In spring 2016, the Center for Women’s Global Leadership will lead a three-credit experiential course on the practice of feminist advocacy on behalf of women’s human rights at the local, national, and global levels, especially as seen at the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW).

The course offers 20 3rd and 4th year students a chance to observe and experience feminist advocacy praxis linking community activism and international human rights standards and structures. Students will spend four days in New York City attending official government CSW sessions, which will focus on the issue of women’s economic empowerment. They will participate in workshops led by nongovernmental organizations from around the world to meet and discuss advocacy strategies with US and international activists.

Central to the life of the course will be case studies linking community engagement to global human rights mechanisms to strengthen local and national organizing, including the right to an adequate standard of living, the right to work and the right to non-discrimination/equality. Students will also reflect on their experiences and develop critical analyses of the state of feminist activism and their own activist goals. The culmination of the course will be the planning and organization of a public event to share their learning with the broader Rutgers community. The course will be eligible as credit under the Rutgers Civic Scholar Certificate of the Collaborative Center for Community-Based Research and Service. CWGL will also collaborate with Douglass Residential College, Centers for Global Advancement and International Affairs (GAIA Centers) and the Institute for Women’s Leadership and throughout the spring 2016 semester.

For 25 years, the Center for Women’s Global Leadership (CWGL), based at Rutgers University, has been actively engaged at the United Nations (UN) to strengthen and facilitate women’s leadership for human rights and social justice worldwide. Every March, CWGL joins activists from around the world in advocacy at the UN promoting women’s human rights and gender equality at the CSW, which is dedicated to gender equality and the advancement of women. In its first meeting following the adoption of the new global Sustainable Development Goals, the CSW will take up a review of the progress made for women and girls toward economic empowerment. It will be an exciting opportunity to learn, observe and practice feminist advocacy.

Submit your application and resume by October 26, 2015. Candidates chosen for the course will be notified of their acceptance in November 2015 and provided with the necessary information needed to register for the course via email.

Check out video with course highlights at www.cwgl.rutgers.edu!