

Shaheed Mahendra Karma Vishwavidyalaya, Bastar

Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.)

Course Name: Gender, School and Society

Course Code: UGEE401

CONTEMPORARY STUDIES

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. Understanding the role of culture (apart from biology) as determinants of gender distinction in social living
2. Awareness of factors that shape gendered roles in Indian society
3. Understand the problems of girl child education in our society
4. Developing a critical perspective on gender-based discrimination and its effects.
5. To provide an introduction to and the development of an understanding of feminist approaches to the social and cultural construction of gender.
6. To develop a critical understanding of inter sectionality, including an awareness of gender and its complex intersections with other social and cultural categories, including but not limited to caste, tribe, class, sexuality and ability.
7. To equip the teacher with the ability to create more meaningful and gender just experiences for her students.

CONTENT

Unit I: Gender: Key Concepts - Social Construction of Gender

- i. Examining one's own growing up as a boy or a girl
- ii. Gender, sex, sexuality, patriarchy, masculinity and feminism
- iii. Gender bias, gender roles and stereotyping, and its consequences
- iv. Gender and other forms of inequality in relation with (caste, class, ethnicity, disability etc)

- v. Female sex ratio and child sex ratio.

Unit II: Gender and Schooling

- i. Schooling of girls (literacy rate, dropout rate, completion rate etc) and reasons why girls are not able to complete schooling
- ii. Why do girls feel uncomfortable in schools?
- iii. Can schools be different so that more girls can be educated?
- iv. Gender bias in curriculum, textbooks, analysis of hidden curriculum.
- v. Critical examination of school and classroom processes- challenging gender biases and stereotypes.
- vi. Understanding relationships within the school child-child, teacher-child and teacher peer group relationships from the perspective of gender.
- vii. Feminization of teaching profession .

Unit III: Gender and Sexuality

- i. Understanding sexuality (sexual orientation and sexual identity third gender) and the relationship between power and sexuality.
- ii. Violence against women - empirical examples of the graded violence against women, the impact of conflict and violence on the lives of women, efforts to deal with the issue of violence against women.
- iii. Legal (sexual and reproductive) rights of women

Unit IV: Psychological and Sociological Perspectives

- i. Radical Feminist
- ii. Socialist-Feminist
- iii. Psychoanalytical and other perspectives

- iv. Recent debates

Unit V: Strategies for Change

- i. Policy and management
- ii. In the school
- iii. Women's action groups
- iv. Mass media

Suggested themes for transaction of the content (Group discussions and review of case studies etc).

- i. Telling our own 'gendered' stories
- ii. En-culturing 'gendered' roles in upbringing within different kinds of families - case studies
- iii. Gender issues in school education - case studies
- iv. Gender issues manifest in contemporary public spaces - case studies
- v. Responding to various forms of gender discrimination

Suggested Readings

1. Gender Analysis of State Policies: A case study of Chhattisgarh, Dr. Sen Ilina
2. Towards Gender Equality in Education: Progress and challenges in Asia-Pacific Region, R. Govinda, National University of Educational Planning and Administration, New Delhi.
3. Bhattacharjee, Nandini (1999) Through the looking-glass: Gender Socialisation in a Primary School in T. S. Saraswathi (ed.) Culture, Socialization and Human Development: Theory, Research and Applications in India. Sage: New Delhi.
4. Geetha, V. (2007) Gender. Stree: Calcutta.
5. Ghai, Anita (2008) Gender and Inclusive education at all levels In Ved Prakash & K.Biswal (ed.) Perspectives on education and development: Revising Education commission and after, National University of Educational Planning and Administration: New Delhi
6. Jeffery, P. and R. Jeffery (1994) Killing My Heart's Desire: Education and Female Autonomy in Rural India. in Nita Kumar (ed.) Women as Subjects: South Asian Histories. New Delhi: