

**WOMEN IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD  
SPRING 1996  
METROPOLITAN STATE COLLEGE, DENVER**

**INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Tahira S. Khan  
**TIME:** MWF 10:00-10:50 a.m.  
**OFFICE HOURS:** Friday 2:00-3:00 p.m.

**INTRODUCTION**

This course intends to present a contrasting picture of multidimensional aspects of women's lives in the so called developing (third) world by raising extremely critical question that are these societies really developing? Or are women's lives and roles changing in these societies? For the students of this developed world (USA) some cultural economic and political facts and figures about the Third World women would be sometimes shocking and surprising and sometimes unbelievable and unimaginable. The core idea of this course is to highlight the sharp contrasts between the lives of the women in the developed and developing world. Descriptive and explanatory discussions would enable students to make critical analysis and draw conclusions by making comparison between the lives of American women and the Third World women.

To be more specific, this course would focus on two main areas: 1) women and economy, and 2) women and political systems. Socio-cultural and religious aspects would be integrated and merged into the broader topics of economic and political issues. It is expected that by the end of this course, students would not only learn about the Third world women's lives in particular, but also become familiar with the economic and socio-political systems in general.

**Required Texts**

L. Brydon and S. Chant, Women in the Third World, 1989.

K. Jayawardena, Feminism and Nationalism in the Third World, 1986.

Mohanty, Russo, Torres, Third World Women and the Politics of Feminism, 1991.

**Course Requirements and Grading**

- Class attendance (20%). More than 3 absences during the semester will result in reduction of the student's grade automatically. Students who are habitually late to class or leave class early may be marked with an absence, unless prior notice is given to the instructor with sound reason.
- Class participation and paper presentation (40%). Follow the reading schedule carefully. Completion of weekly reading assignment would enable you to participate in the discussion. Three student's names will be called through card shuffling. Failure to make presentation will affect the final grade. Each student is expected to make 3-4 presentations during the semester.

February 28 Jayawardena, Chapter 6  
March 1 Jayawardena, Chapter 7

Week Eight

March 4 Jayawardena, Chapter 8  
March 6 Jayawardena, Chapter 9  
March 8 Jayawardena, Chapter 10

Week Nine

March 11 Jayawardena, Chapter 11  
March 13 Jayawardena, Chapter 12  
March 15 Jayawardena, Chapter 13

**March 16-22 SPRING BREAK**

Week Ten

March 25 Third World politics and Feminism: An Overview  
March 27 Third World women's Feminist Politics  
Mohanty, Russo, Torres, Introduction  
March 29 Western View of the Third World  
Mohanty, pp. 51-80

Week Eleven

April 1 Mohanty, pp. 81-100  
April 3 Mohanty, pp. 133-152  
April 5 Mohanty, pp. 153-172

Week Twelve

April 8 Mohanty, pp. 173-196  
April 10 Mohanty, pp. 215-236  
April 12 Mohanty, pp. 237-250

Week Thirteen

April 15 Mohanty, pp. 251-270  
April 17 Mohanty, pp. 314-327  
April 19 Feminist Politics: An Overview (Discussion)

Week Fourteen

April 22 Comparative analysis of the reading material.  
April 24 Latest feminist writings.  
Articles on the Reserve Desk  
April 26 Articles on the Reserve Desk

Week Fifteen

April 29 Sharing personal opinions and expressions.

May 1  
May 3

Class Presentation  
An Overview: Discussion  
Final day of the class.