

A brief history of feminist movement in Pakistan (HIST 2325)

Credit Hour: 4

Teaching Mode: In Person

Schedule: Monday to Friday (11.30 AM – 2.20 PM)

Instructor: Zainab Najeeb

Course Description:

This course is situated at the intersections of history, women's movements and feminist struggles in Pakistan specifically, and South Asia in a larger context. The purpose of this course is to trace the trajectory of feminist struggles and women-centric movements within the larger history of Pakistan as a post-colonial nation-state contrasted with the very nature of "doing" politics in Pakistan. Rather than historicizing the various movements or tying them together as monolithic "feminist struggles," the purpose of the course is to study and explore the changing patterns and transformative trajectory that feminist and women's movements in Pakistan have experienced. The aim of this course is to trace how feminism expanded, contracted, changed and re-changed over the years, informed by the changing patterns of feminist and women-centric movements across the world.

Most importantly, the aim of this course is to house feminism within a local context so as to counter the debates projecting feminism a "western" concept. This course will act as a bridge between mainstream perceptions of feminism in Pakistan that tends to alienate those involved in such struggles and our true heroes who have led the feminist movements from the front line.