



**Department of Gender Studies  
Faculty of Behavioral and Social Sciences  
University of the Punjab, Lahore  
Course Outline**



**Gender and Climate Change**

**Course Description**

The course provides a critical examination of the intersection between gender dynamics and climate change, aiming to equip students with a deep understanding of how gender influences vulnerability, resilience, and adaptation strategies in the face of climate change impacts. It delves into the complexities of gendered experiences of climate change, emphasizing the importance of gender-responsive approaches in climate policy, planning, and action. It also explains facts and figures for understanding global frameworks related to gender and climate change. This course is a first step to strengthen inclusion and equity, while fostering a climate-resilient development of Pakistan.

**Learning Outcomes**

After completion of this course, the students will be able to:

1. recognize the nexus between gender equality, human rights, renewable energy and climate change;
2. develop a thorough understanding of how a gender responsive approach in climate action leads to economic, social and environmental benefits;
3. apply the knowledge to everyday settings;
4. Critically assess the issues related to climate change and disasters through a gender lens.

**Course Contents**

**Week 1: Gender in the Climate-Conflict Nexus**

- Causes of climate change
- Impacts of climate change on humans
- Climate-conflict linkages
- Gender in the climate-conflict nexus

**Week 2: Feminism and Environment: Theoretical Underpinnings**

- Feminist environmental philosophy
- Characterization and frameworks
- Ecofeminism: Origin, positions and arguments
- Ecofeminism in the 21<sup>st</sup> century

### **Week 3: Gendered Vulnerabilities and Underlying Causes**

- Deconstructing gendered exposure and vulnerability
- Contextual conditions: Social and gender structures, geography, politics and economic setting
- Gender equity and equality in the context of disaster and climate change

### **Week 4: Differentiated Vulnerabilities and Intersectionality**

- The concept of intersectionality
- Relationship between social categorization, climate and disasters
- Gender and sexuality in climate change and disaster
- Power, positioning and natural resource marginality

### **Week 5: Differentiated Vulnerabilities and Intersectionality (Cont.)**

- Beyond gender: Considering race, class, ethnicity, age, economic background and more
- intersectionality, institutions and norms
- Social stratification case studies from South Asia: systemic oppressions and privileges.

### **Week 6: Gender, Displacement and Migration**

- Introducing climate migration and displacement
- Climate and disaster-induced displacement and migration
- Case studies from South Asia

### **Week 7: Feminization of Poverty and Food Security Implications**

- Women and agriculture
- Causes and implications
- Women's access to food in times of crises

### **Week 8: Gender and Water-Resource Management**

- Gender and water resources: Too little vs. too much water
- Gender and sanitation
- Gender roles in water governance

### **Week 9: Cities, Climate Change and Disaster**

- Urban space, climate change and disaster through a gender perspective

- Urbanization and new risks
- Case study: Mitigation of greenhouse gases through informal waste recyclers in Delhi, India

### **Week 10: Gender and Climate Action**

- Definition and introduction to climate action
- Gender and climate action
- Challenges and opportunities

### **Week 11: Gender and Climate Change Adaptation**

- Gender and climate change adaptation
- Adaptation differences between men and women
- Gender-responsive climate change adaptation

### **Week 12: Gender in Resilience, Recovery and Reconstruction**

- Women, indigenous knowledge and recovery
- Action as a gendered concept
- Case study: Climate change and indigenous women in Colombia
- Performing arts for disaster risk reduction and adaptation

### **Week 13: Gender in Resilience, Recovery and Reconstruction (Cont)**

- Reducing disaster risk through community resilience
- Building inclusive gender reconstruction
- Case study: Sir Lankan women's organizations responding to post-tsunami violence
- Case study: 'A we run tings', women rebuilding Montserrat

### **Week 14: Gender and Climate Policy Making**

- Revisiting the narrative "women as victims"
- Climate change governance for all
- From policy to action

### **Week 15: Gender Policy and Planning Architecture in Pakistan**

- National and sub-national policies and framework
- Role of National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA)
- Climate insurance and agricultural workers in Pakistan

### **Week 16: Gender Policy Implications: Case Studies from Pakistan and South Asia**

- Victims of earthquake and patriarchy: The 2005 Pakistan earthquake
- The floods of 2010 and its aftermath from a gender perspective
- South Asia case studies

**Teaching Learning Strategies:** Working on Assignments, Presentations, Group Discussions, Individual Assessment and Quizzes.

Sr. No.	Elements	Weightage	Details
1.	Midterm Assessment	35%	It takes place at the mid-point of the semester.
2.	Formative Assessment/ Sessional Work	25%	It is continuous assessment. It includes: classroom participation, attendance, assignments and presentations, homework, attitude and behavior, hands-on-activities, short tests, quizzes etc.
3.	Final Assessment	40%	It takes place at the end of the semester. It is mostly in the form of a test.

### Suggested Readings

1. Austin, K.F. & Mckinney, L.A. (2016). The Disaster Devastation in Poor Nations: The Direct and Indirect Effects of Gender Equality. *Ecological Losses and Development Social Forces*. 355-380.
2. Bradshaw, S. (2023). *Gender, Development and Disaster*. UK. Edward Elgar.
3. Dankleman, I (2020) *Gender and Climate Change: An Introduction* London: Earth scan.
4. Dasgupta, S. Siriner, I. & De, P.S (Eds.) (2020) *Women's Encounter with Disaster*.
5. Detraz, N. (2022). *Women Confronting Natural Disaster: From Vulnerability to Resilience* Boulder.
6. Enarson, E.P (2012) *Women Confronting Natural Disaster: From Vulnerability to Resilience*. Boulder. CO: Lynne Rienner Publishers.
7. Enarson, E. & Chakrabarti, P.D. (2009). *Women, Gender and Disaster*. Global Issues and Initiatives New Delhi: Sage.
8. Kelman, I. Mercer, J. & Gaillard, J. (2017). *The Routledge Handbook of Disaster Risk Reduction Including Climate Change Adaptation*. Oxon: Routledge
9. Khan, A. N. & Shaw, R (Eds) (2015). *Disaster Risk Reduction Approaches in Pakistan* (pp.281-94). Springer Japan.
10. MacGregor, S. (2017). *Routledge Handbook of Gender and Environment* Oxon: Earth scan.
11. Agarwal, B. (2000). Conceptualising environmental collective action: Why sender matters. *Cambridge Journal of Economics*. 283-310.
12. Buckingham, S. (2004). Ecofeminism in 21<sup>st</sup> Century. *The Geographical Journal*. 146-154.
13. Bush, S. S & Clayton, A (2023). Facing Change: Gender and Climate Change Attitudes Worldwide. *American Political Science Review*. 591-608.
14. Cuomo, C.J (2011). Climate Change, Vulnerability and Responsibility *Hypatia*. 690-714.
15. Gaard, G. (2011) Ecofeminism Revisited: Rejecting Essentialism and Re-Placing Species in a Material Feminist Environmentalism. *Feminist Formations*. 26-53.

16. Giddens. A. (2009). *The Politics of Climate Change UK*: Policy Press.
17. Godfrey. P.C (2012) Introduction: Race. Gender & Class and Climate Change. Jean Ait Belkhir. *Race. Gender & Class Journal*. 3-11.