



UNIVERSITY OF KASHMIR

JKSET/LASET – 2026

SYLLABUS

Subject: Women Studies

Subject Code: 41

Unit – I Introduction to Women’s Studies

- Key concepts in Gender studies.
- Need, Scope and challenges of Women’s Studies – Women’s Studies as an academic discipline. Women’s Studies to Gender Studies, Need for Gender Sensitization.
- Women’s Movements – global and local: Pre-independence, Post-independence and Contemporary Debates.
- National Committees and Commissions for Women.

Unit – II Feminist thinkers and theories

- Liberal Feminism, Marxist Feminism, Radical Feminism, Socialist Feminism, India Feminism, Black Feminism, Eco-Feminism.
- New Feminist Debates- Post Colonial /Post Modern, LGBT, Masculinity Studies.
- Contemporary Contestations – Intersex and Transgender Movements.
- Feminist thinkers in 18th, 19th, 20th and 21st Century

Unit – III Gender and Education

- Women’s Education – Gender diversities and disparities in enrolment, Curriculum content, Dropouts, profession and Gender.
- Gendered Education- Family, Culture, Gender roles, Gender Identities.
- Education for the Marginalized Women.
- Recent Trends in Women’s Education – Committees and Commissions on Education.
- Vocational education and skill Development for women.

Unit – IV Women, Work and Employment

- Theoretical Perspective: Fredrick Engels, Rosa Luxemburg, Sandra Whiteworth, Boserup Esther.
- Concept of Work – Productive and non – productive work – Use value and market value.
- Gender Division of Labour – Mode of Production – Women in organized and unorganized sector.
- New Economic Policy and its impact on Women’s Employment – Globalization –Structural Adjustment Programs.

Unit – V Gender and Entrepreneurship

- Concept and meaning, Importance of Entrepreneurship, Entrepreneurial traits, Factors contributing to Entrepreneurship, enabling environment, small Enterprises, women in agri-business.
- Gender and emerging Technology – Impact.
- Self-help Groups and Micro Credit.
- Gender mainstreaming, Gender budgeting, planning and Analysis.

Unit – VI Women and Health

- Life Cycle Approach to Women's Health – Health status of women in India, factors influencing health and Nutritional status.
- Maternal and Child Health (MCH) to Reproductive and Child health approaches.
- Issues of declining Child Sex Ratio, Widowhood and old age.
- Occupational and mental health.
- Health, Hygiene and Sanitation.
- National Health and Population Policies and Programmes

Unit – VII Women Empowerment and Development

- Theories of Development, Alternative approaches – Women in Development (WID), Women and Development (WAD) and Gender and Development (GAD).
- Empowerment- Concept and indices: Gender Development Index (GDI), Gender Inequality Index (GII), Global Gender Gap Index (GGGI).
- Women Development approaches in Indian Five – Year Plans.
- Women and leadership– Panchayati Raj and Role of NGOs and Women Development.
- Sustainable Development Goals, Policies and Programmes.

Unit – VIII Women Law and Governance

- Rights: Gender Equality, Gender Discrimination, Women's Rights as Human Rights.
- Constitutional provisions for Women in India.
- Personal laws, Labour Laws, Family Courts, Enforcement machinery – Police and Judiciary.
- Crime against Women and Child: Child Abuse, Violence, Human Trafficking, Sexual Harassment at Workplace Act, 2013 – Legal protection
- International Conventions and Legislations Related to Women's Rights.

Unit – IX Gender and Media

- Discourse on Women and Media Studies- Mainstream Media, Feminist Media.
- Coverage of Women's issues and issues of women in Mass Media and Media Organizations (Audio-Visual and Print media).
- Digital Media and legal protection.
- Alternative Media – Folk Art, Street Play and Theatre.
- Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986, Impact of media on women.

Unit – X Feminist Research Methodology

- Understanding Feminist Research – Concepts, Debates and Limitations.
- Feminist Epistemology, Feminist Standpoint, Sexist and Non-Sexist Research Methodology, Ethnography, Queer Theories.
- Research Design and Methods – Survey, Exploratory, Diagnostic, Experimental, Action Research and Case Studies.
- Qualitative verses Quantitative Research.