

Gender & Women's Studies Colloquium Fall 2017



**Thursday, September 28
3:45 pm
3401 Sterling Hall**

Aili Tripp

Professor of
Gender & Women Studies
and Political Science
University of Wisconsin – Madison
2016-17 Feminist Scholar

"Women's Rights and Legal Reform: Contrasting the Maghrib and the Middle East"

For decades it seemed that women's rights in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) had permanently fallen behind other world regions and were even regressing in many areas. Today the picture is rapidly changing in the Maghrib, particularly in Algeria, Tunisia, and Morocco. These changes are evident in the adoption of constitutional and legal reforms affecting women and in significant increases in women's political representation through changes in quota laws. Although Tunisia was always considered a leader in the region in women's rights, the three countries have now converged and are passing legislation around women's rights almost in tandem. Algeria and Tunisia have the highest rates of female legislative representation in the MENA countries: 32% in both countries compared with the MENA average of 10%. The talk explains this convergence of the three Maghrib countries around legal reforms and why these countries have been on a different trajectory than the Middle East regarding women's rights over the past 15 years ago. It explains this divergence through comparative analysis of stability, democratic attitudes, political space and press freedom in the MENA region.

Wheelchair accessible, free, and open to the public.

CENTER FOR RESEARCH
ON GENDER & WOMEN



Sponsored by the
Center for Research on Gender and Women
For more information call 263-2053, or email crgw@letsци.wisc.edu
<http://www.womenstudies.wisc.edu/CRGW>