

Women's and Gender Studies

Faculty: Bennett, (*Director*), Gray, Friedman, Hopps, Jaksch, Landreau, Nicolosi, Rodriguez; *Affiliated Faculty:* Biggs, Boughn, Brown-Glaude, Carney, Chazelle, Figueroa, Graham, Gross, Hall, Haynes, Ortiz, Paces, Riccardi, Roberts, Robertson, Rosman-Askot, Ryan, Steele, Tarter, Thompson

The Women's and Gender Studies major is interdisciplinary, offering over 90 courses in 15 programs and departments. Women's and Gender Studies courses enable students to understand changing social patterns and the effects of institutions and culture on behavior. Courses explore how gender shapes social roles and identities as well as the function of race, class, and sexuality in the experience of gender within and across cultures. The major prepares students for a variety of professional and graduate schools as well as positions in corporations, government agencies, and service industries.

Requirements for the Major (10 course units)

- **4 Core Courses:**
WGS 200/Women, Culture and Society: WGS 200 is an entry-level course that introduces students to the discipline of women's studies. (This requirement may be waived for students who have taken two or more WGS courses before becoming a major.)
WGS 325/Feminist Theories
WGS 398/Feminism in the Workplace: Field Study in Women's Studies
WGS 495 or 496/Senior Seminar
- **6 course units of additional WGS courses:**
One of these courses must consider gender in a global perspectives (either 200 or 300 level).
Choose one of the following to fulfill this requirement:
WGS 260 (same as AAS 280)/Africana Women in Historical Perspective
WGS 360 (same as LIT 334)/Literature by Latinas and Latin-American Women
WGS 375/Transnational Feminisms
WGS 376 (same as LIT 316)/Global Women Writers
WGS 380 (same as HON 338)/Gender and Democracy
WGS 381 (same as ANT 311)/Women and Migration
AAS 335 (same as LIT 335)/Caribbean Women Writers
- **Five courses of the 10 in the major must be at a 300 level or above.**

Program Entrance, Retention, and Exit Standards

Every major program at the College has set standards for allowing students to remain in that program, to transfer within the College from one program to another, and to graduate from a program. The following are the standards for Women's and Gender Studies. Minimum grades are noted in parentheses:

- Retention in the program is based on the following performance standards in these "critical content courses": WGS 200/Women Culture and Society (C).
- Graduation requires a GPA of 2.0, in Women's and Gender Studies courses and overall.

Women's and Gender Studies Major Learning Goals

At the end of their program of study, Women's and Gender Studies majors should be able to:

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- Gain an understanding of gender as a central category of analysis that compels constant inquiry into the production and legitimation of knowledge
- Demonstrate knowledge of the historical development and contemporary scope of women's studies as a discipline and current research on sexuality and gender
- Become fluent in feminist theories and their application across disciplines, as well as develop skills in feminist research methodology
- Analyze historical and contemporary systems of privilege and oppression, with special attention to the ways gender intersects with race, class, ethnicity, sexuality, religion, and nationality
- Gain a critical awareness of the instability of identity categories
- Understand how all fields of knowledge are partial, situated, and have a political nature
- Apply feminist theories and current research to transcultural and transnational analysis of gender, systemic oppression, and women's resistance and agency
- Analyze how the media and other social institutions exert a shaping force on gender, and how, conversely, gender imperatives shape individuals, families, communities, and nations
- Demonstrate a grasp of the significance of women's historical and contemporary contributions to culture and society
- Apply classroom learning to personal life, the workplace, the community, and political and civil institutions, with opportunities to study and participate in community-based learning, action-based research, political activism, and other social justice initiatives

Women's and Gender Studies Major Course Sequence

First Year

FSP First Seminar
WRI 102/Academic Writing (if required)
WGS 200/Woman, Culture, and Society
Two WGS options (by advisement)
Liberal Learning courses
Electives

Second Year

Gender in Global Perspective—Choose one:
WGS 260 (same as AAS 280)/Africana Women in Historical Perspective
WGS 360 (same as LIT 334)/Literature by Latinas and Latin-American Women
WGS 375/Transnational Feminisms
WGS 376 (same as LIT 316)/Global Women Writers
WGS 380 (same as HON 338)/Gender and Democracy
WGS 381 (same as ANT 311)/Women and Migration
AAS 335 (same as LIT 335)/Caribbean Women Writers
Two WGS Options (by advisement)
Liberal Learning courses
Electives

Third Year

WGS 325/Feminist Theories
WGS Option (by advisement)

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Liberal Learning courses
Electives

Fourth Year

WGS 398/Feminism in the Workplace: Field Study in Women's Studies
WGS 495 or 496/Senior Seminar
Liberal Learning courses
Electives

Women's and Gender Studies majors whose first major is Elementary, Early Childhood, or Special Education must also complete the requirements for the Women's and Gender Studies major.

When planning their academic program, students should consult with their advisers in *both* departments. These plans should take into account requirements for the major, liberal learning, professional courses, and state certification.

Requirements for the Minor

The minor consists of five courses as follows:

WGS 200/Women, Culture, and Society (may be waived at discretion of program director)
Four more WGS courses or courses from list of options below.

Women in Learning and Leadership

Women in Learning and Leadership (W.I.L.L.) is a curricular and co-curricular, certificate-bearing program designed to develop leadership skills and provide leadership experiences. W.I.L.L. offers active learning opportunities that empower women as leaders and fosters a deeper understanding of women's roles and contributions to society. Successful completion of W.I.L.L. results in a Women's and Gender Studies minor.

Requirements for W.I.L.L.

Five Courses

- WGS 200/Women, Culture, and Society (W.I.L.L. section): An introductory level course that introduces students to the discipline of women's studies. In the W.I.L.L. section there will be special emphasis on women and leadership.
- Gender in Global Perspectives (either 200 or 300 level)—A requirement that may be fulfilled by courses that examine feminist issues and theories in a global context. Choose one from the following:
 - WGS 260 (Same as AAS 280)/Africana Women in Historical Perspective
 - WGS 360 (Same as LIT 334)/Literature by Latinas and Latin-American Women
 - WGS 375/Transnational Feminisms
 - WGS 376 (Same as LIT 316)/Global Women Writers
 - WGS 380 (Same as HON 338)/Gender and Democracy
 - WGS 381 (Same as ANT 311)/Women and Migration
 - AAS 335 (Same as LIT 335)/Caribbean Women Writers
- WGS 325/Feminist Theories
- WGS 398/Feminism in the Workplace: Field Study in Women's Studies
- WGS 495 Senior Seminar: Methods and Theory or WGS 496 Women's Leadership and Social Change (Either can count as Senior Capstone)

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Women's and Gender Studies course options

(for course descriptions see department listings):

- AAH 343/Looking at Women: Representation, Feminism, and Film (same as WGS 305)
- AAH 370/Topic: Women Artists
- AAS 280/Africana Women in Historical Perspective (same as WGS 260)
- AAS 304/Women in Classical Art (same as WGS 304)
- AAS 375/Womanist Thought (same as WGS 365)
- AAS 376/African American Women's History (same as WGS 361 and some instances of HIS 365/Topics)
- ANT 311/Women and Migration (same as WGS 381)
- CLS 325/Sex and Gender in Greco-Roman Antiquity (same as WGS 306)
- COM 343/Looking at Women: Representation, Feminism, and Film (same as WGS 305)
- CRI 256/Women in the Criminal Justice System*
- ECO 325/Women, Gender, and Work
- HIS 314/Medieval Women
- HIS 316/Topic: Gender and Modern European History
- HIS 324/Women in Eastern Europe: 1848–Present (same as WGS 310)
- HIS 327/European Social History Since 1789 (same as WGS 327)
- HIS 365/Topics: African American Women's History (same as WGS 361 and AAS 376)
- HIS 365/Topics: Gender in 20th Century U. S. (same as WGS 328)
- HIS 385/Women in the U. S. to 1900 (same as WGS 302)
- HIS 395/History of Western Sexuality
- HIS 396/Women in 20th Century U. S. (same as WGS 303)
- HIS 397/Gay and Lesbian History (same as WGS 340)
- HIS 455/Readings Seminar in History: History of the European Family
- HIS 455/Readings Seminar in History: The Social History of African Women
- HIS 455/Readings Seminar in History: Medieval Women Writers
- HIS 455/Readings Seminar in History: Women in the Middle East
- HON 332/Gender and National Identity in Latin America
- HON 337/Women in Eastern Europe: 1848–Present (same as WGS 310)
- HON 338/Gender and Democracy (same as WGS 380)
- HON 362/Goodwives and Witches: Women in Colonial America
- LIT 211/British and American Women Writers (same as WGS 211)
- LIT 313/Gay and Lesbian Literature (same as WGS 341)
- LIT 315/Men and Masculinities (same as WGS 320)
- LIT 316/Global Women Writers (same as WGS 376)
- LIT 317/The Witch in Literature (same as WGS 317)
- LIT 319/Women's Autobiographies, Diaries, and Letters (same as WGS 314)
- LIT 334/Literature by Latinas and Latin-American Women (same as WGS 360)
- LIT 335/Caribbean Women Writers (same as AAS 335)
- LIT 370/Studies: American Feminist Literature: The 1960s–1980s
- LIT 370/Studies: Childbirth in Women's Literature
- LIT 370/Studies: Language, Gender, and Culture
- LIT 370/Studies: Study of Medieval and Renaissance Women Writers
- LIT 370/Studies: Shakespeare and His Sisters
- LIT 370/Studies: Black Women Writers
- LIT 395/Topics in Women Writers
- LIT 427/Major Writers Before 1900: Emily Dickinson
- LIT 427/Major Writers Before 1900: Jane Austen
- LIT 428/Major Writers After 1900: Toni Morrison
- LIT 428/Major Writers After 1900: Julia Alvarez

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PHL 375/Law and Ethics
POL 215/Gender and Politics
PSY 218/ Psychology of Power, Oppression and Privilege
PSY 350/Psychology of Women
PSY 353/Psychology of Gender
PSY 356/Psychology of Personal Relationships
SOC 303/Women in World Perspective
SOC 334/Gender and American Society
SOC 335/Courtship, Marriage, and the Family

** Beginning in academic year 2009-2010, courses in Criminology carry the prefix CRI, prior to that, the course prefix was LWJ. Students normally may not take a course twice, once with a LWJ prefix and again with a CRI prefix.*