

FER SCHOOL SYLLABUS

Course

GENDER, RELIGION AND PEACEBUILDING

Tuesday Live Chat, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Semester: Winter semester of the 2026/2027 academic year

Number of ECTS credits: 4

Total contact hours: 45

Language of instruction: English

Teaching methods: Lectures, discussions, media content analysis, case studies, and student presentations

Course description

This course explores the gender dynamics of conflict and peacebuilding, and the ways in which conflict and peace impact women and men during and after conflict. Given that women are predominantly collateral damage in most conflicts, they are also the most engaged in peacebuilding within their communities. Men are also victims of conflict, but they are primarily the perpetrators of violence due to their roles in war and generally in patriarchal societies, where men are expected to defend and protect the state, nation, and family. However, men are privileged because they are predominantly represented in key political power positions and negotiate peace at the highest levels.

The goal of this course is to offer a gender-inclusive understanding of peacebuilding, peace theories, and secular and religious resources for peacebuilding.

Participants will learn why gender is an important analytical tool in deconstructing conflict and building peace, how socially assigned gender roles influence women's peace activism, and why the gender dimension is crucial in security issues

Learning Outcomes:

After completing this course, participants will be able to:

- Understand key theoretical concepts of gender, religion, conflict, and peacebuilding.
- Critically analyze the gender and religious dimensions of conflict and peace.
- Use gender as an analytical tool in conflict analysis and peacebuilding.
- Understand feminist approaches and policies to peacebuilding.
- Understand principles of peace logic in resisting militarism, populism, and extremism.
- Recognize the potential of religions in peacebuilding.
- Recognize the potential of art and ecological activism in peacebuilding.

Prerequisites: There are no prerequisites for enrolment in the course.

Live Chat: Tuesday, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Mode of Instruction: The course is delivered through online lectures and discussions.

Student Responsibilities

Students are expected to read the assigned literature regularly, participate in the live chat sessions, and prepare a presentation based on the assigned readings.

Students wishing to obtain ECTS credits are required to submit a final paper of up to 3,000 words.

Policy on Late or Incomplete Coursework

Students who submit assignments late or fail to complete all course requirements will not be able to complete the course successfully.

Assessment

Participation in live chat sessions: 30%

Presentations: 30%

Final written paper: 40%

Description of themes:

- Theories of peacebuilding
- Peacebuilding from feminist perspectives: theoretical framework
- Peace logic
- Non-Violent communication approaches
- Peacebuilding and ethno-nationalism
- Resistance to extreme right-wing and populism in the context of peacebuilding
- Women's groups: contribution to peacebuilding: global perspective
- Peace logic in higher education- should universities teach for peace?
- Institutionalization of peace pedagogies in formal education- global perspectives in teacher education for peace
- Gender religion and peace between academia and activism
- Axioms of non-violent
- Religious foundation of peacebuilding of monotheistic religions-global perspective
- Feminist Ethics of Peace
- Gender, religion and trauma healing
- Feminist monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) for peacebuilding