



ಆದಿಕವಿ ಶ್ರೀ ಮಹರ್ಷಿ ವಾಲ್ಮೀಕಿ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾನಿಲಯ, ರಾಯಚೂರು
ADIKAVI SRI MAHARSHI VALMIKI UNIVERSITY, RAICHUR

**M.A Women's Studies
SYLLABUS**

IIIrd Semester

With effect from:2026-27

M.A Women's Studies
Syllabus Structure

III rd Semester

Paper	Title	Credits	Marks	Teaching hours
HCT 3.1	Gender and Development	5	100	60
HCT 3.2	Gendering Science and Technology	5	100	60
HCT 3.3	Indian Feminism : An Intersectional Approach	5	100	60
HCT 3.4	Gender and Society	5	100	60
SCT 3.1	a. Micro Finance and Self – Help Groups Management b. Gendering Food and Nutrition	5	100	60
O.E 3.1	a. Introduction to Women and Law b. Women's development and Empowerment	2	50	30
Total		27	550	330

Gender and Development

Paper Title	Gender and Development
Credits	5
Total Marks	100(Theory:80,Internal:20)
Total Hours	60
Course Code	HCT3.1

Course Description
This course focuses on the theoretical and practical aspects of Gender and Development. Students will explore social changes and development policies in both global and national contexts. It emphasizes the intersection of gender with social, economic, and political systems
Course Objectives (COs)
COs
1. To understand key concepts, theories, and approaches in Gender and Development.
2. To analyze the relationship between gender and social change at the global and national levels.
3. To explore different development policies aimed at promoting gender equality.
4. To critically evaluate the role of international organizations and policies in gender development.
5. To engage in practical case studies and projects to apply theoretical knowledge to real-world contexts.

Module	Course Contents	Instruction Hours
Module 1:	Introduction to Gender and Development: Definition, Key concepts: Gender equality, equity, and empowerment. Historical background of Gender and Development studies. Overview of development theories: modernization, dependency, world systems theory. Intersectionality in gender and development. Social Change and Gender Perspectives: Concept of social change and its relation to gender. Theories of social change (e.g., conflict theory, structural-functionalism). Globalization and its gendered impacts. Role of gender in Social institutions: Family, education, media.	12Hrs

Module 2:	Global Perspectives on Gender : International frameworks for gender equality: SDGs. Gender development indices (GDI, GEM). Role of global organizations (e.g., UN, World Bank) in promoting gender equality. Examples from developed countries: Sweden, Rwanda, Norway. National Approaches to Gender: Gender policies in India: Key legislations (e.g., National Policy for Women). Role of institutions like NCW. Gender budgeting in India. Case studies: Gender programs at state level(Karnataka, Kerala).	12Hrs
Module3:	Gender and Economic Development: Gender disparities in employment: Wage gaps, labor market participation. Women's role in the informal economy. Economic empowerment programs: Microfinance, SHGs, Udyogini. Case studies on economic empowerment in developing countries. Political Empowerment and Gender: Political participation of women: Trends, challenges. Role of quotas and reservations in political representation. Grassroots movements and political activism. Case studies: Women leaders in politics (Angela Merkel, Sirleaf).	12Hrs
Module4:	Case Studies in Gender and Development: Global gender policy (e.g., UN Women's Empowerment Principles). National gender- based development policy (Beti Bachao Beti Padhao). Gender-based grass roots movements (SEWA, #MeToo).	12Hrs
Module5:	Practical Approaches to Gender Policies : Steps to create gender-sensitive policies. Challenges in implementing gender policies. Project development and monitoring. Project proposal: Gender-sensitive intervention in health or education.	12Hrs

Assessment Methods

Assessment	Marks
Theory Assessment	80Marks
Internal Assessment	20Marks

Question Paper Pattern

Section	Description	Marks
Part A	05 Short Answer Questions(04Markseach)	20 Marks
Part B	05 Medium Answer Questions(12Markseach)	60 Marks

Gendering Science and Technology

Paper Title:	Gendering Science and Technology
Credits:	5
Total Marks:)	100(Theory:80,Internal:20
Total Hours:	60
Course Code:	HCT3.2
Course Description	
This course examines the intersections of gender with science and technology, focusing on how these fields have been historically gendered and how gender influences technological development. It aims to provide students with theoretical insights and practical applications to assess and challenge gender biases within the domains of science and technology.	
Course Objectives(COs)	
COs	
1. To understand the historical context and evolution of gender in science and technology.	
2. To analyze the gender dynamics with in scientific and technological fields.	
3. To explore global and national initiatives addressing gender in equality in STEM fields.	
4. To critically evaluate there presentation and participation of women in science and technology.	
5. To engage in case studies and projects that highlight practical approaches to gender inclusivity in science and technology.	

Module	Course Contents	Instruction Hours
Module 1:	Introduction to Gender and Technology: Introduction to Gendering Science and Technology, Definition of gender in science and technology. Historical exclusion of women in scientific and technological advancements. The gendered construction of knowledge in STEM fields. Intersectionality and its role in understanding gender in STEM. Gender Bias in Technology: Understanding gender bias in technology design (e.g., algorithms, AI). The under representation of women in tech leadership roles. The digital divide: Gender and access to technology globally. Case studies on gender-biased technologies (e.g., health tech).	12Hrs
Module2:	Global and National Perspectives on Gender in STEM : Global Initiatives on Gender and Technology, Role of international organizations (e.g., UN Women, UNESCO) in promoting gender equality in STEM. Global policies and programs addressing gender gaps in science and technology (e.g., Gender in STEM Initiative, She Codes). Case studies from developed countries: Initiatives in the US, UK, and Germany.	12Hrs

	National Approaches to Gender in Science and Technology : Gender policies in India's STEM sectors. National initiatives promoting women in science and technology (e.g., Women Scientists Scheme by DST). Gender-sensitive innovation policies. Case studies: Women in STEM programs in India.	
Module3:	Women in Science and Technology : Women's Participation in STEM, Gender disparities in STEM education and careers. Barriers to women's entry and retention in STEM. Policies and programs to increase women's participation in STEM (e.g., scholarships, mentorship). Case studies: Successful women in STEM (e.g., Marie Curie, Kalpana Chawla). Gender, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship: Women's role in technological Innovation and entrepreneurship. Challenges faced by women innovators and entrepreneurs in the tech industry. Case studies on women-led tech startups.	12Hrs
Module4:	Case Studies and Practical Approaches Gender and Technology, Gender in equality in scientific research. Case study 2: Gender and AI ethics (e.g., facial recognition technology). Case study 3: Women in tech leadership positions.	12Hrs
Module5:	Practical Solutions for Gender Inclusivity in Technology : Steps to reduce gender bias in technological design. Developing gender-inclusive policies for science and technology fields. Project proposal: Promoting gender diversity in tech workplaces.	12Hrs

Assessment Methods

Assessment	Marks
Theory Assessment	80 Marks
Internal Assessment	20 Marks

Question Paper Pattern

Section	Description	Marks
Part A	05 Short Answer Questions(04 Marks each)	20 Marks
Part B	05 Medium Answer Questions(12 Marks each)	60 Marks

Indian Feminism: An Intersectional Approach

Paper Title	Indian Feminism: An Intersectional Approach
Credits	5
Total Marks	100 (Theory:80, Internal:20)
Total Hours	60
Course Code	HCT3.3

Course Description
This course provides an in-depth exploration of Indian feminisms, drawing from intersectional feminist theory to examine the complexities of caste, class, religion, and sexuality within the context of Indian society. It emphasizes the role of feminist movements in India while referencing global perspectives to provide a comparative framework. The course will explore both historical and contemporary feminist debates and their relevance to modern social justice issues, drawing on recent reports and theoretical insights from Indian and international scholars.
Course Objectives(COs)
Cos
1. To understand the development of Indian feminisms through historical and socio-political lenses.
2. To apply intersectional feminist theories to analyze issues of caste, class,gender,and sexuality in India.
3. To critically evaluate contemporary feminist movements and their impact on social,legal,and cultural contexts.
4. To engage with global feminist theories and explore their resonance in the Indian context.
5. To conduct practical applications of feminist theories through case studies and research-based projects.

Module	Course Contents	Instruction Hours
Module 1:	Historical Context of Indian Feminisms: Introduction to Indian Feminisms, The evolution of feminist thought in India. Key feminist figures and milestones. Role of colonialism and postcolonialism in shaping Indian feminisms. Early Feminist Movements : Women's participation in social reform movements. Intersection of gender with caste and class during India's independence movement. Contributions of women in the nationalist Movements and post-independence challenges.	12Hrs
Module2:	Intersectional Feminism in India : Intersectionality as a Theoretical Framework, Introduction to intersectionality (Crenshaw). Analyzing how caste, class, religion, and gender intersect in India. Feminist critiques of traditional patriarchal structures in India. Marginalized Voices and Intersectional Feminism : Feminist movements among Dalit women. Feminist advocacy for Adivasi, Muslim, and LGBTQ+ communities in India. Role of intersectionality in contemporary feminist movements.	12Hrs
Module3:	Feminist Theories and Movements : Global Feminist Theories, Overview of international feminist theories (e.g., postcolonial feminism, Black feminism, ecofeminism). Comparative analysis of global feminist theories and Indian feminisms. Understanding the global-local nexus in feminist thought. Effective Digital Feminism Strategies Best practices for digital feminist activism. Building online communities for sustained engagement. Measuring the impact of digital feminist initiatives. Contemporary Feminist Movements in India : Movements like #MeTooIndia, Pinjra Tod, and their socio- political significance. Feminist interventions in labor, education, and political representation. Legal reforms and gender rights in contemporary India.	12Hrs
Module4:	Gender, Policy, and Social Justice : Policy and Gender Rights, Review of national and international reports on gender policy (e.g., UN Gender Reports, CEDAW). Policies related to women's rights in India: reservations, employment, health, and education. Feminist critiques of state policies and institutional practices.	12Hrs
Module5:	Gender, Violence, and Social Justice : Understanding gender-based violence in India. Feminist legal activism: role of the judiciary in addressing gender injustices. Case studies: Nirbhaya movement, legal reforms on domestic violence, and sexual harassment	12Hrs

Assessment Methods

Assessment	Marks
Theory Assessment	80 Marks
Internal Assessment	20 Marks

Question Paper Pattern

Section	Description	Marks
Part A	05 Short Answer Questions(04 Marks each)	20 Marks
Part B	05 Medium Answer Questions(12 Marks each)	60 Marks

References:

1. Crenshaw, Kimberlé. "Mapping the Margins: Intersectionality, Identity Politics, and Violence against Women of Color." *Stanford Law Review*, 1991.
2. Chakravarti, Uma. *Gendering Caste: Through a Feminist Lens*. Stree Publishers, 2003.
3. John, Mary E. *Women's Studies in India: A Reader*. Penguin, 2008.
4. Tharu, Susie, and K. Lalita. *Women Writing in India: 600 BC to the Present*. Oxford University Press, 1993.
5. Menon, Nivedita. *Seeing Like a Feminist*. Zubaan, 2012.
6. Mohanty, Chandra Talpade. *Feminism Without Borders: Decolonizing Theory, Practicing Solidarity*. Duke University Press, 2003.
7. Reports: UN Women, CEDAW, National Policy for Women (India), Nirbhaya Fund Reports.

Gender and Society

Paper Title	Gender and Society
Credits	5
Total Marks	100 (Theory:80, Internal:20)
Total Hours	60
Course Code	HCT3.4

Course Description
This course explores contemporary gender issues from both national and global perspectives, engaging with new theoretical frameworks like intersectionality, digital feminism, and queer theory. It introduces students to global and national gender strategies, feminist research methodologies, and policy initiatives addressing systemic gender in equalities. Key areas of study include gender in digital spaces, emerging global gender policies, the role of international organizations, and feminist approaches to social justice. The course in corporate case studies from different regions, focusing on gender identities, media representation, gender-based violence, LGBTQ+ rights, and economic empowerment.
Course Objectives(COs)
COs
1. To understand and apply contemporary gender theories and strategies to societal issues.
2. To explore global and national gender policies, including emerging frameworks and initiatives.
3. To critically examine how digital spaces and technology influence gender relations and identities.
4. To engage with feminist methodologies and research strategies, particularly in addressing gender in equalities and advocacy.
5. To evaluate gender-based case studies from a global perspective, integrating intersectional and postcolonial feminist perspectives.

Module	Course Contents	Instruction Hours
Module1:	New Theoretical on Gender: Intersectionality and Postcolonial Feminism Introduction to intersectionality (Kimberlé Crenshaw) and its application in gender studies. Queer Theory and Gender Fluidity: Queer theory and its challenge to traditional gender binaries (Judith Butler). Understanding gender fluidity and non-binary identities in global and Indian contexts. Legal and social frameworks supporting LGBTQ+ communities (e.g., decriminalization of Section 377, Global movements).	12Hrs
Module2:	Global and National Gender Policies and Strategies : International Frameworks and Gender Equality, Global initiatives: Sustainable Development Goals (SDG 5: Gender Equality). Role of international organizations (UN Women, CEDAW) in shaping gender policies. Case studies: Global gender strategies (Nordic gender equality models, Rwanda's gender policies). National Approaches to Gender and Development: Gender policies in India: From the National Policy for Women to the recent gender-sensitive budgeting. Gender-responsive strategies in public institutions: Health, education, employment. Case studies: National gender initiatives (Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, Ujjwala Yojana).	12Hrs
Module3:	Digital Spaces and Gender: Digital Feminism and Activism. Gender, Technology, and Cyber security: Digital gender divides: Access to technology and its gendered implications. Gender and cyber violence: Cyber bullying, harassment, and legal protections. Strategies for creating safe digital spaces for women and LGBTQ+ communities.	12Hrs
Module4:	Contemporary Gender Issues in Global and Local Contexts: Gender-Based Violence and Global Strategies. Global prevalence of gender-based violence (GBV): Statistics and trends (WHO reports). Feminist activism and legal reforms addressing GBV (e.g., Domestic Violence Act in India, Violence Against Women Act in the US). Role of civil society and grassroots movements in Combating BV.	12Hrs
Module5:	Gender, Violence, and Social Justice : Understanding gender-based violence in India. Feminist legal activism: role of the judiciary in addressing gender injustices. Case studies: Nirbhaya movement, legal reforms on domestic violence, and sexual harassment.	12Hrs

Assessment Methods

Assessment	Marks
Theory Assessment	80 Marks
Internal Assessment	20 Marks

Question Paper Pattern

Section	Description	Marks
Part A	05 Short Answer Questions(04 Marks each)	20 Marks
Part B	05 Medium Answer Questions(12 Mark each)	60 Marks

References:

1. Crenshaw, Kimberlé. "Mapping the Margins: Intersectionality, Identity Politics, and Violence against Women of Color." *Stanford Law Review*, 1991.
2. Chakravarti, Uma. *Gendering Caste: Through a Feminist Lens*. Stree Publishers, 2003.
3. John, Mary E. *Women's Studies in India: A Reader*. Penguin, 2008.
4. Tharu, Susie, and K. Lalita. *Women Writing in India: 600 BC to the Present*. Oxford University Press, 1993.
6. Menon, Nivedita. *Seeing Like a Feminist*. Zubaan, 2012.
7. Mohanty, Chandra Talpade. *Feminism Without Borders: Decolonizing Theory, Practicing Solidarity*. Duke University Press, 2003.
8. Reports: UN Women, CEDAW, National Policy for Women (India), Nirbhaya Fund Reports.

Micro-finance and Self-help Groups Management

Paper Title	Micro-finance and Self-help Groups Management
Credits	5
Total Marks	100 (Theory:80, Internal:20)
Total Hours	60
Course Code	SCT3.1

Course Description

This course provides an in-depth understanding of micro-finance models and the role of Self-Help Groups (SHGs) in fostering economic development. It focuses on the operational mechanism so micro- finance in situations, their impact on poverty alleviation, and how SHGs empower women and marginalized communities through financial inclusion. The course combines theoretical insights with practical applications to equip students with knowledge of managing and sustaining SHGs and micro- finance programs.

Course Objectives(COs)

1. To understand the concepts and models of micro-finance and their role in socio-economic development.
2. To analyze the functioning of Self-Help Groups (SHGs)and their contribution to poverty alleviation.
3. To examine the role of micro-finance in women's empowerment.
4. To explore challenges in managing micro-finance institutions and SHGs.
5. To engage in practical projects related to SHG management and micro-finance operations.

Module	Course Contents	Instruction Hours
Module1:	Introduction to Micro-finance : Concept and Evolution of Micro- finance, Definition and characteristics of micro-finance. Evolution of micro- finance institutions (MFIs). The role of micro- finance in economic development and poverty reduction. Micro- finance Models: Various models of micro-finance(Grameen Model, SHG Model, Cooperative Model). Differences between formal and informal micro- finance institutions. Case studies of successful micro- finance models.	12Hrs

Module2:	Self-help Groups(SHG)sand Women Empowerment: SHG Formation and Management Process of SHG formation and functioning. Role of SHGs in savings, credit, and income generation. SHG management and leadership roles within the group. SHGs and Women's Empowerment :The role of SHGs in empowering women economically and socially SH G-bank linkage programs. Case studies of successful SHGs in India.	12Hrs
Module3:	Micro- finance Institutions and Operations: Micro-finance Institutions (MFIs) in India, Role and structure of MFIs in India. Regulations governing MFIs (e.g., RBI regulations).Impact of MFIs on financial inclusion and poverty alleviation. Challenges in Micro- finance Operations: Common challenges faced by MFIs and SHGs (e.g., loan defaults, operational risks). Strategies to improve financial sustainability of MFIs. Impact of the COVID-19pandemic on micro-finance operations	12Hrs
Module4:	Case Studies and Practical Approaches: Case Studies of Micro-finance and SHG Success, The Grameen Bank model. SHGs and women's entrepreneurship in South India. Impact of SHGs on poverty reduction in Karnataka.	12Hrs
Module5:	Practical Solutions for SHG and Micro-finance Management: Designing a sustainable micro-finance program. Project proposal: Setting up anSHG- based micro-finance system. Steps to ensure account ability and transparency in SHG management.	12Hrs

AssessmentMethods

Assessment	Marks
Theory Assessment	80Marks
Internal Assessment	20Marks

Question Paper Pattern

Section	Description	Marks
Part A	05ShortAnswerQuestions(04Marks each)	20Marks
Part B	05 Medium Answer Questions(12Markseach)	60Marks

Gendering Food and Nutrition

Paper Title	Gendering Food and Nutrition
Credits	5
Total Marks	100 (Theory:80, Internal:20)
Total Hours	60
Course Code	SCT3.2

Course Description

This course explores the intersections of gender with food and nutrition, focusing on how gender roles, responsibilities, and power dynamics influence food access, nutrition, and health outcomes. It aims to provide students with a critical understanding of gender disparities in food security and nutrition, both at the household and community levels, and to highlight policies and strategies that address gender inequalities in nutrition and food systems.

Course Objectives (COs)

1. To understand the relationship between gender, food, and nutrition.
2. To analyze how gender roles and power relations impact food security and nutrition.
3. To explore gender-sensitive approaches to improving food and nutrition systems.
4. To examine case studies on gender, food access, and malnutrition.
5. To engage in discussions on global and national policies aimed at reducing gender inequalities in nutrition.

Module	Course Contents	Instruction Hours
Module1:	Introduction to Gender and Nutrition: Understanding Gender and Nutrition, Definition of gender and its significance in nutrition. Historical context of gender roles in food and nutrition. Gendered perspectives on health and nutrition. Theoretical Frameworks in Gender Studies: Overview of feminist theories related to nutrition. Social constructivism and its implications for gender and nutrition. Intersectionality in understanding gender and food.	12Hrs
Module2:	Gender and Food Security : Food Security and Gender Inequality, Definition of food security and its gendered dimensions. Women's roles in ensuring food security at household and community levels. Gender, poverty, and food insecurity.	12Hrs

Module3:	Policy and Programmatic Approaches :National Policies on Gender and Nutrition, Overview of India’s national policies on gender and nutrition. National Food Security Act and its gender implications. Role of the Public Distribution System (PDS). Global Policies on Gender and Food :International organizations addressing gender and food security (e.g., FAO, UN Women). Global case studies on gender-sensitive nutrition programs.	12Hrs
Module4:	Case Studies and Practical Solutions: Gender, Food, and Nutrition in Practice Women’s role in sustainable agriculture. Gender- sensitive nutrition programs in India and globally. Impact of food systems on women’s health.	12Hrs
Module5:	Developing Gender-Sensitive Solutions: Practical strategies to address gender gaps in food and nutrition. Designing community-based interventions for gender equality in nutrition. Project proposal on gender and food.	12Hrs

Assessment Methods

Assessment	Marks
Theory Assessment	80Marks
Internal Assessment	20Marks

QuestionPaperPattern

Section	Description	Marks
Part A	05ShortAnswerQuestions(04Marks each)	20Marks
Part B	05 Medium Answer Questions(12Markseach)	60Marks

Course title : a. Introduction to Women and Law		Course Code: OET 3.1 (a)	Semester : III
Scheme of Instruction		Scheme of Examination	
Total Duration:	30Hrs	Maximum Score	50
Periods/Week	2	Internal Evaluations	10
Credits	2	End Semester	40
Instruction Mode	Lecture	Exam Duration	2 Hrs

Course Objectives :

- To introduce students to the relationship between women, law, and society.
- To familiarize students with the constitutional and legal rights of women in India.
- To create awareness about laws that promote gender justice and protect women's rights.

Course Outcomes:

- After completing the course, students will be able to:
- Understand the constitutional and legal framework relating to women's rights in India.
- Explain the major laws enacted for the protection and empowerment of women.
- Identify legal remedies available to women in different situations.
- Analyse contemporary issues affecting women from a legal perspective.
- Develop awareness of gender justice, equality, and the importance of the rule of law.

Module	Course Contents	Instruction Hours
I	Women, Law, and the Constitution Meaning and scope of women and law, Gender justice and legal equality, Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles relating to women Constitutional provisions for women's empowerment, Role of the judiciary in protecting women's rights.	10Hrs
II	Laws Protecting Women in India Laws relating to domestic violence, Laws against sexual harassment at the workplace, Dowry Prohibition Act, Laws relating to marriage, divorce, maintenance, and inheritance, Laws against child marriage and trafficking	10Hrs
III	Contemporary Issues and Women's Rights Women and human rights, Cybercrime and women's safety, Women at the workplace: Rights and challenges, Legal aid and access to justice, Emerging issues in gender justice. Case Study: 1 Indian Young Lawyers Association v. State of Kerala Theme: Equality versus religious tradition The Court held that women of menstruating age could not be barred from entering the temple. The judgment sparked a national debate on equality and freedom of religion. Discussion: How should courts balance religious freedom and gender equality? Case Study : 2 Shayara Bano v. Union of India Theme: Gender justice and religious practices The Supreme Court declared instant triple talaq unconstitutional. It strengthened the rights of Muslim women while balancing constitutional values and personal law. Discussion: Should constitutional rights prevail over discriminatory customs?	10Hrs

Reference Books:

1. Women and Law in India: An Omnibus Comprising Law and Gender Inequality, Enslaved Daughters, and Hindu Women and Marriage Law. Flavia Agnes. Oxford University Press.
2. Law Relating to Women and Children. H. O. Agarwal. Central Law Publications.
3. Women and Law. Paras Diwan and Peeyushi Diwan. Allahabad Law Agency.
4. Gender and the Law. N. R. Madhava Menon (Ed.). Eastern Book Company.
5. Human Rights of Women in India. Mamta Rao. Eastern Book Company.
6. Feminist Theory: From Margin to Center. bell hooks. South End Press.
7. The Second Sex. Simone de Beauvoir. Vintage Books.
8. Women's Human Rights: CEDAW in International, Regional and National Law. Anne Hellum and Henriette Sinding Aasen (Eds.). Cambridge University Press.
9. Women's Rights are Human Rights. United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. United Nations.
10. Gender and Justice. Elaine Unterhalter and Sheila Aikman (Eds.). Oxfam.
11. Constitution of India. Government of India (Latest Edition).
12. Women and the Indian Constitution. Archana Parashar. Sweet & Maxwell.
13. Gendering Caste: Through a Feminist Lens. Uma Chakravarti. Stree.
14. Women, Law and Social Change in India. Indira Jaising (Selected Writings).
15. Handbook on Laws for Women in India. National Commission for Women.

Course title : b. Women's Development and Empowerment		Course Code: OET 3.1 (b)	Semester : III
Scheme of Instruction		Scheme of Examination	
Total Duration:	30Hrs	Maximum Score	50
Periods/Week	2	Internal Evaluations	10
Credits	2	End Semester	40
Instruction Mode	Lecture	Exam Duration	2 Hrs

Course Objectives:

- To introduce students to the concepts of women's development and empowerment.
- To examine the social, economic, political, and educational dimensions of women's empowerment in India.
- To create awareness of government policies, legal provisions, and contemporary issues related to women's development.

Course Outcomes:

- After completing the course, students will be able to:
- Explain the concepts of women's development and empowerment.
- Analyse the social, economic, political, and educational dimensions of women's empowerment.
- Evaluate the role of constitutional provisions, government policies, and development programmes in promoting gender equality.
- Identify contemporary challenges affecting women's development and suggest possible solutions.
- Develop a gender-sensitive perspective and appreciate the importance of inclusive and sustainable development.

Module	Course Contents	Instruction Hours
I	Understanding Women's Development and Empowerment Concepts of development, gender, and empowerment, Status of women in India: Historical and contemporary perspectives, Women and human rights Gender equality and sustainable development, Barriers to women's empowerment.	10Hrs
II	Dimensions of Women's Empowerment Educational empowerment, Economic empowerment: Employment, entrepreneurship, and financial inclusion, Political empowerment: Representation and leadership, Health and reproductive rights, Digital empowerment and media literacy	10Hrs
III	Policies, Programmes, and Contemporary Issues Constitutional provisions for women's development, Government schemes for women (e.g., Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, Mission Shakti, Self-Help Groups), Role of NGOs and civil society in women's empowerment, Contemporary issues: Gender-based violence, cyber safety, workplace equality, and climate change, Success stories of women leaders and entrepreneurs in India.	10Hrs

Reference Books:

1. Women, Development and Empowerment: A Reader. Edited by Meenakshi Malhotra. Sage Publications India.
2. Women and Human Development: The Capabilities Approach. Martha C. Nussbaum. Cambridge University Press.
3. Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide. Nicholas D. Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn. Vintage Books.
4. Development as Freedom. Amartya Sen. Oxford University Press.
5. Seeing Like a Feminist. Nivedita Menon. Penguin Random House India.

6. *The History of Doing: An Illustrated Account of Movements for Women's Rights and Feminism in India, 1800–1990*. Radha Kumar. Zubaan.
7. *Women in Modern India*. Geraldine Forbes. Cambridge University Press.
8. *Gendering Caste: Through a Feminist Lens*. Uma Chakravarti. Stree.
9. *Women and Development: The Indian Experience*. Neera Desai and Maithreyi Krishnaraj. Popular Prakashan.
10. *Women in India: How Free? How Equal?*. United Nations Development Programme.
11. *Recasting Women: Essays in Colonial History*. Edited by Kumkum Sangari and Sudesh Vaid. Kali for Women.
12. *Writing Caste/Writing Gender: Narrating Dalit Women's Testimonios*. Sharmila Rege. Zubaan.
13. *Women's Empowerment: Issues, Challenges and Strategies*. Vibhuti Patel. Himalaya Publishing House.
14. *Women, Power and Property*. Bina Agarwal. Oxford University Press.
15. *The Gender Gap Report*. World Economic Forum (Latest Edition).