

Module title: Gender, violence and justice

Credits: 20

Module coordinator: Carol-Ann Hooper

Duration: One term

Timetable and format: 3 hours per week: lectures, seminars, group discussions and presentations

Context and rationale:

Violence against women is increasingly recognised as a global problem and a central issue to be addressed in achieving gender justice. Institutional responses are developing rapidly, at local, national and transnational level. The boundaries of what constitutes violence against women remain contested, however, and at the same time, women's involvement in violence in some contexts is under scrutiny, especially in relation to violence to children, also a matter of growing global concern. This course is designed to explore the relationship between gender divisions (and cross-cutting divisions of class, 'race' and age) on the one hand, and interpersonal violence and societal responses to it on the other, and to engage with contemporary debates in the field.

Aims and objectives:

The course aims to enable students

- To appreciate the relevance of definitional issues, methodology and theory to the field of gendered violence
- To consider continuity and change in gendered patterns to interpersonal violence, and the relevance of gender amongst other factors to its prevalence in diverse social contexts
- To understand the impacts of gendered violence and its consequences for individuals, families, communities and society
- To assess research on current societal and institutional responses to gendered violence and their implications
- To engage with debates on diversity and change in legal frameworks and institutional responses (including the criminal justice system, health, social work, education and developments in multi-agency working)
- To evaluate current developments in policy and practice with victims/survivors (both in statutory and NGO contexts), the influences on such developments and their potential and limitations
- To consider the implications of feminist perspectives and the role of feminist activism in this field

Assessment:

An essay of 5,000 words.

Course structure:

1. Introduction – key themes and concepts
2. Researching and theorising gendered violence in diverse and changing contexts
3. Rape, domestic violence and homicide

4. Prostitution and pornography – sex work as violence against women or autonomous choice?
5. Gender and violence to children
6. Intervening in response to violence – policing and social work
7. The law and the courts
8. Victims/survivors' needs
9. Approaches to prevention
10. The global Violence Against Women movement and the use of human rights

Preliminary reading:

Cahill AJ (2001), *Rethinking Rape*, Cornell University Press

Campbell R, Matthews R & O'Neill M (eds) (2004), *Prostitution now*, Willan

Cornell D (ed) (2000), *Feminism and Pornography*, Oxford University Press

Corrin C (ed) (1996), *Women in a violent world: feminist analysis and resistance across Europe*, Edinburgh University Press

Hatty SE (2000), *Masculinities, Violence and Culture*, Sage

Herman J (1994), *Trauma and Recovery: from domestic abuse to political terror*, Pandora

Kapor A, Muttoo S & Bisht S (2004), *From thought to action: building strategies on violence against women*, New Delhi: Kriti

Kempadoo K (ed) (2005), *Trafficking and prostitution reconsidered: new perspectives on migration, sex work and human rights*, Paradigm

Kennedy Bergen, RL, Edleson, JL & Renzetti, CM (eds), *2005 Violence against women: classic papers*, Allyn & Bacon

Mooney J (2000), *Gender, violence and the social order*, Macmillan

O'Toole LL, Schiffman JR & Kiter Edwards ML (eds) (2007), *Gender Violence: Interdisciplinary Perspectives*, New York University Press

Renzetti CM et al (2001), *Sourcebook on Violence against Women*, Sage

Stanko EA (ed) (2002), *Violence*, Dartmouth Publishing

Unifem (2003), *Not a minute more: ending violence against women*, on Unifem website