

**UNIVERSITY OF MADRAS**  
**B.A. DEGREE PROGRAMME IN PHILOSOPHY**  
 SYLLABUS WITH EFFECT FROM 2023-2024

**Elective - III Generic/Discipline Specific**  
**Introduction to Feminist Theories**

Subject Code	Subject Name	Category	L	T	P	S	Credits	Inst. Hours	Marks		
									CIA	External	Total
209E3A	Introduction to Feminist Theories	Elective	Y	-	-	-	3	4	25	75	100
Pre - requisite	Knowledge of Social Philosophy										

<b>Learning Objectives</b>	
LO1	To understand the core feminist ideas and debates concerning gender, women and their political, social and economic positions
LO2	To know focus is on the diversity within feminist thought in terms of theoretical frameworks.
LO3	A core goal is to equip students to interpret the world from a variety of feminist.
LO4	To exploring tensions that have inspired new ways of theorizing.
LO5	To achieve full gender equality in law and in practice.

Units	Course Syllabus
Unit – 1	The Feminist Tradition - Concept and need for Women’s Studies – Scope of Women’s Studies – Women’s Studies as an academic discipline. Women’s Movements – Pre-independent, Post-independent and Current women’s movements.
Unit – 2	Waves and Schools of Feminism - First, second and third waves of feminism - Radical feminism - Liberal/ Cultural feminism - Marxist / Socialist feminism - Psychoanalytic approach to feminism - Care focused approach to feminism - Postcolonial feminism - Postmodern feminism / Global feminism, Third world feminism - Eco feminism/ Gender and development
Unit – 3	Women’s/ Gender Terms and Concepts - Patriarchy - Gender Roles - Gender Mainstreaming - Performing Gender – Intersectionality – Positionality – Perspectives – Stereotyping - Feminism and Feminazism - Feminization of Poverty - Five Sexes - The Other – Agency – Empowerment - Gender Continuum – LGBT
Unit – 4:	Structural and Philosophical Background to Feminist ideologies - Moral theory - Normative theory – Vulnerability - Human Rights - Equality and Equity - Ecofeminism and Development from Gender Perspective
Unit – 5:	Unit V- Limitations and Scope of the existing body of Feminist theories and ideologies Feminist Ideologies – Mainstream feminism, feminism from the margins, white feminism, black feminism, Indian feminism – Importance of interdisciplinary/ multidisciplinary approach to feminism – Limitations and scope for research using perspectives of feminism.

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<b>Course out Come:</b>	
1.	Will provide new and improved perspectives on major themes – women's issues, gender, sexuality, caste to name a few
2.	Will exhibits cooperation, mutual care and love
3.	To know and understand hermaphrodite
4.	Women's and girls' rights are human rights. They cover every aspect of life
5.	Will contribute for faster and more inclusive economic growth

<b>Books for Reading:</b>	
1.	Maitrayee Chaudhuri, Feminism in India, Zed Books 2004
2.	Nivedita Menon, Seeing Like a Feminist, New Delhi : Published by Zubaan in collaboration with Penguin Books, 2012.
3.	Book by Chris Beasley, What is Feminism? An Introduction to Feminist Theory SAGE Publications, 1999
4.	Warhol- Down, Robyn & Diane Price-Herndel. 1997. Feminisms: An Anthology of Literary
5.	Putnam Tong, Rosemarie. 2013. Feminist Thought: A More Comprehensive Introduction

<b>Reference Book :</b>	
1.	DeBeauvoir, Simone. 1961. The Second Sex. New York: Bantam.
2.	Friedan, Betty. 1963. The Feminine Mystique. USA: W W Norton & Co
3.	Hughes, Christiana. 2002. Key Concepts in Feminist Theory and Research. London: Sage.

**Mapping with Programme Outcomes:**

	PO 1	PO 2	PO 3	PO 4	PO 5	PO 6	PO 7	PO 8	PO 9	PO 10
<b>CO 1</b>	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1
<b>CO 2</b>	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
<b>CO 3</b>	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2
<b>CO 4</b>	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	1
<b>CO 5</b>	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	1

**Strong (3)      Medium (2)      Low (1)**

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**Mapping with Programme Specific Outcomes:**

	<b>PO 1</b>	<b>PO 2</b>	<b>PO 3</b>	<b>PO 4</b>	<b>PO 5</b>	<b>PO6</b>	<b>PO7</b>	<b>PO8</b>	<b>PO9</b>	<b>PO10</b>
<b>CO 1</b>	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
<b>CO 2</b>	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
<b>CO 3</b>	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
<b>CO 4</b>	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
<b>CO 5</b>	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
<b>Weightage</b>	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
<b>Weighted percentage of course contribution to POS</b>	5-0	5-0	5-0	5-0	5-0	5-0	5-0	5-0	5-0	5-0

**Strong (3) Medium (2) Low (1)**