Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

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Eugene, Oregon 97403-1298
wgs@uoregon.edu

The Department of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies offers students an interdisciplinary curriculum that focuses on the diverse experiences of women 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. The wide range of courses explores the intersections of gender, race, class, and sexuality; the institutional structures that have an impact on women's and men's lives; and the broad range of feminist theory that seeks to explain and influence women's status in society. Among the areas of emphasis in women's, gender, and sexuality studies are gender and sexuality studies, queer studies, third-world feminism, cultural representation and literature, women and labor, feminist theory, critical race feminism, immigration and citizenship, and social activism.

Core and affiliated faculty members in the department come from a wide range of disciplinary perspectives including history, literature, anthropology, sociology, geography, environmental studies, ethnic studies, philosophy, religious studies, architecture and fine arts, music, Romance and Germanic languages, political science, public policy, and law.

Any student may take women's, gender, and sexuality 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, gender, and sexuality studies or a minor in women's, gender, and sexuality studies or in queer studies.

Most women's, gender, and sexuality studies courses satisfy group and multicultural requirements. For courses approved to fulfill these requirements, see the current list on the registrar's website (http://registrar.uoregon.edu/current-students/group-satisfying-and-multicultural-courses/).

Faculty


Priscilla Yamin, associate professor (marriage and family politics; US political development and institutions; race, gender, and sexuality studies). See Political Science.

Emerita


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

Affiliated

Shabnam Ahktari, mathematics
Yvette Alex-Assensoh, political science
Susan C. Anderson, German and Scandinavian
Erin Beck, political science
Sonja Boos, German and Scandinavian
Yvonne Braun, international studies
Charise Cheney, ethnic studies
Krista Chronister, counseling psychology and human services
Carolyn Craig, Research Compliance Services
Lynn Fujiwara, ethnic studies
Alison Gash, political science
Amalia Gladhart, Romance languages
Bryna Goodman, history
Michael Hames-Garcia, ethnic studies
Julie Heffernan, education studies
Ellen Herman, history
Sara Hodges, psychology
Jocelyn Hollander, sociology
Lamia Karim, anthropology
Kate Kelp-Stebbins, English
Rebecca Linder, honors college
Sharon Luk, ethnic studies
Kathryn A. Lynch, environmental studies
Bonnie Mann, philosophy
Erin McKenna, philosophy
Michelle McKinley, law
Kate Mondloch, history of art and architecture
Dorothee Ostmeier, German and Scandinavian
Eileen M. Otis, sociology
C. J. Pascoe, sociology
Scott L. Pratt, philosophy
Alai Reyes-Santos, ethnic studies
Camisha Russell, philosophy
Ellen Scott, sociology  
Carol T. Silverman, anthropology  
Gretchen Soderlund, journalism and communication  
Beata Stawarska, philosophy  
Leslie H. Steeves, journalism and communication  
Lynn Stephen, anthropology  
Analisa Taylor, Romance languages  
Courtney Thorsson, English  
Jessica Vasquez-Tokos, sociology  
Jo Weaver, international studies  
Elizabeth A. Wheeler, English  
Frances J. White, anthropology  
Mary E. Wood, English  

- Bachelor of Arts  
- Bachelor of Science  
- Minor in Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality 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, gender, and sexuality 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, media, technology, counseling, and child care. In addition, a background in women’s, gender, and sexuality 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, Gender, and Sexuality Studies offers an undergraduate major leading to a bachelor of arts (BA) or bachelor of science (BS) degree. Students may major in women’s, gender, and sexuality studies alone or as one of two or more majors. Majors must construct their programs in consultation with women’s, gender, and sexuality studies advisors.

Graded courses in the major must be completed with grades of C– or higher. No more than 8 credits taken pass/no pass in these courses may be counted toward the major.

At least 36 credits must be in upper-division courses; of those 36 credits, as many as 12 may be approved in other subject codes with advisor approval. At least 16 credits applied to the major must be taken at the University of Oregon. Women’s, gender, and sexuality studies (WGS) majors must attain a grade point average of 2.50 or higher in courses applied to the major. No more than 8 credits from another major or minor may count toward the major.

### Bachelor of Arts Degree Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WGS 101</td>
<td>Introduction to Women’s and Gender Studies</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Select two of the following: 8

- WGS 201 Introduction to Queer Studies  
- WGS 221 Bodies and Power  
- WGS 250 Gender, Literature, and Culture  
- WGS 251 Transnational and Indigenous Feminisms

Select eight of the following: 32

- WGS 303 Women and Gender in American History  
- WGS 315 History and Development of Feminist Theory  
- WGS 321 Feminist Perspectives: Identity, Race, Culture  
- WGS 322 Queer Theory  
- WGS 331 Science, Technology, and Gender  
- WGS 341 Women, Work, and Class  
- WGS 350 Literature as Feminist Theory  
- WGS 351 Decolonial Feminisms  
- WGS 361 Gender, Film, and the Media  
- WGS 407 Seminar: [Topic]  
- WGS 409 Practicum: [Topic]  
- WGS 421 Bodies and Embodiment  
- WGS 422 Sexuality Studies: [Topic]  
- WGS 432 Gender, Environment, and Development  
- WGS 450 Literature and Feminist World-Making  
- WGS 451 Global Perspectives on Gender [Topic]  
- WGS 411 Feminist Praxis 4

Total Credits 48

1. Students may choose one of two options to satisfy the eight-course requirement:
   - Choose three 300-level courses and five 400-level courses
   - Choose four 300-level courses and four 400-level courses

2. Offered fall term only.

### Bachelor of Science Degree Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WGS 101</td>
<td>Introduction to Women’s and Gender Studies</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Select two of the following: 8

- WGS 201 Introduction to Queer Studies  
- WGS 221 Bodies and Power  
- WGS 250 Gender, Literature, and Culture  
- WGS 251 Transnational and Indigenous Feminisms

Select eight of the following: 32

- WGS 303 Women and Gender in American History  
- WGS 315 History and Development of Feminist Theory  
- WGS 321 Feminist Perspectives: Identity, Race, Culture  
- WGS 322 Queer Theory  
- WGS 331 Science, Technology, and Gender  
- WGS 341 Women, Work, and Class  
- WGS 350 Literature as Feminist Theory  
- WGS 351 Decolonial Feminisms  
- WGS 361 Gender, Film, and the Media  
- WGS 407 Seminar: [Topic]  
- WGS 409 Practicum: [Topic]  
- WGS 421 Bodies and Embodiment  
- WGS 422 Sexuality Studies: [Topic]  
- WGS 432 Gender, Environment, and Development  
- WGS 450 Literature and Feminist World-Making  
- WGS 451 Global Perspectives on Gender [Topic]  
- WGS 411 Feminist Praxis 4

Total Credits 48

1. Students may choose one of two options to satisfy the eight-course requirement:
   - Choose three 300-level courses and five 400-level courses
   - Choose four 300-level courses and four 400-level courses

2. Offered fall term only.
Students interested in producing a substantial piece of original research and writing may elect to write a senior thesis in women's, gender, and sexuality studies.

To be eligible to write an honors thesis, students should have a cumulative GPA of 3.50 in WGS courses. Students who satisfy the major requirements, maintain throughout their undergraduate studies at Oregon a GPA of 3.50 or above in courses in the major, and submit a copy of the honors thesis approved by their committee to the department receive a baccalaureate degree with honors in women’s, gender, and sexuality studies.

A thesis must be based on a student’s original research. Depending on the discipline, it can be a written paper that presents the results of the research. Theses average between 30 and 50 pages, including notes and bibliographies.

Only theses that meet the following criteria will be approved and awarded honors:

- Identifies a clear and original topic or research question
- Demonstrates knowledge of the literature concerning that topic or research question in the field of gender studies by reviewing that body of literature and providing a substantive bibliography
- Provides an analysis of the topic or research question, using clearly identified methodology
- It uses the citational style appropriate to its disciplinary focus
- The thesis is mindful of the relationships among gender, race, class, ability, and national identity as these pertain to the object of study

In fall, students should register for Reading and Conference: [Topic] (WGS 405) (1–4 variable credits) with their thesis advisor and submit a timeline for completion of the thesis to the thesis advisor.

By the end of the fall term, students should complete a draft of a research proposal that is five to eight pages in length and includes a literature review, a short section on the methods that will be used, research questions or a thesis statement (depending on the discipline), and a bibliography.

Research proposals must be approved by the thesis advisor and a copy must be submitted to the department. If an affiliate faculty member is the thesis advisor, the proposal must be approved by the student’s primary advisor in the department as well.

In winter, students should register for Thesis (WGS 403). Using the timeline submitted in the fall, students spend winter term conducting research and writing the thesis in consultation with their advisor. By the end of winter term, research should be complete and thesis writing should be significantly underway.

In spring, students write, revise, and produce a final draft of the thesis following the timeline submitted in the fall. By no later than the end of the fifth week of the term, students must submit their final thesis to their departmental advisor, their affiliate advisor, or both. Upon approval, students must submit a copy of their final thesis to the department head.

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 department office.

**Minor Requirements**

Graded courses in the minors must be completed with grades of C– or higher. No more than 8 credits taken pass/no pass in these courses may be counted toward the minors.

A minimum of 16 credits applied to the minors must be taken at the University of Oregon. No more than 8 credits from other majors or minors may count toward the minors for women’s, gender, and sexuality studies and queer studies.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WGS 101</td>
<td>Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Select one of the following:</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGS 201</td>
<td>Introduction to Queer Studies</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGS 221</td>
<td>Bodies and Power</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGS 250</td>
<td>Gender, Literature, and Culture</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGS 251</td>
<td>Transnational and Indigenous Feminisms</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Select three of the following:</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGS 303</td>
<td>Women and Gender in American History</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGS 315</td>
<td>History and Development of Feminist Theory</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGS 321</td>
<td>Feminist Perspectives: Identity, Race, Culture</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGS 322</td>
<td>Queer Theory</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGS 331</td>
<td>Science, Technology, and Gender</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

WGS 341 Women, Work, and Class
WGS 350 Literature as Feminist Theory
WGS 351 Decolonial Feminisms
WGS 361 Gender, Film, and the Media
WGS 407 Seminar: [Topic]
WGS 409 Practicum: [Topic]
WGS 411 Feminist Praxis ²
WGS 421 Bodies and Embodiment
WGS 422 Sexuality Studies: [Topic]
WGS 432 Gender, Environment, and Development
WGS 450 Literature and Feminist World-Making
WGS 451 Global Perspectives on Gender [Topic]

Choose one 300- or 400-level WGS elective or an advisor-approved course with another subject code

Total Credits 24

Queer Studies Minor Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WGS 201</td>
<td>Introduction to Queer Studies</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Select one of the following:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>WGS 221 Bodies and Power</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>WGS 250 Gender, Literature, and Culture</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>WGS 251 Transnational and Indigenous Feminisms</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Select one of the following:</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>WGS 322 Queer Theory</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>WGS 422 Sexuality Studies: [Topic] (repeatable when topic changes)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Select one queer studies course (with the QST subject code)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>at any level—100, 200, 300, or 400</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Select two 300- or 400-level queer studies courses (with the QST subject code)</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total Credits</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Queer Studies Minor Requirements

Students wishing to minor in queer studies should consult frequently with a women’s, gender, and sexuality studies advisor to determine which courses offered during any given academic year will count toward the fulfillment of credits.

Students must apply for the queer studies minor in the women’s, gender, and sexuality 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, gender, and sexuality studies or another academic department.

Four-Year Degree Plan

The degree plan shown is only a sample of how students may complete their degrees in four years. There are alternative ways. Students should consult their advisor to determine the best path for them.

The degree plan shows courses that are solely within the department (subject code WGS) and suggestions for arranging general-education courses, language courses, and mathematics courses. The plans below do not necessarily include sufficient courses to meet the 180-credit minimum to graduate.

Bachelor of Arts in Women’s and Gender Studies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Milestones</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Year</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGS 101</td>
<td>Introduction to Women’s and Gender Studies</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PEMA 116</td>
<td>Women’s Self Defense</td>
<td>Any lower-division elective course may be substituted</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>General-education course in arts and letters</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WR 121</td>
<td>College Composition I</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>General-education course in arts and letters</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>200-level course with WGS subject code</td>
<td>Chosen in consultation with advisor</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>General-education course in social science</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lower-division elective course</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total Credits</td>
<td>16</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Year</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>300-level course with WGS subject code</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>First term of first-year second-language sequence</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>General-education course in arts and letters</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elective physical education course</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total Credits</td>
<td>14</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>300-level course with WGS subject code</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Second term of first-year second-language sequence</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>General-education course in science</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elective physical education course</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total Credits</td>
<td>14</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It is suggested that students look for courses that meet the multicultural requirements when taking general-education requirements.
### Bachelor of Science in Women's and Gender Studies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Milestones</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>First Year</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fall</strong></td>
<td>WGS 101  Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>WR 121  College Composition I</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>General-education course in arts and letters</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PEMA 116  Women's Self Defense</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Credits</strong></td>
<td><strong>17</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Winter</strong></td>
<td>WGS 303  Women and Gender in American History</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>WR 122  College Composition II</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>General-education course in social science</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elective course</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Credits</strong></td>
<td><strong>14</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Spring</strong></td>
<td>WGS 315  History and Development of Feminist Theory</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>General-education course in arts and letters</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mathematics or computer and information science course</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elective course</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Credits</strong></td>
<td><strong>16</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Second Year</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fall</strong></td>
<td>WGS 321  Feminist Perspectives: Identity, Race, Culture</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>General-education course in arts and letters</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mathematics or computer and information science course</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elective physical education course</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Credits</strong></td>
<td><strong>13</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Winter</strong></td>
<td>WGS 351  Decolonial Feminisms</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>General-education course in science</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mathematics or computer and information science course</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elective physical education course</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Credits</strong></td>
<td><strong>13</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Spring</strong></td>
<td>WGS 250  Gender, Literature, and Culture</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mathematics or computer and information science course</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>General-education course in social science</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>General-education course in science</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Credits</strong></td>
<td><strong>16</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Credits</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>48</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Fourth Year**                                                                 |
| **Fall** | WGS 411  Feminist Praxis                                            | 4       |                  |
|         | Elective courses                                                    | 12      |                  |
|         | **Credits**                                                          | **16**  |                  |
| **Winter** | 400-level course with WGS subject code or approved cross-listed course | 4       |                  |
|         | Elective courses                                                    | 12      |                  |
|         | **Credits**                                                          | **16**  |                  |
| **Spring** | 400-level course with WGS subject code or approved cross-listed course | 4       |                  |
|         | Elective courses                                                    | 12      |                  |
|         | **Credits**                                                          | **16**  |                  |
| **Total Credits** |                                                      | **48**  |                  |
Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

Course Title Credits Milestones
Third Year
Fall
Upper-division elective course with WGS subject code 4
General-education course in arts and letters 4
Mathematics or computer and information science course 4
Elective course 4
Credits 16
Winter
Upper-division elective course with WGS subject code 4
General-education course in social science 4
Elective course 4
Credits 12
Spring
Upper-division elective course with WGS subject code or approved cross-listed course 4
General-education course in science 4
Elective courses 8
Credits 16
Total Credits 44

Fourth Year
Fall
WGS 411 Feminist Praxis 4
Elective courses 12
Credits 16
Winter
Upper-division elective course with WGS subject code or approved cross-listed course 4
Elective courses 12
Credits 16
Spring
Upper-division elective course with WGS subject code or approved cross-listed course 4
Elective courses 12
Credits 16
Total Credits 48

Graduate Studies

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

Graduate Certificate Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Core Courses</td>
<td>Select WGS courses totaling 12 credits from the following:</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGS 507</td>
<td>Seminar: [Topic]</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

WGS 511 Feminist Praxis
WGS 522 Sexuality Studies: [Topic]
WGS 532 Gender, Environment, and Development
WGS 551 Global Perspectives on Gender [Topic]
WGS 605 Reading and Conference: [Topic] ¹
WGS 607 Seminar: [Topic]
WGS 609 Practicum: [Topic] ¹
WGS 615 Contemporary Feminist Theory

Other Courses
Approved graduate courses in other departments 8
WGS or other department graduate course 4
Total Credits 24

¹ Indicates a variable-credit course. The student must declare the credit value upon registering online—e.g., Practicum: [Topic] (WGS 609).

Additional Requirements

No more than 4 credits in Reading and Conference: [Topic] (WGS 605) and Practicum: [Topic] (WGS 609) can be applied to the certificate.

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

Applicants should arrange an appointment with the graduate advisor.

Courses

WGS 101. 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.

WGS 198. Colloquium: [Topic]. 1,2 Credit. Repeatable.

WGS 199. Special Studies: [Topic]. 1-5 Credits. Repeatable.

WGS 201. Introduction to Queer Studies. 4 Credits. Introduction to the study of sexuality and society from a queer studies interdisciplinary perspective.

WGS 221. Bodies and Power. 4 Credits. Focuses on gender, the body, and dis/ability as a particular nexus of experience and social meaning, influenced as well by race, sexuality, age and class. This course considers bodies and how we understand them within contexts shaped by social relations and systems of power.

WGS 250. Gender, Literature, and Culture. 4 Credits. Examines literary and other cultural representations of gendered experiences using novels, short stories, poetry, plays, and visual cultural production.

WGS 251. Transnational and Indigenous Feminisms. 4 Credits. Introductory survey of transnational and Indigenous feminist scholarship, two intersecting strains of feminism that address the workings of culture, nationalism, and gender in multiple contexts. Explores cross-section of key issues and perspectives using interdisciplinary lenses and methodologies employed by scholars in transnational and Indigenous studies.
WGS 261. Gender and Popular Culture. 4 Credits.
Drawing on contemporary popular culture texts, including films, music, and TV shows, introduces students to feminist perspectives on pop culture representations, production, and reception. Engages with popular culture as a meaningful site for the construction of gender and sexuality, race, nation, and bodies.

WGS 303. 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.

WGS 315. 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.

WGS 321. 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.

WGS 322. Queer Theory. 4 Credits.
Surveys key terms and texts of the interdisciplinary fields that constitute queer theory; recent debates in scholarship and popular culture on gender, sexuality, race, disability, and other identities.

WGS 331. 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.

WGS 341. 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.

WGS 350. Literature as Feminist Theory. 4 Credits.
Analyzes literary and media texts while considering questions and intersections of race, gender, sexuality, ability, class, nation, culture, and power central to the field of women and gender studies, and demonstrates how these intersections within literary texts are sites of knowledge production in feminist theory. Prereq: one 200 level WGS course.

WGS 351. Decolonial Feminisms. 4 Credits.
Explores feminist activism and women’s movements globally, organizing to challenge the state, civil society, international agencies, and corporations for a more just world. Prereq: one 200-level WGS course.

WGS 361. Gender, Film, and the Media. 4 Credits.
Students read, view, examine, discuss, and write about film and media in terms of gender and feminist and queer theory. Offered alternate years.

WGS 399. Special Studies: [Topic]. 1-5 Credits.
Repeatable up to five times.

WGS 401. Research: [Topic]. 1-16 Credits.
Repeatable.

WGS 403. Thesis. 1-12 Credits.
Repeatable with program director's and thesis adviser's consent for maximum of 12 credits.

WGS 405. Reading and Conference: [Topic]. 1-5 Credits.
Repeatable.
WGS 521. Bodies and Embodiment. 4 Credits.
Focuses on the complex relationships between gender, bodies, and society from theoretical and empirical perspectives. Theories examine the body through an intersectional lens to understand social construction, cultural symbolism, and political struggles, especially within institutional contexts like the media, medicine, and the market.

WGS 522. 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.

WGS 532. Gender, Environment, and Development. 4 Credits.
Surveys gender and political, economic, and cultural strategies for development and environmental change around the world.

WGS 550. Literature and Feminist World-Making. 4 Credits.
Examines feminist world-making in literary texts as a form of political theory, a strategy for thinking critically about the present, imagining the world under different circumstances, and building an alternative world from a feminist perspective.

WGS 551. Global Perspectives on Gender [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.

WGS 601. Research: [Topic]. 1-16 Credits.
Repeatable.

WGS 602. Supervised College Teaching. 1-16 Credits.
Repeatable.

WGS 605. Reading and Conference: [Topic]. 1-5 Credits.
Repeatable.

WGS 607. Seminar: [Topic]. 1-5 Credits.
Repeatable.

WGS 608. Workshop: [Topic]. 1-16 Credits.
Repeatable.

WGS 609. Practicum: [Topic]. 1-5 Credits.
Repeatable.

WGS 610. Experimental Course: [Topic]. 1-4 Credits.
Repeatable.

WGS 615. Contemporary Feminist Theory. 5 Credits.
This interdisciplinary graduate seminar covers foundational texts as well as critical cutting-edge developments in feminist theory. The course centers intersectional, transnational, and de-colonial theoretical frameworks.