

Women's and Gender Studies-1

Women's and Gender Studies

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[Click here for Women's and Gender Studies courses.](#)

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.

Online information about the Women's and Gender Studies major, minor, concentration, and course offerings can be found at <http://www.tcnj.edu/~wgst/>.

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.

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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:

- 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

**Arabic 151 and 152; Chinese 151 and 152; Japanese 151 and 152; Persian 151 and 152; and Russian 151 and 152 are intensive courses and carry two course units of credit each. Students should take this into account when planning a normal four-course semester.*

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

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Two WGS Options (by advisement)

Liberal Learning courses*

Electives

**Arabic 151 and 152; Chinese 151 and 152; Japanese 151 and 152; Persian 151 and 152; and Russian 151 and 152 are intensive courses and carry two course units of credit each. Students should take this into account when planning a normal four-course semester.*

Third Year

WGS 325/Feminist Theories

WGS Option (by advisement)

Liberal Learning courses*

Electives

**Arabic 151 and 152; Chinese 151 and 152; Japanese 151 and 152; Persian 151 and 152; and Russian 151 and 152 are intensive courses and carry two course units of credit each. Students should take this into account when planning a normal four-course semester.*

Fourth Year

WGS 398/Feminism in the Workplace: Field Study in Women's Studies

WGS 495 or 496/Senior Seminar

Liberal Learning courses

Electives

**Arabic 151 and 152; Chinese 151 and 152; Japanese 151 and 152; Persian 151 and 152; and Russian 151 and 152 are intensive courses and carry two course units of credit each. Students should take this into account when planning a normal four-course semester.*

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. Students are encouraged to consult the Academic Requirement Report which is available on PAWS.

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.

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- 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)
- 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	321/Race, Gender and the News
AAS	280/Women of African Descent in Global Perspective (same as WGS 260)
AAH	304/Women in Classical Art (same as WGS 304)
AAS	335/Caribbean Women Writers
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 20 th 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 20 th 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	212/Cultural Representation of Gender
LIT	313/Gay and Lesbian Literature (same as WGS 341)
LIT	315/Men and Masculinities (same as WGS 320)

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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
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