

## **POU44392: Topics in Political Science 6 - Gender and Politics**

**Hilary Term 2026**

**Day and Time: TBD**

**Room: TBD**

**Lecturer:** Dr. Asli Ceren Cinar

**Email:** TBD

**Office hours:** TBD

**Office:** TBD

### **Module Description**

This module introduces students to the study of gender and politics, encouraging students to critically analyse how gender influences and is shaped by political life. This module explores questions such as: Why are women underrepresented in politics? To what extent do voters exhibit gender bias? And how do stereotypes about masculinity and femininity shape political campaigns and leadership? The module also addresses the intersections of gender with other identities, such as race, ethnicity, and sexuality, and covers a broad range of topics. In addition, the module will introduce students to a range of research methodologies used in the field of politics and gender – the students are not required to have prior knowledge of statistics or maths for this module.

### **Learning Outcomes**

By the end of this module, students are expected to:

1. Gain a better understanding of how gender shapes political behaviour, political institutions, and political processes.
2. Understand the key concepts and theories in the study of gender and politics and have developed knowledge of key findings.
3. Be familiar with the various methods through which to study gender and politics.
4. Develop critical skills that enable them to assess empirical findings and theories

### **Key Readings**

Details of readings for individual topics will be given separately. The following items will occur on the reading for specific topics or are of general relevance and usefulness.

- Celis, Karin, Johanna Kantola, Georgina Waylen and S. Laurel Weldon. 2013. "Introduction: Gender and Politics: A Gendered World, A Gendered Discipline." In: Waylen et al. (eds) *Oxford Handbook of Gender and Politics*. Oxford University Press
- Mansbridge, J. (1999). Should Blacks Represent Blacks and Women Represent Women? A Contingent "Yes". *The Journal of Politics*, 61(3), 628–657. <https://doi.org/10.2307/2647821>
- Weldon, S. L. (2006). The Structure of Intersectionality: A Comparative Politics of Gender. *Politics & Gender*, 2(2), 235–248. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S1743923X0623104>

## **Assessments**

10% Participation

25% Policy Pitch Presentation

65% Research Proposal Essay

### **Participation (10%)**

Student engagement in class discussions is a key component of the seminar. Before the seminars, students should have completed the assigned readings, acquired knowledge, and developed thoughtful questions or critiques based on the readings. This means listening to and constructively interacting with your peers' views, participating in class discussions, and demonstrating an understanding of the assigned readings each week. The quality of each student's contributions to class discussions and debates will determine how they are assessed.

### **Policy Pitch Presentation (25%)**

This is an individual assessment, which will count 25% of your final grade.

You are asked to give a short (5-7 minutes) policy pitch presentation. In the presentation, you should present one policy or intervention about how gendered political representation could be improved. The presentation should be supported by well-developed slides. After your presentation, you will receive around one minute of questions from your nominated discussant and the audience.

Overall topic: How can we improve gendered political representation?

### **Research Proposal Essay (65%)**

This assignment assesses students' understanding of the key theories and approaches in Gender and Politics by asking them to formulate their own Research Question and writing a research proposal on how to answer this question. The research paper is due by **TBD**. It should not exceed 2,500 words in length, including footnotes but not the list of references.

Students are required to write a research proposal on how they would answer a research question of their choice in relation to gender and politics. The topic of the research proposal should be related to one of the course's topics, and use a qualitative, quantitative or mixed methods approach, ideally using one of the methods discussed in the course seminars (e.g. surveys, quantitative description, experiments, field experiments, interviews, content analysis).

### **Academic integrity**

Please do not plagiarize. Academic dishonesty is a serious matter, with serious consequences that can result in receiving no credit for an assignment, a failing grade for the module, and even expulsion from the programme. It is never permissible to turn in any work that contains others' ideas without proper acknowledgment. It is your responsibility to make sure that your work meets the standard of academic honesty set forth in the College Calendar

(see <http://tcd-ie.libguides.com/plagiarism/calendar>). Useful information is available at <http://tcd-ie.libguides.com/plagiarism>. If you are paraphrasing, cite the source. If you are quoting, use quotation marks and appropriate citation. In addition, we strongly recommend that you visit <http://www.plagiarism.org/> for more information on what is and is not plagiarism. Lastly, students are required to only submit "new work" in each module, which means work that has not been submitted previously in any other university module. Students who wish to use previously submitted work as part of a new project will need the approval of the lecturer. The Assignment Submission Form available from the Departmental website

[https://www.tcd.ie/Political\\_Science/assets/word/Plagiarism%20cover%20sheet.docx](https://www.tcd.ie/Political_Science/assets/word/Plagiarism%20cover%20sheet.docx)

should be filled out and included as the first page of all your submissions. All written assignments are to be submitted through Turnitin in Blackboard.

### **Disability policy**

Students with a disability are encouraged to register with the Disability Service to seek supports where the disability could affect their ability to participate fully in all aspects of the course.