SOCI 370: GENDER & DEVELOPMENT
McGill University
Fall 2019

**Lectures:** Wednesday and Friday 4:05 – 5:25 pm
**Location:** ENGMD 276

**Instructor:** Professor Poulami Roychowdhury
**Email:** poulami.roychowdhury@mcgill.ca
**Office Location:** Leacock 839
**Office Hours:** Friday 2:15 - 3:45 pm

**Teaching Assistant:** Kaitlin Conway
**Email:** kaitlin.conway@mail.mcgill.ca

**Course Description and Goals**
This course provides a sociological perspective on gender and development with a focus on developing countries. We will spend time in the beginning of the course theorizing and defining our terms. What is gender? What is development? The rest of the course analyzes the relationship between gender and development by focusing on three arenas where they intersect: labor, violence, and sexuality. Throughout the course, we will return to three broad questions. First, how do contemporary developmental processes impact gender relations? Second, how do already existing gender norms and gender inequality shape developmental trajectories? Third, how do ordinary people struggle to reframe these possibilities and with what kinds of consequences? This is a theoretically and empirically driven course that is reading and writing intensive. By the end of the course, you should have a general knowledge of the multiple ways gender and development interact and shape each other in contemporary times.

**Course Requirements and Grading**

**Attendance** (15 points total)
You are expected to attend all lectures and review sessions. Attendance will be taken randomly fifteen times throughout the semester (after the add/drop period ends). Each absence will cost you one point.

**Exams** (85 points total)
You have four exams over the course of the semester. All exams are open book, open notes, and you are encouraged to use your computers. In each exam, you will receive one long-answer question. You will have the entire class time to write and submit your response.

- Exam 1 (20 points)
- Exam 2 (25 points)
- Exam 3 (25 points)
- Exam 4 (15 points)
Course Policies and Regulations

MyCourses
• There is an online site for this course on MyCourses. You are responsible for familiarizing yourself with the site and knowing how to use it. This includes accessing class readings, reading class announcements, posting assignments, checking your grades.
• If you are having difficulties accessing MyCourses, you need to call IT services. Your TA and Instructor do not have the ability to resolve technical issues.

Syllabus
• The syllabus is purview to changes throughout the semester. You are responsible for keeping abreast of all changes. The most recent version of the syllabus is always available on the course website on MyCourses. Go to Content ▶▶ Overview.

Course Materials
• All reading materials are available free of charge on the course website on MyCourses. Go to Content ▶▶ Table of Contents.

Email Protocol
• If you have a general question about the course (regarding assignments, readings, etc.), first read the syllabus to ensure your question has not already been addressed on these pages.
• If you still cannot find the information you are looking for in the syllabus, please first post your question to the discussion forum on MyCourses. Go to Discussions ▶▶ Course Related Questions. Other students in the course can respond to your question. Professor Roychowdhury and your TA will check this site on a regular basis to ensure that all issues are resolved in a timely fashion.
• If you have a personal issue, you may email either Professor Roychowdhury or your TA.
• If you have scheduling conflicts, notify us in advance. Last minute requests will not be accommodated unless there is an emergency situation (in which case, refer to the protocol described under “Excused Absences” below).
• All correspondence should use formal language and be attentive to grammar and punctuation. Address us as Professor Roychowdhury and Ms. Conway, unless told otherwise.
• Note that it may take several days for us to respond to your messages.

Lecture Slides
• All power point slides from lectures are posted one week prior to each exam. It is your responsibility to attend lectures throughout the semester. Slides will not be made available on a weekly basis. Go to Content ▶▶ Table of Contents.

Assignments
• In accordance with McGill University’s Charter of Students’ Rights, students in this course have the right to submit in English or in French any written work that is to be graded.
• All assignments should be typed, 12 point Times New Roman, and have one-inch margins on all sides. Make sure your name is on each page and that you have retained a copy for your records.
• All assignments must include in-line citations when referencing or quoting from class texts.
• Spelling and grammatical mistakes will adversely impact your grade.
• Assignments can be submitted as a Microsoft Word or PDF doc.

Accommodations
• **Short term:** Excuses for missed exams include: illness or personal emergency. Please provide an official note from a doctor or the Dean’s office. The make-up exam will be held **one week** after the original exam date.

• **Long term:** If you need accommodations for more than one assignment due to special circumstances please notify both the professor and the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) as soon as possible. The OSD provides a broad range of support and services to assist students, faculty, and staff with disabilities (3100 Brown Student Services Bldg., 398-6009 (voice), 398-8198 (TDD) [http://www.mcgill.ca/osd/](http://www.mcgill.ca/osd/)). Every effort will be made to accommodate students with special needs arising from learning challenges, disabilities, major life events such as the loss of a family member or friend, and those who have experienced or are dealing with the aftermath of violence.

Requests for Re-grade
• If you feel that your assignment was inaccurately graded, please send a formal request to Professor Roychowdhury within **1 week** of receiving your assignment grade. In the request, kindly include the following information: 1) The grade you received, 2) The grade you believe you should have received, 3) A detailed explanation of why you deserve a different grade. Turn in this request along with the original assignment.

Ethics
• You are responsible for behaving respectfully towards your Professor, your TA, and your fellow students. Aggressive and condescending behavior towards others will not be tolerated.
• McGill University values academic integrity. Therefore, all students must understand the meaning and consequences of cheating, plagiarism, and other academic offences under the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures. For more information, refer to:
  - http://www.mcgill.ca/students/srr/honest
  - http://www.mcgill.ca/students/srr/academicrights/integrity/cheating

**Key Dates**

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<td>First Lecture</td>
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<td>Fri 11/22</td>
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<td>Wed 11/27</td>
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READING SCHEDULE

Section I: Theoretical Foundations

Wed 9/4 Introduction

Fri 9/6 Sociological Approaches to Gender: Social Construction

Wed 9/11 Sociological Approaches to Gender: Intersectionality

Fri 9/13 Sociological Approaches to Development

Wed 9/18 Current Processes: Neoliberalism & Globalization

Section II: Labor

Fri 9/20 Gendered Divisions of Labor within Capitalist Economies

Wed 9/25 Review Session on Section I

Fri 9/27 In-class EXAM 1 on Section I
  IMPORTANT CLASS LOCATION CHANGE: Leacock 232

Wed 10/2 Women’s Empowerment as Development?
Fri 10/4 Gender and Sexuality as forms of Labor Discipline

Wed 10/9 Case study: Microfinance and Manufacturing

Fri 10/11 Case study: Reproductive Labor and Care Work

Wed 10/16 Review Session on Section II

Fri 10/18 In-Class Exam II on Section II

Section III: Gender-Based Violence

Wed 10/23 Defining Gender-Based Violence

Fri 10/25 Political Economy of Violence
• Nynke Douma and Dorothea Hilhorst. “Fond de commerce? Sexual Violence Assistance in the DR Congo.” *Disaster Studies*.

Recommended

Wed 10/30 Violence and Resource Deprivation
Fri 11/1  Imperialism and Discourses of Gendered Violence

Wed 11/06  Review Session on Section III

Fri 11/08  In-class Exam III on Section III

Section IV:  Sex and Sexuality

Wed 11/13  Sex, Romance, Exchange

Fri 11/15  Regulating Sex and the Economy

Wed 11/20  Queering Political Economy
• Svati Shah. 2014. Street Corner Secrets: Sex, Work, and Migration in the City of Mumbai. Selections.

Fri 11/22  Review Session

Wed 11/27  In-class Exam IV

Fri 11/29  Class Canceled