

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
POL 450F/2316F, WOMEN AND POLITICS, 2001

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Office Hour: Monday 1 PM- 2 PM or by appointment

Themes: This course addresses the state/society nexus with particular reference to relationships between policy-makers and social movements. What does comparative and Canadian research tell us about the impact of feminist movement claims on urban agendas? Has social movement mobilization been effective with respect to voice, representation and influence in cities including Toronto? Focussing on West European and North American materials, POL 450/2316 examines questions of women's political involvement and the impact of feminist organizing on public policy; it introduces students to systematic case study analysis as a tool for research in this field.

Course requirements: One two-hour seminar per week; regular attendance is essential in order to fulfill the course requirements. Given the strong case study research component of the course, seminar attendance and participation are crucial in order for students to complete the two written assignments. Students are expected to present at least two seminars during fall term and to submit two papers.

Seminar assignments will be made at the beginning of the term. Responsibility for presentations rests with students; the instructor must be notified in advance if for any reason you will not be making your presentation on the given materials at the specified class. Presentations should focus on critical questions and integrative points linking the readings with case study research -- not on descriptive summaries of texts. Seminar presentation make-ups will only be scheduled if time permits. No class make-ups will be held for students who miss seminar meetings.

Grading scheme:

Seminar presentations plus class participation	40%
First essay, due 22 October 2001	30
Second essay, due 3 December 2001	30

Essay assignments: Questions follow this outline. Note strictly enforced late penalty. Essays are organized in sequential order: Students must in all cases submit essay #1 as a prerequisite for the completion of essay #2. Grading regulations are clearly delineated in the Faculty of Arts and Science as well as School of Graduate Studies calendars. Ensure you are familiar with University of Toronto policies dealing with plagiarism; improper, incomplete or sloppy attribution of essay sources can result in severe academic penalty.

Late penalty for essays: Case study field research is a critical component of the course, and students must stay up to date with readings and assignments in order to submit the second paper by 3 December. A late penalty of 3 percentage points per day including Saturdays and Sundays will be assessed for both written assignments. Only in rare circumstances will a full or partial waiver of the late penalty be considered, and no extensions will be granted in advance of essay assignment deadlines. Papers not submitted in person to the instructor must be submitted in person to the Department of Political Science receptionist between 8:45 AM and 4:30 PM on weekdays only. Instructor assumes no responsibility for papers otherwise submitted. No fax or e-mail essay submissions will be accepted. Ensure that you retain back-up copies of all essay submissions.

Texts: Ordered at Toronto Women's Bookstore, 73 Harbord St., west of Spadina
 Kristine B. Miranne and Alma H. Young, eds., Gendering the City: Women, Boundaries and Visions of Urban Life (Lanham, Maryland: Rowman and Littlefield, 2000).

Robert K. Yin, Case Study Research: Design and Methods (Thousand Oaks, California: Sage, 1994).

COURSE SCHEDULE

*10 September

Introduction to course, seminar assignments

*17 September

Issues of comparative urban research

Read Introduction, plus chapters 1 (Garber) and 2 (Peters) in Miranne and Young, eds.

*24 September

Research on urban boundaries

Read chapters 3 (Gilbert), 4 (Subban and Young) and 5 (Spain) in Miranne and Young, eds.

*1 October

Issues of housing and planning

Read chapters 6 (Miranne), 7 (Hendler) and 8 (Andrew) in Miranne and Young, eds.

*8 October

Thanksgiving Day/no class or office hours

*15 October

Designing a case study

Read chapters 1 and 2 in Yin

*22 October

****FIRST ESSAY ASSIGNMENT DUE****

Field research week/no class meeting

*29 October

Challenges in urban research

Read chapters 9 (Ritzdorf), 10 (Cook et al.) and Epilogue (Milroy) in Miranne and Young, eds.

*5 November

Doing empirical research

Read chapters 3 and 4 in Yin

*12 November

Analyzing field data

Read chapter 5 in Yin

*19 November

Preparing a case study report

Read chapter 6 in Yin

*26 November

Reconciling design and research

Review opening chapters of Yin text

*3 December ** SECOND ESSAY ASSIGNMENT DUE **

Future Directions in Women and Politics Research

No assigned readings

ESSAY ASSIGNMENTS

NOTE to political science MA and PhD graduate students: first and second essays must focus on advanced industrial systems other than Canada. Canada may be considered, but only in comparison with another developed case such as the United States. Graduate students may find it helpful to design a Toronto-based case study that uses US materials (in the Miranne and Young edited collection, for example) as a comparative baseline.

FIRST ESSAY TOPIC

In an essay of approximately 8 typed, double-spaced pages, prepare a case study research design that addresses the relationship between state actors (defined as elected politicians, judges, civil servants and their advisors) and one or more contemporary urban women's organization. Ensure that at least part of your research design can be completed in terms of data collection and reporting by 3 December 2001. Alternate essay questions must be approved in writing by the instructor at least four weeks before the due date. Note strictly enforced late penalty, explained earlier in this outline.

SECOND ESSAY TOPIC

In an essay of approximately 12 typed, double-spaced pages, present a case study research report that carries out at least part of the design statement introduced in your first essay assignment. Alternate essay directions must be approved in writing by the instructor at least four weeks before the due date. Note strictly enforced late penalty, explained earlier in this outline.