



Course Syllabus  
**Gender, Security and War**

Genus, säkerhet och krig

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<b>Course Code</b>	2KR023	<b>Main Field of Study</b>	War Studies
<b>Valid from Semester</b>	Spring 2022	<b>Department</b>	Department of War Studies and Military History
<b>Education Cycle</b>	Advanced level	<b>Subject</b>	War Studies
<b>Scope</b>	7.5	<b>Language of Instruction</b>	The teaching is conducted in English.
<b>Progression</b>	A1N	<b>Decided by</b>	The Research and Education Board's Course Syllabus Committee at the Swedish Defence University
<b>Grading Scale</b>	Fail, Pass, Pass with Distinction	<b>Decision date</b>	2022-01-01
<b>Revision</b>	1.0		

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#### Entry Requirements

Accepted to the Master's Programme in Politics and War. For freestanding course: Bachelor of Science Degree in Military Studies or Bachelor's degree worth 180 credits, of which 90 credits are in war studies or equivalent.

#### Course Content and Structure

This course focuses on the field of Feminist Security Studies, which explores the relationships between gender (and other intersecting oppressions, such as race) and security. It asks questions about the gendered nature of security and war, both in terms of how gender norms shape war and security as well as how war and security in turn reshape gender norms. To introduce student to this body of feminist literature, the course focuses on four main areas: How have feminists and other critical scholars challenged what security means or should mean? What happens when we study political violence while also paying attention to femininities and masculinities? What do we find out about conscription, privatization, or civil-military relations when we ask feminist questions about soldiers and militaries? How has feminist activism, exemplified in the adoption of the so-called women, peace & security agenda at the United Nations, changed global security environments? Students will learn the tools to carry out their own analyses of security and war from a gender perspective. The course illustrates the theoretical discussion through practical examples taken from feminist research on current violent conflicts around the world.

Instruction includes lectures and mandatory seminars

#### Intended Learning Outcomes

After completing the course, the student is expected to be able to:

##### Knowledge and understanding

- explain how conceptions of gender affect security and war, with a particular focus on how gender norms shape institutions and practices and how these, in turn, affect gender norms..

##### Competence and skills

- critically evaluate key arguments and statements from the feminist literature on security and war;
- analyze and problematize contemporary wars and warfare by applying feminist perspectives.

#### Type of Instruction

Seminars

Lectures

**Assessment****Examination**

Scope: 7.5

Grading Scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with Distinction

Assessment takes place through active and constructive participation in mandatory seminars and an independent written assignment.

The examiner may decide to allow submission of a supplementary assignment to make up for an absence or shortcomings in active and constructive participation in mandatory seminars. After announcement of the supplemental task, the student has three working days for supplementation, unless special circumstances exist that are acceptable to the examiner.

The examiner may decide to allow supplementation in order to achieve a passing grade. Examination papers submitted after the deadline will not be graded unless special circumstances exist that are acceptable to the examiner. After announcement of the supplemental task, the student has three days for supplementation, unless special circumstances exist that are acceptable to the examiner.

If a student has a decision from the Swedish Defence University regarding special educational support due to a disability, the examiner may decide on alternative forms of examination for the student.

**Grading**

Grades are set according to a three-grade scale: Pass with Distinction (VG), Pass (G) and Fail (U). Grading criteria are specified by no later than the start of the course.

To earn the grade Pass (G), the student must earn a grade of Pass on the written assignment, actively and constructively participate in the mandatory seminars, and earn a grade of Pass on the oral presentation.

To earn the grade Pass with Distinction (VG), the student must earn a grade of Pass with Distinction on the written assignment, actively and constructively participate in the mandatory seminars, and earn a grade of Pass on the oral presentation.

**Restrictions in Number of Examinations**

There is no limit on the total number of examination opportunities.

**Restrictions Concerning Degree**

The course cannot be part of a degree with other course whose content matches the content of this course in whole or in part.

**Transitional Provisions**

When a course is no longer provided or when the content of a course has been significantly altered, the student has the right to be examined in accordance with this course syllabus once per semester over a period of three semesters.

**Miscellaneous**

The course is given as an elective course within the Master's Programme in Politics and War. It can also be given as a freestanding course. The course may be given in whole or in part in English.

If a student has a decision from the Swedish Defence University on special educational support due to a disability, the examiner may decide on alternative forms of examination for the student.

On the completion of the course, an evaluation will be conducted under the auspices of the course director, which will form the basis for any changes to the course.

**Reading List**  
**Gender, Security and War**

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<b>Course Code</b>	2KR023
<b>Revision</b>	1.0
<b>Reading List Valid from Date</b>	--
<b>Reading List Decided Date</b>	--

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### Gender, Security and War

- Åhäll, Linda (2015) Introduction: Securitizing feminism or Feminist Security Studies? In: *Sexing War/Policing Gender: Motherhood, Myth and Women's Political Violence* (pp. 1-15). London: Routledge.
- Al-Ali, Nadjé & Nicola Pratt (2016) "Positionalities, intersectionalities, and transnational feminism in researching women in post-invasion Iraq" In Wibben, ATR (ed.) *Researching War: Feminist Methods, Ethics & Politics* (pp. 76-91). London: Routledge.
- Alison, Miranda (2004) "Women as Agents of Political Violence: Gendering Security" *Security Dialogue* 35 (4): 447-463.
- Basini, Helen (2016) "'Doing no harm': Methodological and ethical challenges of working with women associated with fighting forces/ex-combatants in Liberia" In Wibben, ATR (ed.) *Researching War: Feminist Methods, Ethics & Politics* (pp. 163-184). London: Routledge.
- Bastick, Megan & Claire Duncanson (2018) "Agents of Change? Gender Advisers in NATO Militaries" *International Peacekeeping* 25 (4): 554-577.
- Basu, Soumita (2016). The Global South Writes 1325 (Too). *International Political Science Review* 37(3): 362-74.
- Bueno-Hansen, Pascha (2016) "An intersectional analysis of the Peruvian Truth and Reconciliation Commission" In Wibben, ATR (ed.) *Researching War: Feminist Methods, Ethics & Politics* (pp. 185-201). London: Routledge.
- Cockburn, Cynthia (2010) "Gender Relations as Causal in Militarization and War" *International Feminist Journal of Politics* 12(2): 139-157.
- Cohn, Carol (2006) "Motives and methods: Using multi-sited ethnography to study US national security discourses." In Ackerly, B, M Stern & J True, eds. *Feminist Methodologies for International Relations* (pp. 91-107). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Cohn, Carol (2012). *Women and wars: Toward a conceptual framework*. In: Carol Cohn, ed. *Women & Wars* (pp. 1-35). Cambridge: Polity Press.
- Connell, R.W. (1995) "The Social Organization of Masculinity" In *Masculinities*. Berkeley: Berkeley University Press.
- D'Costa, Bina (2006) "Marginalized identity: New frontiers of research for IR?" In Ackerly, B, M Stern & J True, eds. *Feminist Methodologies for International Relations* (pp.129-152). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Duriesmith, David (2019) "Engaging or changing men? Understandings of masculinity and change in the new 'men, peace and security' agenda" *Peacebuilding* 8 (4): 418-431.
- Dyan Mazurana, Susan McKay (2001) "Child Soldiers; What about the Girls?" *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists* 57 (5): 30-35.
- Eriksson Baaz, Maria & Maria Stern (2013) "Fearless Fighters and Submissive Wives" *Armed Forces and Society* 39 (4): 711-739.
- Gentry, Caron E. (2009) "Twisted Maternalism" *International Feminist Journal of Politics* 11(2): 235-252.
- Gibbins, Sheri Lynn (2011). *No Angry Women at the United Nations: Political Dreams and the Cultural Politics of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325*. *International Feminist Journal of Politics* 13 (4): 522-538.
- Hudson, Heidi (2005) "Doing Security as Though Human's Matter: A Feminist Perspective on Gender and the Politics of Human Security" *Security Dialogue* 36 (2):155-174.
- Hudson, Valerie, Mary Caprioli, Bonnie Ballif-Spanvill, Rose McDermott & Chad F. Emmet (2009) "The Heart of the Matter: The Security of Women and the Security of States" *International Security* 33 (3): 7-45.
- Hutchings, Kimberly (2008) Making sense of masculinity and war. *Men and Masculinities* 10(4): 389-404.
- Kirby, Paul & Laura J. Shepherd (2016). *Reintroducing Women, Peace & Security*. *International Affairs* 92 (2): 249-254

- Kronsell, Annica (2006) "Methods for studying silences: Gender analysis in institutions of hegemonic masculinity." In Ackerly, B, M Stern & J True, eds. *Feminist Methodologies for International Relations* (pp. 108-128). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Kwon, Insook (2000) "A Feminist Exploration of Military Conscription: The Gendering of Connections between Nationalism, Militarism and Citizenship in South Korea" *International Feminist Journal of Politics* 3 (1): 26-54.
- Mehta, Akanksha (2015) "The aesthetics of 'everyday' violence: narratives of violence and Hindu right-wing women" *Critical Studies on Terrorism* 8(3): 416-438.
- Olivius, Elisabeth & Hedström, Jenny (2019) "Militarized nationalism as a platform for feminist mobilization? The case of the exiled Burmese women's movement" *Women's Studies International Forum* 76 [online first: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.wsif.2019.102263>]
- Otto, Diane (2010). *Power and Danger: Feminist Engagement with International Law through the UN Security Council*. *Australian Feminist Law Journal* 32 (1): 97-121.
- Puechguirbal, Nadine (2010). *Discourses on Gender, Patriarchy and Resolution 1325: A Textual Analysis of UN Documents*. *International Peacekeeping* 17 (2): 172-187.
- Stachowitsch, Saskia (2013) "Military privatization and the remasculinization of the state: Making the link between the outsourcing of military security and gendered state transformations" *International Relations* 27(1): 74-94.
- Wibben, Annick T.R. (2016) Introduction: Feminists study war. In Annick T.R. Wibben, ed. *Researching War: Feminist Methods, Ethics & Politics* (pp. 1-16). London: Routledge.
- Wibben, Annick T.R. (2018) Why we need to study (US) militarism: A critical feminist lens" *Security Dialogue* 49(1-2) 136-148.
- Zalewski, Marysia (1995) "Well, What's the Feminist Perspective on Bosnia?" *International Affairs* 71(2):339-356.
- Recommended Readings**
- Ackerly, Brooke, Maria Stern & Jacqui True, Eds. (2006). *Feminist Methodologies for International Relations*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. [especially chapters 8 & 9]
- Alison, Miranda H. (2009) *Women and Political Violence: Female combatants in ethno-nationalist conflict*. London: Routledge
- Belkin, Aaron (2012) *Bring me Men: Military Masculinity and the Benign Façade of American Empire, 1898-2001*. New York: Columbia University Press.
- Cohn, Carol (1993) "Wars, Wimps, and Women: Talking Gender and Thinking War." In Miriam Cooke & Angela Woollacott, eds. *Gendering War Talk* (pp. 227-246). Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Detraz, Nicole (2012) *International Security & Gender*. Cambridge: Polity Press.
- Duriesmith, David (2018) "Hybrid Warriors and the Formation of New War Masculinities: A Case Study of Indonesian Foreign Fighters" *Stability: International Journal of Security and Development*, 7(1): 1-16.
- Egnell, Robert & Mayesha Alam. Ed. (2019) *Women and Gender Perspectives in the Military: An International Comparison*. Washington: Georgetown University Press.
- Enloe, Cynthia (2000) *Maneuvers: The International Politics of Militarizing Women's Lives*. Berkeley: University of California Press.
- Gentry, Caron & Laura Sjoberg (2015) *Beyond Mothers, Monsters, Whores: Thinking about women's violence in global politics*. London: Zed Books.
- Herbert, Melissa S (1998) *Camouflage isn't Only for Combat: Gender, Sexuality, and Women in the Military*. New York University Press.
- hooks, bell (1984) *Feminist theory: From margin to center*. Boston: South End Press.
- Hudson, Natalie Florea (2010). *Gender, Human Security and the United Nations: Security Language as a Political Framework for Women*. London: Routledge.
- Huysmans, Jef (1998) "Security" What do you mean? From concept to thick signifier." *European Journal of International Relations* 4(2): 226-255.
- Kirby, Paul & Laura J. Shepherd (2016) "The Futures Past of the Women, Peace and Security Agenda" *International Affairs* 92 (2): 373-392.
- Krause, Keith & Michael C. Williams (1997) *Critical Security Studies: Concepts and Cases*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press.
- Kronsell A and Svedberg E (eds) *Making Gender, Making War: Violence, Military and Peacekeeping Practices*. London: Routledge.
- Lorentzen, Lois & Jennifer Turpin, Eds (1998) *The Women & War Reader*. New York: NYU Press.



- MacKenzie, Megan (2015) *Beyond the Band of Brothers: The US Military and the Myth that Women Can't Fight*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Marhia, Natasha (2013) "Some humans are more Human than Others: Troubling the 'human' in human security from a critical feminist perspective" *Security Dialogue* 44 (1): 19-35
- McLeod, Laura (2016). *The Women, Peace and Security Resolutions: UNSCR 1325 to 2122*. In: Steans, Jill & Daniela Tepe-Belfrage (eds) *Handbook of Gender in World Politics* (pp. 271-79). Edward Elgar Publishing.
- Shepherd, Laura J. (2008). *Gender, Violence & Security: Discourse as Practice*. London: Zed Books.
- Sjoberg, Laura, ed. (2010) *Gender and International Security: Feminist Perspectives*. London: Routledge.
- Strand, Sanna & Katharina Kehl (2019) "'A country to fall in love with/in': gender and sexuality in Swedish Armed Forces' marketing campaigns" *International Feminist Journal of Politics* 21 (2): 295-314.
- Vastapuu, Leena (2018). "Auto-photographing (in)securities: Former young female soldiers' post-war struggles in Monrovia." In Vuori, J. & Saugmann, R., eds. *Visual Security Studies: Sights and Spectacles of Insecurity and War* (pp. 171-188). London: Routledge.
- Vastapuu, Leena (2018). *Liberia's Women Veterans: War Roles and Reintegration*. London: Zed Books.
- Whitworth, Sandra (2004). *Men, Militarism and UN Peacekeeping: A Gendered Analysis*. Boulder: Lynne Rienner Publishers.
- Wibben, Annick T.R. (2011) *Feminist Security Studies: A Narrative Approach*. London: Routledge.
- Wibben, Annick T.R. (2016) *Researching War: Feminist Methods, Ethics and Politics*. London: Routledge.