

**Jawaharlal Nehru University,  
School of International Studies,  
Russian and Central Asian Studies,  
Proposed Ph.D. Course**

Programme:	<b>Ph.D.</b>
Course Title:	<b>Gender and Human Security in Central Asia</b>
Course Instructor:	<b>Dr. Renu Sain</b>
Credit:	<b>Four</b>
Course Code:	<b>SE607</b>
Instruction Methods:	<b>Lectures, Seminars/Tutorials</b>
Evaluation Method:	<b>Term Paper, Presentation, Class participation (50%) and Semester Examination (50%)</b>
Course Duration:	<b>One Semester</b>
Contact Hours:	<b>2 Hours per Week</b>
Category:	<b>Optional Course</b>
Semester:	<b>Monsoon Semester</b>

**Course Description / Objectives:**

Highlighting the significance of the Central Asian region, the famous geographer and academic Halford John Mackinder described Central Asia as ‘the heart land of the world’. Located in a unique strategically advantageous geographical location, Central Asia includes the five independent countries that emerged out of the former Soviet Union in 1991: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. It is a diverse, resource rich region, facing significant security challenges that are of both military and non-military nature. Ever since its emergence as independent sovereign countries, gender and human security issues have been recognized as the core developmental goals in most of these countries. Growing non-traditional security threats such as environmental degradation, water scarcity, migration, rise of radicalism and related ethno-national conflicts, have added to the complexities of the security matrix of the

entire region. Bound by age-old traditions, specific to the region, women's status in Central Asia remains equally complex. It varies from state to state and is influenced by ethnic, clan, family and economic circumstances. The issues posed by the non-traditional security threats in Central Asia, especially in regard to gender and human security, is the main thrust of this Course. Divided into five units, the Course will explore the various dimensions of gender and human security challenges in Central Asia.

### **Learning outcomes:**

Towards the end of the Course, the student will be able:

1. To understand the inter-sectionality between Gender and Human Security issues in Central Asia.
2. To comprehend the dynamics of Gender and Human Security in the larger security discourse of the Central Asian region.
3. To analyze the effects of Non-traditional security threats and its implications on Human Security.
4. To assess women's political and economic role in Central Asia.

### **Course Content:**

#### **1. Gender and Human Security: Conceptual Understanding:**

This Unit will discuss the various IR theories in regard to Gender and Human Security. For a balanced assessment of gender and human security issues of our times, it will also discuss the Non-Western perspective on Gender and Human Security. The Unit will include the following topics:

- a) **Gender in International Relations Theory,**
- b) **Human Security in International Relations,**
- c) **Gender and Human Security: Non Western Perspective.**

## Essential Readings:

- Anyon, Jean (1994), “The retreat of Marxism and socialist feminism: Postmodern and post structural theories in education”, *Curriculum Inquiry*, 24 (2) 115-133.
- Bajpai, Kanti (2000), “The Idea of Human Security”, *International Studies*, 40(3):195-228.
- Butler, Judith (1999), *Gender Trouble: Feminism and the Subversion of Identity*, New York: Routledge.
- Chenoy, Anuradha M. (2009), “The Gender and Human Security Debate”, *IDS Bulletin*, 40 (2): 44–49.
- Chowdhry, Geeta and Sheila Nair (2002), *Power, post colonialism, and international relations: reading race, gender, and class*, London: Routledge.
- Heinbecker, P. (2000), “The Concept of Human Security: A Canadian View”, *Rusi Journal*, 145(6): 27-31.
- Ho, Satomi (2008), “Japan’s Human Security Policy: A Critical Review of its Limits and Failures”, *Japanese Studies*, 28(1):101-112.
- Kevane, Michael (2014), *Women and Development in Africa: How Gender Works*, Boulder: Lynne Rienner Publishers.
- King, Gary and et al. (2002), “Rethinking Human Security”, *Political Science Quarterly (Academy of Political Science)*, 116 (4): 585-610.
- Oberleitner, Gerd (2005), “Human Security: A Challenge to International Law?” *Global Governance*, 11(2):185-203.
- Tickner, J. Ann (1992), *Gender in international relations: feminist perspectives on achieving global security*, New York: Columbia University Press.
- Sifontes, Domingo and et al. (2020), “Gender differences and patenting in Latin America: understanding female participation in commercial science”, *Scientometrics*, 124 (3):2009-2036.
  
- Scraton, Sheila (2018), “Feminism(s) and PE: 25 years of Shaping Up to Womanhood”, *Sport, Education & Society*, 23 (7):638-651.

## **2. Gender and Human Security in Central Asia: An Overview:**

This Unit will present a broad overview of the historical evolution of gender and human security issues in the political and social landscape of the Central Asian Countries namely Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan. It will also focus on the contemporary developments in the region with regard to gender and human security issues, post the disintegration of the Soviet Union. The unit will cover the following topics:

**a) Pre- Czarist period (Pre Mongol, Mongol and Khanate Periods),**

**b) Czarist Period,**

**c) Soviet Period,**

**d) Post-Soviet Developments in Central Asia.**

### **Essential Readings:**

- *Abazov, Rafis (2007), Culture and Customs of the Central Asian Republics, London: Greenwood Press.*
- *Gafurov, Bobodzhan Gafurovich (2005), Central Asia: pre-historic to pre- modern times, Delhi: Shipra Publications.*
- *Kandiyoti, Deniz (2007), “The Politics of Gender and the Soviet Paradox: Neither Colonized, Nor Modern?”, Central Asian Survey 26(4):601-623*
- *Kaushik, Devendra (1970), Central Asia in modern times: a history from the early 19th century, Moscow: Progress Publishers.*
  
- *Lubin, Nancy (1981), “Women in Soviet Central Asia: Progress and contradictions”, Soviet Studies, 33(2):182-203.*
- *Patnaik, Ajay (1996), Central Asia: between modernity and tradition, Delhi: Koark Publishers.*
- *Stringer, Alex (2003), “Soviet Development in Central Asia”, in Tom Everett Heath (eds.)*

### **3. Gender and Human Security Challenges in Central Asia:**

Non-traditional security threats in Central Asia mainly manifest in the form of climate change, environmental degradation, water scarcity, migration and other related issues that have a direct bearing on human security especially in regard to women given their social and economic vulnerabilities. This unit will cover the following topics:

**a) Environmental Security,**

**b) Community Security,**

**c) Economic Security.**

#### **Essential Readings:**

- Chenoy, Anuradha M. (1996), “Islam, Women and Identity in Contemporary Central Asia”, *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol.31 (9): 516-518.
- Johnson, Rob (2007), *Oil, Islam and conflict Central Asia since 1945*, London: Reaktion.
- Kaushik, Devendra (1976), *Socialism in Central Asia: a study in the transformation of socio-ethnic relations in Soviet Central Asia*, New Delhi: Allied Publishers.
- Mohapatra, Nalin Kumar (2013), “Migration and Its Impact on Security of Central Asia”, *India Quarterly: A Journal of International Affairs*, Vol. 69(2):133–157.
- Mohapatra, Nalin Kumar (2014), “Securitising’ Environment in Central Asia: from a Non-Traditional Threat Framework”, in Rashpal Malhotra and et al. (eds.), *Central Asia and Its Neighbours: Prospects for India’s Cooperation*, Chandigarh: CRRID.
- Moniruzzaman, M. and Farzana, Kazi Fahmida (2019) “Religion, Society and Gendered-Politics in Central Asia: A comparative analysis”, *Intellectual Discourse* 27 (1):745-766.
- Qin, Tianbao (2008), “Implementing Integrated Water Resources Management in Central Asia”, *Journal of Environmental Law*, 20(3):493-496.

#### **4. Political and Economic Empowerment of Women in Central Asian States:**

This unit discusses the participation of Women in the political arena of the Central Asian countries. It will also highlight the role and participation of women at different levels in the economy of Central Asia.. This Unit will discuss the following topics:

**a) Women’s political participation and role in decision making process,**

**B) Women’s economic participation in the government and private sectors**

**b) Women’s role in the rural economy.**

#### **Essential Readings:**

- A.A. Kireyeva and et al. (2021), “Gender Equality and Women Participation in Government: the case of Kazakhstan”, *Экономика: стратегия практика*, vol. 2 (16): 197-205. Accessed on 24 June 2022  
URL://www.researchgate.net › publication › 353195130
- Bowman, R. L. (2012), “The struggle for civil society in Central Asia: crisis and transformation”, *Choice: Current Reviews for Academic Libraries*, 49 (5):967-967.
- Buxton, Charles (2011), “*The struggle for civil society in Central Asia: crisis and transformation*”, Sterling VA: Kumarian Press.
- Corcoran Nantes, Yvonne (2017), “Engendering Corruption: Gender and the Culture of Exchange in Central Asia”, *Georgetown Journal of International Affairs*, 18(2): 18-25.
- International Labour Organization (2018), “Women in business and management: Gaining momentum in Eastern Europe and Central Asia”, Accessed on 25 June 2022 URL:https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed\_dialogue/-act\_emp/documents/publication/wcms\_624225.pdf
- M. Moniruzzaman and Kazi Fahmida Farzana (2019), “Religion, Society and Gendered-Politics in Central Asia: A comparative analysis”, *Intellectual Discourse*, 27 (Special Issue): 745-766.
- Natalia Zakharchenko (2015), “Political Representation of Women in Kyrgyzstan in the 2007 and 2010 Convocations”, Accessed on 24 June 2022  
URL:https://centralasiaprogram.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/CAF- papers-7-Natalia-

- Peshkova, Svetlana (2020), “Central Asian Women’s contextual politics: the case of Muslim women in Uzbekistan”, *Contemporary Islam*, 14 (1):249–267.
- Report of The Norwegian Helsinki Committee (2013), “Women: turkmenistan’s Second class citizens Equal only to injustice and vulnerable to arbitrariness”, Accessed on 25 June 2022 URL: [https://www.nhc.no/content/uploads/2018/10/Rapport\\_2\\_13\\_web.pdf](https://www.nhc.no/content/uploads/2018/10/Rapport_2_13_web.pdf)
- Urbaeva J. (2019), “Opportunity, Social Mobility, and Women’s Views on Gender Roles in Central Asia”, *Social Work*, 64 (3): 207-215.
- UNICEF (2019), “Analysis of Situation of Children’s and Women’s Rights in Turkmenistan”, Accessed on 25 June 2022 URL:<https://www.unicef.org/turkmenistan/media/806/file/Analysis%20of%20Situation%20of%20Children%E2%80%99s%20and%20Women%E2%80%99s%20Rights%20in%20Turkmenistan%202019.pdf>.

## **5. Gender and Human Security mechanisms in Central Asia: Regional and International structures:**

This unit will discuss the role of the existing regional and international institutional mechanisms for the management of gender and human security issues in the political landscape of Central Asia. The topics will include:

- a) Constitutional and Legal Provisions for Women Rights/ Security,**
- b) Regional Organizations (EU, CICA, CIS and SCO): Programmes and Policies for Gender and Human Security,**
- c) International Organizations (United Nation Organization, World Bank, Asian Development Bank): Programmes and Policies for Gender and Human Security.**

### **Essential Readings:**

- ❖ Allison, Roy (2004), “Regionalism, regional structures and security management in Central Asia”, *International Affairs*, 80(3): 463–483.

- ❖ Cooper, Belinda (2003), “Women's Rights and Security in Central Asia”, *World Policy Journal* 20(1): 59–67.
- ❖ Dianne (1999), “Women and Law in Central Asia”, *Off Our Backs*, 29 (11):1-5.
- ❖ Lerman, Zvi (2021), “Gender Gaps in Central Asia: A Reassessment”, *CentralAsian Journal of Water Research*, 7(2): 47-73.
- ❖ Omaleki, Vinton and Elizabeth Reed (2019), “The Role of Gender in health Outcomes among Women in Central Asia: A Narrative Review of the Literature”, *Women’s Studies International Forum*, 72 (1): 65-79.
- ❖ Severskiy, Igor Vasilievich (2004), “Water-related Problems of Central Asia: Some Results of the (GIWA) International Water Assessment Program”, *A Journal of the Human Environment*, 33 (1): 52-62.
- ❖ Weinthal, Erika and Watters, Kate (2010), “Transnational environmental activism in Central Asia: the coupling of domestic law and international conventions”, *Environmental Politics*, 19 (5):782-807.

**Note: As per the requirements, the reading materials shall be further updated regularly.**

### **Suggested Readings:**

- ❖ Abazov, Rafis (1999), “Economic migration in post-Soviet Central Asia: The case of Kyrgyzstan”, *Post-Communist Economies*, 11(2):237–252.
- ❖ Arnfred, Signe (2004), *Gender activism and studies in Africa*, Dakar, Senegal: Council for the Development of Social Sciences Research in Africa.
- ❖ Asian Development Bank (2019), “Gender In Infrastructure Lessons From Central and West Asia”, Accessed on 25 June 2022 URL: <https://www.adb.org/sites/default/files/publication/545006/gender-infrastructure-central-west-asia.pdf>
- ❖ Ballara, Marcela (2007), “Gender and Rural Employment: A View from Latin America”, *Convergence*, 40 (3/4):239-243.
- ❖ Barcus, Holly and Cynthia Werner (2010), “The Kazakhs of western Mongolia:

Transnational migration from 1990–2008”, *Asian Ethnicity*, 11(2):209–228.

- ❖ Biggs, Mary (1981), “The Radical Future of Liberal Feminism”, *Library Journal*, 106(5):563-560.
- ❖ Chamberlain, Prudence (2016), “Affective temporality: towards a fourth wave”, *Gender & Education*, 28 (3):458-464.
- ❖ Cleuziou, Juliette et al. (2016), “Gender and Nation in Post-Soviet Central Asia: From National Narratives to Women’s Practices”, *Nationalities Papers*, 44 (2):195-206.
- ❖ Colley, Helen (2002), “A 'Rough Guide' to the History of Mentoring from a Marxist Feminist Perspective”, *Journal of Education for Teaching*, 28(3): 257-273.
  
- ❖ Danzer, Alexander M. and Oleksiy Ivaschenko (2010), “Migration patterns in a remittances dependent economy: Evidence from Tajikistan during the global financial crisis”, *Migration Letters*, 7(2):190–202.
- ❖ Enslin, Penny and Mary Tjiattas (2004), “Liberal Feminism, Cultural Diversity and Comparative Education” *Comparative Education*, 40 (4):503-516.
- ❖ Fernandes, Leela (2014), *Routledge Handbook of Gender in South Asia*, London; Routledge.
- ❖ Hooper, Charlotte (2001), *Manly states: masculinities, international relations, and gender politics*, New York: Columbia University Press.
  
- ❖ Hutching, Kimberly (2010), “Feminism”, in Duncan bell (eds.) *Ethics and World Politics*, London: Oxford University Press.
  
- ❖ Ibrahim, Maggie (2005), “The securitization of migration: A racial discourse”, *International Migration*, 43(5):163–187.
- ❖ Ishkanian, Armine (2003), “Gendered Transitions: The Impact of the Post- Soviet Transition on Women in Central Asia and the Caucasus”, *Perspectives on Global Development and Technology*, 2 (3-4):475-496.
- ❖ Kennedypipe, Caroline (2004), “Whose Security? State-Building and the Emancipation of

Women in Central Asia”, *International Relations*, 18 (1): 91-107.

- ❖ Kiessling, K. Lindahl (1998), “Conference on the Aral Sea -- women, children, health and environment”, *A Journal of the Human Environment*, 27 (7): 560-564.
- ❖ Khitarishvili, Tamar (2016), “Gender inequalities in labour markets in Central Asia”, Accessed on 25 June 2022 URL: <https://www.undp.org/sites/g/files/zskgke326/files/migration/eurasia/Gender-inequalities-in-labour-markets-in-Central-Asia.pdf>
  
- ❖ Kruessmann, Thomas (2015), *Gender in modern Central Asia*, Austria: University in Graz.
  
- ❖ Lubin, Nancy (1981), “Women in Soviet Central Asia: Progress and Contradictions”, *Soviet Studies*, 33 (2): 182-203.
  
- ❖ Melanie Ilic and et al. (2004), *Women in the Khrushchev Era*, New York: Palgrave Macmillan Ltd.
  
- ❖ Mesamed, Vladimir (1996), “Interethnic relations in the Republic of Uzbekistan”, *Central Asia Monitor*, 6(1):20–26.
  
- ❖ Miller, Benjamin (2001), “The concept of security: Should it be redefined?”, *Journal of Strategic Studies*, 24(2):13–42.
  
- ❖ Mitra, Indrani and Mitra, Madhu (1991), “The discourse of liberal feminism and the third world women's texts”, *College Literature*, 18 (3):55-64.
  
- ❖ Palmer, Nicola (2007), “Ethnic Equality, National Identity and Selective Cultural Representation in Tourism Promotion: Kyrgyzstan, Central Asia”, *Journal of Sustainable Tourism*, 15 (6):645-662.
  
- ❖ Standish, R. A. (2007), “The "Second Wave" and Beyond: Primary Sources of the Women's Movement, 1960 to Present”, *Choice: Current Reviews for Academic Libraries*, 44 (12): 2166-2167.

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**regularly.**