMAN RIGHTS

SOSS2005

Reading Pack 2011

1. Chimamanda Adichie. *The Danger of the Single Story*. Basic transcription of talk given by Chimamanda on TED website
2. Oloka-Onyango, J. & Tamele, S. (1995). "The Personal is Political", or Why women's rights are indeed Human Rights: An African Perspective on International Feminism. *Human Rights Quarterly*, 17, pp. 691 – 731.
3. Brown, W. (1995). 'Rights and Losses', in *States of Injury: Power and Freedom in Late Modernity*. Princeton University Press: Princeton.
4. Humphrey, M. & Valverde, E. (2008). Human Rights Politics and Injustice: Transitional Justice in Argentina and South Africa. *The International Journal of Transitional Justice*, 2, pp. 83 - 105
5. Hook, D. (2004). Governmentality and technologies of subjectivity. In D. Hook; N, Mkhize; P. Kiguwa & A. Collins. (Eds.). *Critical Psychology*. Lansdowne, UCT Press.
6. McNay, L. (2004). Agency and experience: gender as a lived relation. In L. Adkins & B. Skeggs. (Eds.). *Feminism after Bourdieu*. Blackwell Publishing: Oxford
7. Scott, J. W. (1986). Gender: A Useful Category of Historical Analysis. *The American Historical Review*, 91, 5, pp. 1053 – 1075.
8. Oyewumi, O. (1997). Visualizing the Body: Western Theories and African Subjects. In *The Invention of Women: Making an African Sense of Western Gender Discourse*, pp. 1 -30.
9. Nzegwu, N. (2001). Gender Equality in a Dual-Sex System. The Case of Onitsha. *Jenda: A Journal of Culture and African Women Studies*, 1, 1.
10. Cruikshank, B. (1993). *Revolutions within: self-government and self esteem*. *Economy and Society*, 22 (3), 327 344.
11. Connell, R.W. (1994). The State, Gender and Sexual Politics: Theory and Appraisal. In H.L. Radtke & H.J. Stam (Eds.). *Power/Gender: Social Relations in Theory and Practice*. Sage: London.
12. Gould, C. (2010). The problem of trafficking. In I. Palmary; E. Burman; K. Chantler & P. Kiguwa (Eds.). *Gender and Migration: Feminist Interventions*. Zed: London
13. Middleton, J. (2010). Barriers to protection: gender-related persecution and asylum in South Africa. In I. Palmary; E. Burman; K. Chantler & P. Kiguwa (Eds.). *Gender and Migration: Feminist Interventions*. Zed: London

UNIVERSITY OF THE WITWATERSRAND

INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS EXCHANGE PROGRAMME (IHRE) 2011

GENDER AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Course: SOSS2005
Lecturer: Peace Kiguwa
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1. INTRODUCTION

This course will introduce and challenge students to think critically about the theoretical, social and political issues of gender within the broader project of human rights. In thinking about gendered dimensions of human rights, it seems important to revisit how we conceptualize and work with gender in the form of social analysis and interventions. In this regard, a specific approach to conceptualizing gender may be called for. How do we conceptualise gendered 'rights' within the context of the postcolonial state? How do we begin to understand the claims to 'rights' within larger claims to freedom and politics?

We hope that the course will give students a much expanded use of the idea of gender and its abuses in relation to a human rights discourse.

2. COURSE STRUCTURE

The course is comprised of twenty four double lectures to be presented during the third and fourth teaching blocks. Principles of adult education apply and students are thus encouraged to take responsibility for their own learning. Full attendance and active participation through active engagement with the readings and class discussion are required. The course will be examined during the November 2011 examinations.

3. COURSE ARRANGEMENTS

The lectures will run during the third and fourth blocks, from 27 July – 01 Sept in the third quarter and from the 07th Sept – 20th October in the fourth quarter, on Wednesdays from 8H00 – 9H45 and Thursdays from 10H15-12H00. The venue is to be confirmed. Please contact the IHRE offices for confirmation in the first week of July.

4. OUTCOMES

By the end of the course, with active participation and engagement, students will be able to:

- think critically about the project of gender and human rights within the broader context of the personal and political struggle for social justice
- demonstrate knowledge and understanding of some classic reflections on the nature of gender, power and the nation
- understand the intersection of structural and subjective oppression
- think critically about the project of resistance and transformation

5. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Wed 27 and Thurs 28 July

Welcome and introduction

Wed 03 Aug and Thurs 04 Aug – Thinking about Women’s rights and the rights discourse

1. Brown, Wendy. (1995). ‘Rights and Losses’ in *States of Injury: Power and Freedom in Late Modernity*. Princeton Univ Press; Princeton.
2. Oloka-Onyango, J. & Tamele, S. (1995). “The Personal is Political”, or Why women’s rights are indeed Human Rights: An African Perspective on International Feminism. *Human Rights Quarterly*, 17, pp. 691 – 731.
3. Humphrey, M. & Valverde, E. (2008). Human Rights Politics and Injustice: Transitional Justice in Argentina and South Africa. *The International Journal of Transitional Justice*, 2, pp. 83 - 105

Wed 10th Aug and Thurs 11th Aug – Rethinking the techniques of Power

1. Hook, D. (2004). Governmentality and technologies of subjectivity. In D. Hook; N, Mkhize; P. Kiguwa & A. Collins. (Eds.). *Critical Psychology*. Lansdowne, UCT Press.

Wed 17th Aug and Thurs 18th Aug – Rethinking the techniques of power (2)

1. McNay, L. (2004). Agency and experience: gender as a lived relation. In L. Adkins & B. Skeggs. (Eds.). *Feminism after Bourdieu*. Blackwell Publishing: Oxford

Wed 24th Aug and Thurs 25th Aug – On the uses and abuses of gender

1. Scott, J. W. (1986). Gender: A Useful Category of Historical Analysis. *The American Historical Review*, 91, 5, pp. 1053 – 1075.
2. Oyewumi, O. (1997). Visualizing the Body: Western Theories and African Subjects. In *The Invention of Women: Making an African Sense of Western Gender Discourse*, pp. 1 -30.
3. Nzegwu, N. (2001). Gender Equality in a Dual-Sex System. The Case of Onitsha. *Jenda: A Journal of Culture and African Women Studies*, 1, 1.

Wed 31st Aug and Thurs 01 Sept – Critical Research Endeavour / Interrogating Masculinity Studies

Note: Readings to be provided in class.

Wed 07th Sept and Thurs 08th Sept – Rethinking Resistance

1. Cruikshank, B. (1993). *Revolutions within: self-government and self esteem. Economy and Society*, 22 (3), 327 344.

Vacation / Research Break

Wed 21st Sept and Thurs 22nd Sept – The State, Politics and Gender

1. Connell, R.W. (1994). The State, Gender and Sexual Politics: Theory and Appraisal. In H.L. Radtke & H.J. Stam (Eds.). *Power/Gender: Social Relations in Theory and Practice*. Sage: London.

Note: Please read in line with W. Brown and Humphrey/Valverde readings.

Wed 28th Sept and Thurs 29th Sept – Examining case studies and Guest Lecture

No preparatory reading required.

Wed 05th October and Thurs 06th Sept – Gender and Migration and (Movie: “Water” on Thurs)

1. Gould, C. (2010). The problem of trafficking. In I. Palmary; E. Burman; K. Chantler & P. Kiguwa (Eds.). *Gender and Migration: Feminist Interventions*. Zed: London
2. Middleton, J. (2010). Barriers to protection: gender-related persecution and asylum in South Africa. In I. Palmary; E. Burman; K. Chantler & P. Kiguwa (Eds.). *Gender and Migration: Feminist Interventions*. Zed: London

12th October and Thurs 13th October – “Found Object Presentations”

19th October and Thurs 20th October – “Found Object Presentations” and Conclusion

6. ASSESSMENT

The course will be assessed by means of four two page ‘response papers’ to specific readings for lectures (which collectively make up 40% of the overall mark) and an examination (60% of the overall mark). The response papers must be handed in at the beginning of each class to the lecturer. For a description of this assignment, see APPENDIX A below.

Please consult the University examination timetable for the date, time and venue of the examination in October/November.

8. READINGS

A reading pack consisting of the required readings as described above will be made available to students prior to the commencement of the course. This will consist of articles and sections from books and journal articles. Achievement of the course objectives as well as successful outcome for the assessment will depend on the reading and active engagement with the reading material provided.

SOSS2005 (2011) ASSIGNMENT

GENDER AND HUMAN RIGHTS

You are required to submit four TWO page response papers to select readings for this course. These are to be submitted **at the commencement of each lecture relating to that reading**. The response paper is to be typed, and should consist of approximately 700 words.

The response papers should include:

- a) an outline or summary of the main ideas in the reading
- b) a critical response and/or reflection on these ideas
- c) a list of at least three questions or comments or significant quotations for reflection, for contribution to the class discussion

Submission date	READING (as per reading pack)
1 03rd Aug	Brown, Wendy. (1995). 'Rights and Losses' in <i>States of Injury: Power and Freedom in Late Modernity</i> . Princeton Univ Press; Princeton.
	OR
	Humphrey, M. & Valverde, E. (2008). Human Rights Politics and Injustice: Transitional Justice in Argentina and South Africa. <i>The International Journal of Transitional Justice</i> , 2, pp. 83 - 105
2 24th Aug	Any one of the three readings: Scott, Oyewumi and Nzegwu.
3 07th Sept	Cruikshank, B. (1993). <i>Revolutions within: self-government and self esteem. Economy and Society</i> , 22 (3), 327 344.
4 05th Oct	Either Gould or Middleton Reading.

Please note that papers are due one the same day as the class in which the reading is to be discussed. The purpose of the response papers is to ensure an active and critical engagement from each student with the reading. Late submission during the same week as the due date, will result in a 10% deduction from the mark for that response paper. No papers will be accepted later than the week in which the class takes place.