

## 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, and Russian 151 and 152 (offered annually); and Persian 151 and 152 (offered occasionally) 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

### **Women's and Gender Studies-3**

Two WGS Options (by advisement)  
Liberal Learning courses\*  
Electives

*\* Arabic 151 and 152, Chinese 151 and 152, Japanese 151 and 152, and Russian 151 and 152 (offered annually); and Persian 151 and 152 (offered occasionally) 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, and Russian 151 and 152 (offered annually); and Persian 151 and 152 (offered occasionally) 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, and Russian 151 and 152 (offered annually); and Persian 151 and 152 (offered occasionally) 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):

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|-----|---|
| 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 <sup>th</sup> Century U. S. (same as WGS 328)                      |
| HIS | 384/Women in the 20 <sup>th</sup> Century U. S. (same as WGS 303)                           |
| HIS | 385/Women in the U. S. to 1900 (same as WGS 302)  |
| HIS | 395/History of Western Sexuality  |
| 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)  |

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| 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                          |
| 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 | 333/Body Image, Culture, and Society                                 |
| SOC | 334/Gender and American Society                                      |
| SOC | 335/Courtship, Marriage, and the Family                              |