Women's and Gender Studies

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The Department of Women's and Gender Studies offers students an interdisciplinary curriculum that focuses on the diverse experiences of women and the structures of power in both national and international contexts. The department also examines the meaning of gender as a socially constructed category that shapes personal identities, beliefs, opportunities, and behaviors. Courses explore the intersections of gender, race, class, and sexuality; the institutional structures that have an impact on people's lives; and the broad range of feminist theory that seeks to explain and influence women's status in society.

The department is administered by a committee of faculty members appointed by the dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. The department is interdisciplinary, and courses are taught in many areas of study: anthropology, architecture, arts and administration, education, English, ethnic studies, history, international studies, journalism, literature, philosophy, public policy and management, political science, psychology, and sociology, among others.

Any student may take women's and gender studies courses. Some students take a few courses to complement the curriculum in another major. Others choose to fulfill the requirements for a major in women's and gender studies or a minor in women's and gender studies or in queer studies.

Most women's and gender studies courses satisfy group and multicultural requirements. For courses approved to fulfill these requirements, see the current list on the registrar's website.

Faculty


Emerita


The date in parentheses at the end of each entry is the first year on the University of Oregon faculty.

Participating

Joan R. Acker, sociology
Laura J. Alpert, art
Barbara K. Altmann, Romance languages
Susan C. Anderson, German and Scandinavian
Monique Balbuena, honors college
Judith R. Baskin, Judaic studies
Diane B. Baxter, anthropology
Erin Beck, political science
Aletta Biersack, anthropology
Louise M. Bishop, honors college
Elizabeth A. Bohls, English
Sara N. Brownmiller, library
Krista Chronister, counseling psychology and human services
Suzanne Clark, English
Jane K. Cramer, political science
Dianne M. Dugaw, English
Maram Epstein, East Asian languages and literatures
Caroline Forell, law
Linda M. Forrest, counseling psychology and human services
Lisa Freinkel, English
Jennifer J. Freyd, psychology
Alison Gash, political science
Lisa M. Gilman, English
Amalia Gladhart, Romance languages
Marion Sherman Goldman, sociology
Women’s and Gender Studies

Bryna Goodman, history  
Sangita Gopal, English  
Deborah A. Green, Judaic studies  
Michael Hames-Garcia, ethnic studies  
Susan W. Hardwick, geography  
Leslie J. Harris, law  
April Haynes, history  
Ellen Herman, history  
Jocelyn Hollander, sociology  
Daniel HoSang, political science  
Mary Jaeger, classics  
Lamia Karim, anthropology  
Lauren J. Kessler, journalism and communication  
Linda Kintz, English  
Brian Klopotek, ethnic studies  
Cheris Kramarae, Center for the Study of Women in Society  
C. Anne Laskaya, English  
David Leiwei Li, English  
Joseph E. Lowndes, political science  
Kathryn A. Lynch, environmental studies  
Bonnie Mann, philosophy  
Gabriela Martinez, journalism and communication  
Barbara D. May, Romance languages  
Randall E. McGowen, history  
Michelle McKinley, law  
Karen McPherson, Romance languages  
Debra L. Merskin, journalism and communication  
Quinn Miller, English  
Fabienne Moore, Romance languages  
Geraldine Moreno Black, anthropology  
Sandra L. Morgen, anthropology  
Madonna L. Moss, anthropology  
Karl Norgaard, sociology  
Dorothee Ostmeier, German and Scandinavian  
Eileen M. Otis, sociology  
Priscilla P. Ovalle, English  
Amanda W. Powell, Romance languages  
Scott L. Pratt, philosophy  
Jenifer Presto, comparative literature  
F. Regina Psaki, Romance languages  
Forest Pyle, English  
Suzanne E. Rowe, law  
Tze-Lan Sang, East Asian languages and literatures  
Stephen J. Shoemaker, religious studies  
Nancy E. Shurtz, law  
Carol T. Silverman, anthropology  
Beata Stawarska, philosophy  
Leslie H. Steeves, journalism and communication  
Lynn Stephen, anthropology  
Analisa Taylor, Romance languages  
Courtney Thorsson, English  
Mark T. Unno, religious studies  
Dominick R. Vetri, law  
Merle H. Weiner, law  
Anita M. Weiss, international studies  
Louise Westling, English  
Elizabeth A. Wheeler, English  
Frances J. White, anthropology  
Lisa Wolverton, history  
Mary E. Wood, English  
Stephanie Wood, College of Education  
Priscilla Yamin, political science  
Naomi Zack, philosophy  

• Bachelor of Arts  
• Bachelor of Science  
• Minor in Women’s and Gender Studies  
• Minor in Queer Studies

Undergraduate Studies

Preparation

No specific high school preparation is necessary. Students who transfer to the university from other colleges may apply as many as 8 credits of women’s and gender studies courses to the major or to the minors.
Careers
An understanding of gender and of women’s experiences, abilities, and needs is an asset to careers in such fields as education, social service, government, business, law, medicine, the ministry, journalism, counseling, and child care. In addition, a background in women’s and gender studies can be used as a basis for entering a growing number of graduate programs that emphasize the study of women or gender.

Major Requirements
The Department of Women’s and Gender Studies offers an undergraduate major leading to a bachelor of arts (BA) or bachelor of science (BS) degree. Students may major in women’s and gender studies alone or as one of two or more majors. Majors must construct their programs in consultation with women’s and gender studies advisors.

Graded courses in the major must be completed with grades of C– or higher. No more than 12 credits taken pass/no pass in these courses may be counted toward the major.

At least 32 credits must be in upper-division courses. At least 24 upper-division credits must be taken at the University of Oregon. Women’s and gender studies majors must attain a grade point average of 2.50 or higher. Majors must construct their programs in consultation with women’s and gender studies advisors.

Major Requirements

Bachelor of Arts Degree Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core Courses</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WGS101 Introduction to Women’s and Gender Studies</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGS303 Women and Gender in American History</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGS315 History and Development of Feminist Theory</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGS321 Feminist Perspectives: Identity, Race, Culture</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGS351 Introduction to Global Feminisms</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGS352 Gender, Literature, and Culture</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGS411 Feminist Praxis (offered fall term only)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Electives</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Approved WGS courses</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper-division WGS or other approved subject courses</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Credits 48

Courses used to satisfy major requirements must be taken for letter grades except for the following courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WGS403</td>
<td>Thesis</td>
<td>1-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGS405</td>
<td>Reading and Conference: [Topic]</td>
<td>1-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGS409</td>
<td>Practicum: [Topic]</td>
<td>1-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGS413</td>
<td>Feminist Pedagogy</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Senior Thesis
Students interested in producing a substantial piece of original research and writing may elect to write a senior thesis in women’s and gender studies. Eligible students must have a cumulative GPA of 3.50 in women’s and gender studies courses.

Students producing a senior thesis should expect to do this work over the course of a full year prior to their graduation.

Summer-Fall
Students should identify a primary advisor who is either a faculty member in women’s and gender studies or an affiliate faculty member (see website for list of affiliates). By the end of the fall term, they should have a complete draft of a research proposal approved by their thesis advisor. Proposals will be five to eight pages in length and will identify an important issue in the field of gender-sexuality studies and the question or questions the student wishes to pursue about the topic. If an affiliate faculty member is advising the student, the student must have their proposal approved by their primary advisor in women’s and gender studies as well. Students should ideally take research or reading credits with their advisor during fall term.

Winter
Students must register for Reading and Conference: [Topic] (WGS405) and Research: [Topic] (WGS601). They spend winter term conducting research and writing the thesis, working closely with their advisors and attending the research course. By the end of winter term, students should have completed their research.

Spring
Students write, revise, and produce the thesis. A first draft is due in the third or fourth week of the term. A revised final draft is due in the sixth or seventh week of spring term. The length of a senior thesis will vary, but typically they are thirty-five to fifty pages long.

Honors in Women’s and Gender Studies
To graduate with honors in women’s and gender studies, a student must:

1. have an overall grade point average for UO and transfer credits of at least 3.50 through the winter term prior to graduation
2. gain approval for a research proposal from the department head during fall term of the academic year in which the thesis is completed
3. successfully complete Reading and Conference: [Topic] (WGS405) for thesis research during the academic year in which it is completed
4. register for a minimum of 4 credits in Thesis (WGS403).

The thesis must be completed and approved by the advisor and a second reader, chosen from the WGS faculty by the student, by Monday of the fifth week of the term in which the student intends to graduate with...
honors. The student’s performance on the thesis and on courses taken during the senior year will be reviewed before the honors distinction is granted. Obtain complete instructions and required forms from the women’s and gender studies office.

**Women’s and Gender Studies Minor Requirements**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WGS101 Introduction to Women’s and Gender Studies</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGS courses 1</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGS or other approved upper-division courses</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Credits</strong></td>
<td><strong>24</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 History and Development of Feminist Theory (WGS315) strongly suggested.

**Additional Requirements**

No more than 6 credits in Reading and Conference: [Topic] (WGS405) and Practicum: [Topic] (WGS409) may be counted toward the minor. No more than 8 credits may be taken pass/no pass; no more than 8 credits may count toward both the minor and the student's major. Graded courses in the minor must be completed with grades of C– or higher. At least 16 credits applied to the women's and gender studies minor must be taken at the University of Oregon.

Students must apply for the minor in the women’s and gender studies office well in advance of graduation for transcript evaluation. In order to be eligible for the minor, students must complete all degree requirements and a major in another academic department.

**Queer Studies Minor Requirements**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WGS201 Introduction to Queer Studies</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGS course focused on queer studies 1</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGS or other department courses 1</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Credits</strong></td>
<td><strong>24</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 A minimum of 16 of these 20 credits must be earned in upper-division courses.

Students wishing to minor in queer studies should consult frequently with a women’s and gender studies advisor to determine which courses offered during any given academic year will count toward the fulfillment of the 20 selectable credits. A minimum of 16 of the 24 total credits for the minor must be earned at the University of Oregon. The other 8 may be earned through successful completion of preapproved courses from another university or approved overseas program. A minimum of 16 of the 24 credits must be graded. Students must complete all 24 credits with a grade of P or C– or better.

Students must apply for the queer studies minor in the women’s and gender studies office well in advance of graduation for transcript evaluation. In order to be eligible for the minor, students must complete all degree requirements and a major in women’s and gender studies or another academic department.

**Graduate Studies**

The graduate certificate in women’s and gender studies requires 24 credits in courses approved by the Women’s and Gender Studies Committee. At least 12 of these credits must be in core courses in the Department of Women’s and Gender Studies. At least 8 of these credits must be in approved graduate courses offered in other departments.

**Graduate Certificate Requirements**

**Core Courses**

Select courses sufficient to total 12 credits from the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WGS507 Seminar: [Topic] 1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGS508 Workshop: [Topic] 1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGS511 Feminist Praxis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGS513 Feminist Pedagogy 2, 3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGS522 Sexuality Studies: [Topic]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGS532 Gender, Environment, and Development</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGS551 Global Issues and Perspectives: [Topic]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGS607 Seminar: [Topic] 1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGS608 Workshop: [Topic] 1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGS609 Practicum: [Topic] 2, 3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGS610 Experimental Course: [Topic] 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Other Courses**

Approved graduate courses in other departments | 8

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WGS or other department graduate course</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Credits</strong></td>
<td><strong>24</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Indicates a variable credit class which follows one of two logical paths:

1. The course will have the credit value declared in the class schedule (e.g., spring 2014 WGS 507 [http://classes.uoregon.edu/pls/prod/hwskdhnt.p_viewdetl?term=201303&crn=38529] is 4 credits).

2. The student must declare the credit value upon registering using DuckWeb [e.g., Practicum: [Topic] (WGS609)].

2 Students who have not taken Introduction to Women’s and Gender Studies (WGS101) or its equivalent must enroll in either Practicum: [Topic] (WGS609) to facilitate a discussion group for Introduction to Women’s and Gender Studies (WGS101) or in a feminist pedagogy alternative.

3 When enrolling in Practicum: [Topic] (WGS609) for WGS 101 Facilitation, the student must also enroll concurrently in Feminist Pedagogy (WGS513) unless they have already received credit for it in the past.

**Additional Requirements**

No more than 4 credits in Reading and Conference: [Topic] (WGS605) and Practicum: [Topic] (WGS609) can be applied to the certificate.

No more than 8 credits may be taken pass/no pass without specific approval.

A student who is unconditionally admitted to the Graduate School may earn a women’s and gender studies certificate as an unclassified graduate student, as a complement to an individually designed interdisciplinary master’s degree with a focus on women’s and gender studies, or as an enhancement to a degree in another discipline. For more information, see the Graduate School section of this catalog.

Applicants should arrange an appointment with the department head (p. 1).
Courses

WGS101. Introduction to Women’s and Gender Studies. 4 Credits.
Interdisciplinary examination of the diverse experiences, status, and contributions of women in the United States. Topics include social construction of gender, race, sexualities, work, class, violence, and health.

WGS198. Colloquium: [Topic]. 1-2 Credit.
Repeatable.

WGS199. Special Studies: [Topic]. 1-5 Credits.
Repeatable.

WGS201. Introduction to Queer Studies. 4 Credits.
Introduction to the study of sexuality and society from a queer studies interdisciplinary perspective.

WGS303. Women and Gender in American History. 4 Credits.
Focuses on women and gender in America, highlighting how diverse women have experienced gender roles and sexism since the 17th century.

WGS315. History and Development of Feminist Theory. 4 Credits.
Feminist theory from the Enlightenment through the Second Wave, with special emphasis on the diverse theories of the 1960s to the present. Prereq: WGS 101.

WGS321. Feminist Perspectives: Identity, Race, Culture. 4 Credits.
Examines intersections of race and ethnicity, class, sexuality, and gender in the history and lives of United States women of color. Explores definitions of community, culture, and identity. Prereq: one course WGS or ES 101.

WGS331. Science, Technology, and Gender. 4 Credits.
Topics include the role of gender in the practice of science and the impact of sexism and racism on the development of science and technology. Prereq: WGS 101 or equivalent.

WGS341. Women, Work, and Class. 4 Credits.
Explores contexts and cultural attitudes shaping the women’s market and domestic labor including race, sexuality, age, and class as well as occupational segregation and control.

WGS351. Introduction to Global Feminisms. 4 Credits.
Exploration of feminist activism and women’s movements globally, organizing to challenge the state, civil society, international agencies, and corporations for a more just world.

WGS352. Gender, Literature, and Culture. 4 Credits.
Examines literary and other cultural expressions of gendered experience through formal analysis. Genres include novels, short stories, poetry, plays, and visual cultural production.

WGS361. Gender in Film and Television. 4 Credits.
Students read, view, examine, discuss, and write about film and television in terms of gender and feminist and queer theory. Offered alternate years.

WGS399. Special Studies: [Topic]. 1-5 Credits.
Repeatable.

WGS401. Research: [Topic]. 1-16 Credits.
Repeatable.

WGS403. Thesis. 1-12 Credits.
Repeatable with program director’s and thesis adviser’s consent for maximum of 12 credits.

WGS405. Reading and Conference: [Topic]. 1-5 Credits.
Repeatable.

WGS406. Field Studies: [Topic]. 1-12 Credits.
Repeatable for maximum of 12 credits.

WGS407. Seminar: [Topic]. 1-5 Credits.
A current topic is Feminist Research Issues. Repeatable when topic changes.

WGS408. Workshop: [Topic]. 1-16 Credits.
Repeatable.

WGS409. Practicum: [Topic]. 1-5 Credits.
Repeatable.

WGS410. Experimental Course: [Topic]. 1-4 Credits.
Repeatable.

WGS411. Feminist Praxis. 4 Credits.
Combined internship and seminar explores the history and politics of community agencies and the relationship of feminist theory to practice. Prereq: one course WGS or equivalent.

WGS413. Feminist Pedagogy. 2 Credits.
Surveys strategies for facilitating discussions in women’s and gender studies classes and the special problems of teaching about gender, race, and sexuality. Prereq: WGS 101 or equivalent.

WGS422. Sexuality Studies: [Topic]. 4 Credits.
Various topics in sexuality studies, including the relationship between gender and sexuality and between queer studies and women’s and gender studies. Repeatable twice when topic changes for maximum of 12 credits. Prereq: WGS 101 or 201.

WGS432. Gender, Environment, and Development. 4 Credits.
Surveys gender and political, economic, and cultural strategies for development and environmental change around the world. Pre- or coreq: WGS 101.

WGS451. Global Issues and Perspectives: [Topic]. 4 Credits.
Designed to deepen understanding of diverse global issues and perspectives related to women’s and gender studies. Repeatable twice when topic changes for a maximum of 12 credits.

WGS507. Seminar: [Topic]. 1-5 Credits.
A current topic is Feminist Research Issues. Repeatable when topic changes.

WGS508. Workshop: [Topic]. 1-16 Credits.
Repeatable.

WGS510. Experimental Course: [Topic]. 1-4 Credits.
Repeatable.

WGS511. Feminist Praxis. 4 Credits.
Combined internship and seminar explores the history and politics of community agencies and the relationship of feminist theory to practice. Prereq: one course WGS or equivalent.

WGS513. Feminist Pedagogy. 2 Credits.
Surveys strategies for facilitating discussions in women’s and gender studies classes and the special problems of teaching about gender, race, and sexuality.

WGS522. Sexuality Studies: [Topic]. 4 Credits.
Various topics in sexuality studies, including the relationship between gender and sexuality and between queer studies and women’s and gender studies. Repeatable twice when topic changes for maximum of 12 credits.
WGS532. Gender, Environment, and Development. 4 Credits.
Surveys gender and political, economic, and cultural strategies for
development and environmental change around the world.

WGS551. Global Issues and Perspectives: [Topic]. 4 Credits.
Designed to deepen understanding of diverse global issues and
perspectives related to women’s and gender studies. Repeatable twice
when topic changes for a maximum of 12 credits.

WGS601. Research: [Topic]. 1-16 Credits.
Repeatable.

WGS602. Supervised College Teaching. 1-16 Credits.
Repeatable.

WGS605. Reading and Conference: [Topic]. 1-5 Credits.
Repeatable.

WGS607. Seminar: [Topic]. 1-5 Credits.
Repeatable.

WGS608. Workshop: [Topic]. 1-16 Credits.
Repeatable.

WGS609. Practicum: [Topic]. 1-5 Credits.
Repeatable.

WGS610. Experimental Course: [Topic]. 1-4 Credits.
Repeatable.