

WEST BENGAL STATE UNIVERSITY
MDC COURSE ON WOMEN'S STUDIES UNDER NEP 2020
3 CREDITS: 45 HOURS (50 MARKS)

OBJECTIVES:

- To foster the visibility of women's issues, analyse the diversity of women's experiences and contributions throughout history and across cultures
- To investigate the historical and cross-cultural effects of gender identity on human relations
- Combine scholarship with socially relevant theories for expansion of academic analysis into hitherto underserved areas.
- Eradicate biased gender perspectives by including topics such as media representations of women, employment and economic challenges, gender issues in the family, and gender-related social problems.
- Open genuine interdisciplinary dialogues to assist in the development of alternative concepts, policies and resistance strategies

MODULE I (10 HOURS): SCOPE AND DEVELOPMENT

- Concept, Scope and History of Women's Studies
- Women's Studies and Women's Movement – an Interface
- Growth and Changing Perspectives of Women's Studies

MODULE II (15 HOURS): BASIC CONCEPTS AND POLITICS OF REPRESENTATION

- Understanding Sex- Gender
- Theorising Patriarchy
- Sexual politics and its impact on institutional practices
- Representations of women in culture and media-print, advertisement and television serials.
- Women and Literature—References to Images of women presented by male authors vis-a-vis women's writings.

MODULE III (15 HOURS): WOMEN IN INDIA

- Indian Perspective on Sex and Gender: Biological, Social, Cultural, Religious and Attitudinal factors.
- Representation of Indian women through the ages (ancient, medieval and modern)

- **Women and Law- 73rd and 74th amendments, Women and Political Participation with special reference to local self governments i.e. PRIs and Municipalities**
- **Violence against women.**
- **Women Empowerment – National and State Policy for women empowerment.**
- **Human Rights, Women’s Rights and Rights of the Girl Child.**

ASSESSMENT (5 HOURS): CONTINUOUS EVALUATION BY COLLEGE

SUGGESTED READING:

- **Bhasin, Kamla. *What is Patriarchy?* Women Unlimited, New Delhi, 1993 -2010**
 - **Edwards, Lee, Mary Health, and Lisa Baskin, eds. *Woman: An Issue.* Boston, Little, Brown, and Co., 1972.**
 - **Ellis, Julie. *Revolt of the Second Sex.* New York, Lancer Books, 1970.**
 - **Epstein, Cynthia Fucks and William Goode, eds. *The Other Half: Roads To Woman's Equality.* Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, Prentice-Hall, 1971.**
 - **Farber, Seymour and Wilson, Roger. *The Potential of Woman.* New York, McGraw-Hill, 1963. Basic Books, 1966.**
 - **Figes, Eva. *The Case for Women in Revolt. Patriarchal Attitudes.* New Fawcett World, 1971.**
 - **Firestone, Shulamith. *The Dialectic of Sex. The Case for Feminist Revolution.* New York, Bantam Books, 1970.**
 - **Gandhi, Nandita & Nandita Shah. *The Issues at Stake, Theory and Practice in the Contemporary Women’s Movement in India.* Kali for Women, New Delhi, 1992.**
 - **Hays, Hoffman R. *The Dangerous Sex; The Myth of Feminine Evil.* Pocket Books, 1972.**
 - **John, E. Mary eds. *Women’s Studies in India – A Reader.* Penguin Books, 2008.**
 - **Kannabiran, Kalpana & Ritu Menon. *From Mathura to Manorama, Resisting Violence Against Women in India.* Women Unlimited, New Delhi 2007**
 - **Kumari, Krishna. *The Position of Women in Hindu Civilization.* Mohit Books International, New Delhi, 2011**
 - **Lerner, Gerda. *The Creation of Patriarchy.* OUP, Oxford, 1987.**
 - **Suryakumari, A ed. *Women’s Studies, An Emerging Academic Discipline.* Gyan Publishing House, New Delhi, 2006.**
 - **Tharu, Susie & K. Lalita eds. *Women Writing in India, Twentieth Century, Volume II.* OUP, 1993/2009.**
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