WOMEN AND GENDER STUDIES

College of Liberal & Creative Arts
Dean: Andrew Harris

Department of Women and Gender Studies
Humanities Building, Room 315
(415) 338-1388
E-mail: wgsdept@sfsu.edu
Website: http://wgsdept.sfsu.edu/

Chair: Julietta Hua
Undergraduate Advisors: Nan Alamilla Boyd, Martha Kenney, Kasturi Ray, Jillian Sandell, Evren Savci
Graduate Advisor: Deborah Cohler
Graduate Coordinator: Deborah Cohler

Program Scope
Women and Gender Studies examines the importance of gender and feminisms in relation to issues such as race, class, sexuality, labor, colonialism, multiculturalism, and globalization. Students study how bodies, families, communities, and nations are gendered in specific cultural and historical locations; and investigate connections to their own lives, roles, and contributions. The expertise of the department lies in interdisciplinary, intersectional, and transnational studies of inequality. Students are taught to draw from a range of theoretical and methodological approaches in their study of women and gender. Courses consider global structures of power and histories of racism in relation to local, regional, national, and transnational feminist practices. The department provides analysis and debate of exciting work by feminists who confront and transform various institutions and arenas, including academia, politics, law, non-profit groups, global non-governmental organizations, health and medicine, sexuality, pedagogy, labor struggles, and cultural productions. The goals of the department include the development of conceptual, analytic, and critical thinking skills in relation to gender and feminism in a transnational framework; the ability to integrate academic studies in Women and Gender Studies into personal and professional goals; the development of skills to formulate and implement theoretically-informed political, cultural, and community action; the ability to analyze gender from an interdisciplinary perspective, using a range of methodological tools; an historical understanding of gender in relation to structural inequality, social movements, and labor struggles; and the ability to critically examine representation and cultural production through a feminist lens.

In consultation with an advisor, each student develops a major program including electives in Women and Gender Studies and in other departments.

The Women and Gender Studies minor is an 18 unit sequence well-adapted for combination with many existing majors. The 9 units of requirements, 6 units of stipulated electives, and 3 units of free electives provide a grounding in feminist perspectives and theory. It also provides an opportunity to acquire background on feminist issues in a number of given disciplinary and interdisciplinary fields (e.g., history, psychology, sociology, literature, cultural studies, ethnic studies, and so on). Students interested in pursuing this minor should see the department chair who will direct them to the appropriate advisor.

The Master of Arts in Women and Gender Studies is interdisciplinary, enabling students to combine core and elective courses in Women and Gender Studies with electives in other departments and programs across the campus. The program focuses on women, gender, and feminism in transnational and multicultural contexts, preparing students to engage critically with analytical categories such as gender, race, sexuality, nation, class, labor, and able-bodiedness. Students complete their master’s degree with a culminating project of their own design working closely with an advisor. The degree enables students to pursue advanced study of the history, status, and contributions of women in different contexts, and of the relationships among feminist theories, social/global structures, and the production of gender.

Career Outlook
The Bachelor of Arts in Women and Gender Studies is an interdisciplinary liberal arts degree that focuses on women and gender issues in literature, history, sociology, anthropology, cultural, and ethnic studies. The major provides the incentive, knowledge, and skills that prepare students for a variety of graduate programs; and for careers in traditional and alternative social and educational institutions including non-governmental organizations that require expertise in women and gender issues. Some students have used the degree as a foundation for further work in areas such as teaching, counseling, journalism, law, social work, health, administration, advocacy, labor organizing, and community activism.

The Master of Arts in Women and Gender Studies prepares students interested in non-profit and for-profit administration, teaching positions, and the pursuit of doctoral degrees in related fields. It enhances students’ ability to participate in a range of organizations in the public and private sectors, particularly those addressing women and gender issues.

Professors
Alamilla Boyd, Hua, Sandell

Associate Professors
Cohler, Ray

Assistant Professors
Kenney, Savci

Majors
- Bachelor of Arts in Women and Gender Studies (bulletin.sfsu.edu/colleges/liberal-creative-arts/women-gender-studies/ba-women-gender-studies)

Minors
- Minor in Women and Gender Studies (bulletin.sfsu.edu/colleges/liberal-creative-arts/women-gender-studies/minor-women-gender-studies)

Masters
- Master of Arts in Women and Gender Studies (bulletin.sfsu.edu/colleges/liberal-creative-arts/women-gender-studies/ma-women-gender-studies)
WGS 150 Women and Gender in U.S. History and Society (Units: 3)
Historical development of institutions and ideals and the evolution of economic, political, and social processes in the U.S. since colonization; roles and status of women.

**Course Attributes:**
- U.S. History
- D2: Social Sciences: U.S. Hist
- Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
- Social Justice

WGS 160 Gender, Politics, and Citizenship (Units: 3)
U.S. political ideals, institutions, and processes; implications for gender-based contributions to public life.

**Course Attributes:**
- U.S. Govt CA State Local Govt
- D3: Social Sciences: US CA Gov
- Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities

WGS 200 Introduction to Women and Gender Studies (Units: 3)
Introduction to origins, purpose, subject matter, and methods of women and gender studies and the feminist perspectives on a range of social issues affecting women.

**Course Attributes:**
- E1: Lifelong Learning Develop
- D1: Social Sciences
- Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
- Global Perspectives
- Social Justice

WGS 220 Introduction to Feminist Disability Studies (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: Upper division standing; any GWAR course.

Introduction to key feminist disability theories; examines issues related to gender, sexuality, race, citizenship and ability, considers how dis/ability is central to feminist theories and activisms.

**Course Attributes:**
- Social Justice

WGS 280 Introduction to Feminist Science Studies (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: ENG 114 or equivalent.

Introduction to the feminist analysis of science, technology, medicine, and the environment, building scientific and cultural literacy necessary to address issues at the intersection of scientific inquiry and social justice.

**Course Attributes:**
- Social Justice

WGS 300GW Gender, Race, and Nation - GWAR (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: Restricted to Women and Gender Studies majors and minors; WGS 200, ENG 214 or equivalent with a grade of C- or better.

Intersectional, transnational, transdisciplinary analysis of women and gender. Topics include U.S. women of color feminisms and contemporary social justice movements. (ABC/NC grading only)

**Course Attributes:**
- Graduation Writing Assessment

WGS 301 Women, Gender, and Community (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Upper division standing or consent of instructor.

Discussion of community as a concept, as well as specific communities that address women’s or gender issues. Topics may include imagined communities, scholarly communities, community activism, coalition politics, and other forms of feminist affinity and networking.

**WGS 303 Women as Creative Agents (Units: 3)**
Prerequisite: ENG 114.

Personal expression and self-definition through creative experience in various media: drawing, painting, photography, poetry, sculpture, and writing. Work of women artists, filmmakers, poets.

**Course Attributes:**
- UD-C: Arts and/or Humanities
- Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
- Social Justice

WGS 304 Gender and Popular Culture (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: ENG 214.

The question of representation; that is, the formation of culture in relation to women and gender. How women and gender are constructed, narrated, and represented in both written and visual cultures.

**Course Attributes:**
- Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
- Global Perspectives
- Social Justice

WGS 305 Women and Gender Studies Lecture Series (Units: 3)
Prerequisite for WGS 805: WGS 700 or consent of instructor. Prerequisite for WGS 305: ENG 214 or equivalent.

Lecture series provides a sampling of feminist perspectives on scholarship, research, and activism including presentations, film screenings, and academic lectures on current theories and topics in the field of women and gender studies. (WGS 805/WGS 305 is a paired course offering. Students who complete the course at one level may not repeat the course at the other level.)

WGS 400 Research Methods in Women and Gender Studies (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: ENG 214 or equivalent.

Women and gender: feminist knowledge, review of methodological problems, and the understanding of the importance of power relations in the formation of knowledge.

**WGS 420 Native Genders and Feminism (Units: 3)**
Prerequisite: Upper division standing or consent of instructor.

Introduction to Native genders and feminist theories, methods, and activism as developed within the United States and Canada with an overview of the field(s) with a focus on k and emergent scholarship and political issues. (This course is offered as AIS 420 and WGS 420. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.)

**Course Attributes:**
- UD-D: Social Sciences
- Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
- Social Justice
WGS 423 Geographic Perspectives on Gender, Environment, and Development (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: Upper division standing; ENG 214; or consent of instructor.

Explores geographic frameworks linking gender and environment and examines how they have influenced the practice of development. Case studies from US, Latin America, Africa and Asia. Topics include global restructuring, gender-population-environment.
(This course is offered as GEOG 423 and WGS 423. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.)

WGS 440 Native Sexualities and Queer Discourse (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Upper division standing or consent of instructor.

A comparative, interdisciplinary, socio-historical analysis of Native sexualities and gender constructions from indigenous centered perspectives; examination of the complexity of Native sexualities, gender formations, and queer indigenous identity movements.
(This course is offered as AIS 440, SXS 440, and WGS 440. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.)

Course Attributes:
• UD-D: Social Sciences
• Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
• Global Perspectives
• Social Justice

WGS 445 Gendered Borders: Latinas and Globalization (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Upper division standing or consent of instructor.

(This course is offered as LTNS 445 and WGS 445. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.)

Course Attributes:
• Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
• Global Perspectives
• Social Justice

WGS 485 Women and Media (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Upper division standing.

Analytic modes, including feminist, psychoanalytic, and economic criticism, to assess both how women are represented in mass media and the status of women employed in mass media.
(This course is offered as BECA 485 and WGS 485. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.)

Course Attributes:
• UD-C: Arts and/or Humanities
• Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
• Global Perspectives
• Social Justice

WGS 505 Gender, Sexuality, and Latino Communities (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Upper division standing or consent of instructor.

Introduction to the social organization of gender and sexuality in Latino communities; exploration of ways gender and sexuality are given specific cultural meaning among the pan-Latino population.
(This course is offered as LTNS 505 and WGS 505. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.)

WGS 511 Women and Violence (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: ENG 214 or equivalent.

Psychological and physical violence visited upon vulnerable populations, particularly women. Topics include relations between gender, race, class, nation, and violence; research, theories and controversies within feminist anti-violence movements.

WGS 513 Gender, War, and Militarism (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: ENG 214 or equivalent.

Examination of literature, history, media, and theory, to analyze the gendered political, cultural, and ideological stakes of war and militarism.

Course Attributes:
• UD-C: Arts and/or Humanities
• Global Perspectives
• Social Justice

WGS 514 Women and the Prison Industrial Complex (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: ENG 114 or equivalent.

Incarceration of women and children in prisons, jails, juvenile, and mental institutions. Treatment on the basis of race, class, and ethnicity; reforms or alternatives to incarceration.

Course Attributes:
• UD-D: Social Sciences
• Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
• Global Perspectives
• Social Justice

WGS 515 Gender, Race, and Reproduction (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: ENG 214 or equivalent.

Examination of the mutually constitutive ways gender norms and racial knowledge are shaped; focus on the study of the history and politics of reproduction. Various state policies, programs, and laws aimed at controlling reproduction examined.

Course Attributes:
• UD-D: Social Sciences
• Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
• Global Perspectives

WGS 516 Gender and Visual Culture (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: ENG 214 or equivalent.

Using an interdisciplinary/transnational perspective, this course will examine how gender is understood through visual registers and how visual culture depends upon ideas about gender. Key authors, concepts, and methodologies in the field of visual studies will be covered.

WGS 530 Women and Gender Studies and Social Theory (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: ENG 214 or equivalent.

Influence of social theory on feminist issues and literatures. Topic to be specified in Class Schedule. May be repeated for a total of 9 units when topics vary.
WGS 533 Women, Men, and Cultural Change (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: ENG 214 or equivalent.
Film, literature, small group discussion/dynamics used to help women and men become better co-workers, parents, political allies, friends, lovers. Re-educates women and men of different cultures to new understandings of their interpersonal/social relations.

WGS 534 Gender and the Law (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: ENG 114 or equivalent.
Study of feminist legal thought and analysis of the role law plays in maintaining or transforming gendered societies. Topics include family law, LGBT rights, and reproductive rights, affirmative action and equal protection laws, and law, culture, and international human rights.
Course Attributes:
• UD-D: Social Sciences
• Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
• Social Justice

WGS 535 History of Women in Latin America (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: Upper division standing; ENG 214 or equivalent; or consent of instructor.
History of the changing roles of women in Latin America from the colonial period to the present.
(This course is offered as HIST 535, WGS 535, and LTNS 533. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.)

WGS 536 Gender, Globalization, and Women’s Human Rights (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: ENG 214 or equivalent.
Critical examination of the historical and political rise of women’s human rights as a national policy issue. Analyzes the assumptions of how gender and race inform ideas of women’s human rights and globalization.
Course Attributes:
• UD-D: Social Sciences
• Global Perspectives
• Social Justice

WGS 541 Women Writers and Social Change (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: ENG 214 or equivalent.
Relationship between women’s literature and women’s participation, as activists and theorists, in movements for progressive social change.
Course Attributes:
• UD-C: Arts and/or Humanities
• Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
• Global Perspectives
• Social Justice

WGS 542 Gender and Popular Music (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: ENG 214 or equivalent.
Focuses on how music can restate and resist notions of gender, race, sexuality and nationality. Music styles may include blues, jazz, folk, corridos, country, bhangra, disco, punk, rock, salsa, and hip-hop. Analyzes popular music in the U.S. and internationally.
Course Attributes:
• UD-C: Arts and/or Humanities
• Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
• Global Perspectives

WGS 546 20th Century American Jewish Women Writers (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: ENG 214 or equivalent.
Exploration through novels, short fiction, and memoir the connections American women forge and the tensions they experience via encounters with self, family, Judaism, American society, and world history.
(This course is offered as JS 546, ENG 546, and WGS 546. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.)
Course Attributes:
• UD-C: Arts and/or Humanities
• Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
• Global Perspectives

WGS 548 Literature by U.S. Women of Color (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: ENG 214 or equivalent.
Literature by African American, Latina, Asian American, and Native American women. Literary forms, styles, images, and themes in relation to racism, sexism, homophobia, ableism, and daily life in the U.S.

WGS 551 Queer Literatures and Media (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: ENG 214 or equivalent or consent of instructor.
Queer literature and media productions from a feminist and transnational perspective; intersectional analysis of gender, race, class, sexuality, and citizenship to examine fiction, film, cultural, and historical texts.
(This course is offered as WGS 551 and SXS 551. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.)
Course Attributes:
• E1: Lifelong Learning Develop
• UD-C: Arts and/or Humanities
• Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
• Global Perspectives
• Social Justice

WGS 552 Transgender Identities and Communities (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: ENG 214 or equivalent.
Examination of transgender and transsexual identities in cultural and historical contexts using a transnational feminist approach. Presents a challenge to Western gender binaries and analyzes gender through nation, race, sexuality, and class.
Course Attributes:
• Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
• Global Perspectives
• Social Justice
WGS 554 Gender and Global Migration (Units: 3)
Prerequisite for WGS 754: WGS 700 or consent of instructor.
Prerequisites for WGS 554: ENG 214 or equivalent; WGS 200.
Study of gender, migration, and labor. Causes, conditions, and challenges of displacement.
(WGS 754/WGS 554 is a paired course offering. Students who complete the course at one level may not repeat the course at the other level.)

WGS 556 Gender and Modernity in the Muslim and Arab Worlds (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: ENG 214 or equivalent.
Investigates implications of the project of modernity/modernization for gender and sexuality in the Muslim and Arab worlds. By interrogating dichotomies that oppose tradition to modernity, examines the multifaceted ways in which gender identities are produced historically.
[Formerly ETHS 566]
(This course is offered as WGS 566 and RRS 566. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.)
Course Attributes:
• Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
• Global Perspectives

WGS 560 Women, Gender, Policy, and Justice (Units: 3)
Prerequisite for WGS 770: WGS 700 or consent of instructor.
Prerequisite for WGS 560: ENG 214 or equivalent.
Examination of a specific issue in public policy, its role in the formation of gender inequities, and its impact on the position of women in the economy.
(WGS 770/WGS 560 is a paired course offering. Students who complete the course at one level may not repeat the course at the other level.)

WGS 561 Women, Ethnicity, and Social Movements (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: ENG 214 or equivalent.
Themes include inter-raciality and multi-ethnicity in the history, culture, and contemporary lives of women of color, including African American, Native American, Asian American, and Latina women.
Course Attributes:
• Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
• Social Justice

WGS 562 History of African American Women (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: ENG 214 or equivalent.
Experiences of Black women under slavery; in their pioneering roles as industrial, domestic, and agricultural workers; and in their varied political, social, and educational roles from the 19th century to present.
Course Attributes:
• UD-D: Social Sciences
• Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
• Social Justice

WGS 563 Gender, Sexuality, and the Politics of Mobility (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: ENG 214 or equivalent.
How do gender and sexuality inform, enable or prevent people's relationship to different forms of mobility (migration, embodiment, detention) in a transnational world? Is mobility always positive? Course texts may include film, cultural studies, political and social theory, and history.
Course Attributes:
• UD-D: Social Sciences
• Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
• Social Justice

WGS 564 Women Writers and the Politics of Decolonization (Units: 3)
Prerequisite for WGS 764: WGS 700 or consent of instructor.
Prerequisite for WGS 564: ENG 214 or equivalent.
Literature by women writers which addresses histories of colonialism and/or imperialism. Emphasis on intersections of gendered political, economic, and social transformations.
(WGS 764/WGS 564 is a paired course offering. Students who complete the course at one level may not repeat the course at the other level.)

WGS 565 Muslim Feminisms (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: ENG 214 or equivalent.
Examination of differences/similarities in women's lives in Muslim/Arab world, including diaspora in Europe and North America; minorities in Arab Middle East. Analysis includes issues of gender as relates to nationalism, religion, and culture.
Course Attributes:
• Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
• Global Perspectives

WGS 566 Gender and Modernity in the Muslim and Arab Worlds (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: ENG 214 or equivalent.
Investigates implications of the project of modernity/modernization for gender and sexuality in the Muslim and Arab worlds. By interrogating dichotomies that oppose tradition to modernity, examines the multifaceted ways in which gender identities are produced historically.
[Formerly ETHS 566]
(This course is offered as WGS 566 and RRS 566. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.)
Course Attributes:
• Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
• Global Perspectives
• Social Justice

WGS 570 Women, Gender, Policy, and Justice (Units: 3)
Prerequisite for WGS 770: WGS 700 or consent of instructor.
Prerequisite for WGS 570: ENG 214 or equivalent.
Examination of a specific issue in public policy, its role in the formation of gender inequities, and its impact on the position of women in the economy.
(WGS 770/WGS 570 is a paired course offering. Students who complete the course at one level may not repeat the course at the other level.)

WGS 571 Gender, Poverty, and Globalization (Units: 3)
Prerequisite for WGS 771: WGS 700 or consent of instructor.
Prerequisite for WGS 571: ENG 214 or equivalent.
Understanding of globalization and its relation to poverty, work with a community organization concerned with these issues. [CSL may be available]
(WGS 771/WGS 571 is a paired course offering. Students who complete the course at one level may not repeat the course at the other level.)

WGS 578 Women, Globalization, and Ecology (Units: 3)
Prerequisite for WGS 778: WGS 700 or consent of instructor.
Prerequisite for WGS 578: ENG 214 or equivalent.
Ecological issues concerning women and gender from a third world women's perspective: environmental racism and justice, ecology, health, development, and international human rights.
(WGS 778/WGS 578 is a paired course offering. Students who complete the course at one level may not repeat the course at the other level.)
WGS 580 Feminism and the Speculative: Another World is Possible (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: ENG 214 or equivalent.

Draws on critical theory, science fiction, film, art, political action and new media to investigate how imagining and inhabiting "other worlds" such as utopias, dystopias, alternate histories, imagined futures, can inform feminist thought, political activism, and cultural production.

WGS 593 Gender, Health, and the Environment (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: ENG 214 or equivalent.

Emergence of "western medicine" as primary paradigm, and the consequences of socio-political formations to women's health. Emergence of "holistic" treatments, "traditional" medicine from indigenous and pre-colonial perspectives, and oppositional health practices emerging from environmental movements.

Course Attributes:
- UD-D: Social Sciences
- Environmental Sustainability
- Global Perspectives

WGS 595 Anthropology of Women (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: ENG 114 or equivalent.

Ethnographic, physical, anthropological, and pre-historical materials on women. Theories on origins of the family, social structuring of sexuality, and changing sex and gender in modern societies. (This course is offered as ANTH 590, CST 590, and WGS 595. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.)

WGS 601 Gender, Tourism, and Neoliberalism (Units: 3)
Prerequisite for WGS 801: Graduate standing or consent of instructor. Prerequisites for WGS 601: ENG 214 or equivalent, WGS 200, or consent of instructor.

Analysis of how neoliberal service economies, particularly urban tourism, reconfigure and put to work race and gender meanings. Focus on the production of new modes of consumption including racialized tourist sites, cosmopolitan adventures, and gay weddings. (WGS 801/WGS 601 is a paired course offering. Students who complete the course at one level may not repeat the course at the other level.)

WGS 602 Feminist Cultural Activism (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: ENG 214 or equivalent.

Relationship between cultural production and social change. Focus on cultural activism media through gender, sexuality, and other historical norms to assess feminist implications of their modes of resistance. (Plus-minus ABC/NC [undergraduate] or plus-minus AB/NC [graduate] [CSL may be available] (WGS 802/WGS 602 is a paired course offering. Students who complete the course at one level may not repeat the course at the other level.)

WGS 611 Theories of Female Sexuality (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: ENG 214 or equivalent.

Relationship between female sexuality and its historical, social, and ideological contexts focusing on trends and issues in current feminist thought. Topics include critical race studies, lesbian/gay/bisexual/transgender studies, transnational feminism, reproductive and non-reproductive sexualities.

WGS 612 Queer Theory (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: Women and Gender Studies majors and minors; ENG 214 or equivalent, WGS 200; or consent of instructor.

Examination of the field of queer theory: theoretical approaches to the history of sexuality, politics of normativity, race/sex intersections, links between queer theory and disability studies, transnational contexts, and native/settler/colonial politics. [Formerly WGS 512.]

WGS 621 Feminist Theories (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: ENG 214 or equivalent, WGS 200, or consent of instructor.

Analysis of feminist theories and practices internationally and historically; examination of theories of gender, race, class, sexuality, identity, community, modernity, and nation. Study of methods, histories, and implications of feminist thought in various academic, cultural, and political contexts.

Course Attributes:
- UD-D: Social Sciences
- Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
- Global Perspectives
- Social Justice

WGS 681 Genetics, Biotechnology, and the Politics of Difference (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: Upper division standing; ENG 214 or equivalent.

Employs feminist science studies, critical race theory, and indigenous studies to analyze how the life sciences conceptualize, define, and study human differences. Considers how feminist insights into the social effects of genetics and biotechnology can influence scientific practice and discourse. (This course is offered as WGS 681 and AIS 681. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.)

WGS 690 Senior Seminar (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: Restricted to Women and Gender Studies majors. WGS 200, WGS 300GW, ENG 214 or equivalent.

Focuses on enabling students to evaluate their learning progress by creating a portfolio which includes writing a paper analyzing their work. Students collaborate to produce a publication. (Plus-minus letter grade only)

WGS 698 Work Study in Feminist Projects (Units: 1-6)
Prerequisite: Upper division standing or consent of instructor.

Supervised community or university service that relates to the women studies major, individual women studies courses, or the student’s own major. May be repeated for a total of 9 units. [CSL may be available]

WGS 699 Independent Study (Units: 1-6)
Prerequisite: ENG 114 or equivalent.

Special study in some aspect of feminism or women and gender studies, performed under department faculty supervision. Enrollment by petition. May be repeated for a total of 9 units.

WGS 700 Introduction to Graduate Study (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: MA Women and Gender Studies Student.

Origins and current status of women and gender studies as a field of knowledge. Relationships between gender and epistemology; feminist critiques and transformations of research methodologies. Identification of major works and issues in feminist scholarship.
WGS 710 Feminist Social Movements (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: WGS 700 or consent of instructor.

Social stratification and the state; political marginalization of women. Egalitarianism in the legacy of women's participation in society. Colonial transformations and the politics/culture of resistance. Turning points in women's activism. Impact of race/class inequities.

WGS 712 Queer Theories (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: WGS 700 or consent of instructor.

Examination of queer theory from a transnational feminist approach; production of sexuality within western epistemology; politics of sexual deviance and the racialization of sexual identities from socio-economic and cultural perspectives.

WGS 713 Intellectual Genealogies (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: WGS 700 (may be taken concurrently) or consent of instructor.

Specific issues, topics, or theoretical tendencies in current feminist discussion and debate; implications of theory for social practice.

WGS 720 Feminist Pedagogies (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: WGS 700 or consent of instructor.

Examines feminist critical education theories and praxis with a transnational lens. Topics may include history of the University and gender tactics of colonialism; intersectional analysis of disability studies; theory/praxis debates; pedagogies of the oppressed; and teaching transgression. (Plus-minus letter grade only)

WGS 747 Feminist Criticisms (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: WGS 700 or consent of instructor.

Diverse feminist theoretical and critical approaches in social contexts; canons; female aesthetics; social, linguistic, and psychoanalytic approaches.  
(This course is offered as WGS 747 and ENG 747. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.)

WGS 752 Feminism, Race, and the Politics of Difference (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: WGS 700 or consent of instructor.

Considers the “difference politics” that emerged out of the 1960s and 1970s Civil Rights and women's movement activisms. Explores how these politics frame understanding of difference and justice; intersectionality, pluralism, multiculturalism, and post-racialism.

WGS 754 Gender and Global Migration (Units: 3)
Prerequisite for WGS 754: WGS 700 or consent of instructor. Prerequisites for WGS 554: ENG 214 or equivalent; WGS 200.

Study of gender, migration, and labor. Causes, conditions, and challenges of displacement. (WGS 754/WGS 554 is a paired course offering. Students who complete the course at one level may not repeat the course at the other level.)

WGS 760 Issues in Women's Literature and Culture (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: WGS 700 or consent of instructor.

Women's literature and its role and impact on culture. Topic to be specified in Class Schedule. May be repeated for a total of 9 units when topics vary.

WGS 762 Women, Labor, and Power (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: WGS 700 or consent of instructor.

Transnational examination of the role of work in women's lives. Focus on historical, literary, and ethnographic narratives of survival strategies, protest, and labor organizing from nineteenth-century to present.

WGS 764 Women Writers and the Politics of Decolonization (Units: 3)
Prerequisite for WGS 764: WGS 700 or consent of instructor. Prerequisite for WGS 564: ENG 214 or equivalent.

Literature by women writers which addresses histories of colonialism and/or imperialism. Emphasis on intersections of gendered political, economic, and social transformations. (WGS 764/WGS 564 is a paired course offering. Students who complete the course at one level may not repeat the course at the other level.)

WGS 766 Gender and Modernity in the Muslim and Arab Worlds (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: WGS 700 or consent of instructor.

Investigates implications of the project of modernity/modernization for gender and sexuality in the Muslim and Arab worlds. By interrogating dichotomies that oppose tradition to modernity, examines the multifaceted ways in which gender identities are produced historically.

WGS 770 Women, Gender, Policy, and Justice (Units: 3)
Prerequisite for WGS 770: WGS 700 or consent of instructor. Prerequisite for WGS 570: ENG 214 or equivalent.

Examination of a specific issue in public policy, its role in the formation of gender inequities, and its impact on the position of women in the economy. (WGS 770/WGS 570 is a paired course offering. Students who complete the course at one level may not repeat the course at the other level.)

WGS 771 Gender, Poverty, and Globalization (Units: 3)
Prerequisite for WGS 771: WGS 700 or consent of instructor. Prerequisite for WGS 571: ENG 214 or equivalent.

Understanding of globalization and its relation to poverty, work with a community organization concerned with these issues. [CSL may be available] (WGS 771/WGS 571 is a paired course offering. Students who complete the course at one level may not repeat the course at the other level.)

WGS 772 Sexuality, Visual Culture, and the Arts (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Graduate standing or consent of instructor.

Examination of the cultural politics of representations of sexuality in visual culture and the arts, with emphasis on how such representations are produced in relationship to race, class, gender, and nation. (Plus-minus letter grade only) (This course is offered as SXS 772 and WGS 772, and may not be repeated under the alternate prefix.)

WGS 774 Women, Globalization, and Ecology (Units: 3)
Prerequisite for WGS 774: WGS 700 or consent of instructor. Prerequisite for WGS 574: ENG 214 or equivalent.

Ecological issues concerning women and gender from a third world women's perspective: environmental racism and justice, ecology, health, development, and international human rights. (WGS 774/WGS 574 is a paired course offering. Students who complete the course at one level may not repeat the course at the other level.)
WGS 798 Feminist Internship: Gender and the Nonprofit Industrial Complex (Units: 1-4)
Prerequisite: WGS 700 (may be taken concurrently) or consent of instructor.
Supervised volunteer community service learning; course materials include analysis of gendered politics of volunteer labor, the nonprofit industrial complex, theory/practice binary, local/global contexts, feminist transnational analysis. May be repeated for a total of 4 units. [CSL may be available]

WGS 801 Gender, Tourism, and Neoliberalism (Units: 3)
Prerequisite for WGS 801: Graduate standing or consent of instructor.
Prerequisites for WGS 601: ENG 214 or equivalent, WGS 200, or consent of instructor.
Analysis of how neoliberal service economies, particularly urban tourism, reconfigure and put to work race and gender meanings. Focus on the production of new modes of consumption including racialized tourist sites, cosmopolitan adventures, and gay weddings.
(WGS 801/WGS 601 is a paired course offering. Students who complete the course at one level may not repeat the course at the other level.)

WGS 802 Feminist Cultural Activism (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: ENG 214 or equivalent.
Relationship between cultural production and social change. Focus on cultural activism media through gender, sexuality, and other historical norms to assess feminist implications of their modes of resistance. (Plus-minus ABC/NC [undergraduate] or plus-minus AB/NC [graduate]) [CSL may be available]
(WGS 802/WGS 602 is a paired course offering. Students who complete the course at one level may not repeat the course at the other level.)

WGS 805 Women and Gender Studies Lecture Series (Units: 3)
Prerequisite for WGS 805: WGS 700 or consent of instructor.
Prerequisite for WGS 305: ENG 214 or equivalent.
Lecture series provides a sampling of feminist perspectives on scholarship, research, and activism including presentations, film screenings, and academic lectures on current theories and topics in the field of women and gender studies.
(WGS 805/WGS 305 is a paired course offering. Students who complete the course at one level may not repeat the course at the other level.)

WGS 820 Feminist Research Methods (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: Graduate standing; WGS 700; or consent of instructor.
Social research and feminism. Analyze research studies, develop skills, and develop their master's projects. (Plus-minus letter grade only)

WGS 894 Creative Work Project (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: WGS 700; approval of the graduate major advisor, approval of Advancement to Candidacy (ATC) and Culminating Experience (CE) forms by Graduate Studies.
An original creative work. Projects must be described in a written document that summarizes the project's relation to other work in the area, its rationale, its significance, and its creative methodologies. ATC and Proposal for Culminating Experience Requirement forms must be approved by the Graduate Division before registration. (CR/NC only)

WGS 895 Field Study Project (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: WGS 700; approval of the graduate major advisor, and approval of Advancement to Candidacy (ATC) and Culminating Experience (CE) forms by Graduate Studies.
A field study or applied research project resulting in a completed written work that includes the project's significance, objectives, methodology, and conclusions or recommendations. ATC and Proposal for Culminating Experience Requirement forms must be approved by the Graduate Division before registration. (CR/NC grading only)

WGS 896EXM Culminating Experience Examination (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: Restricted to Women and Gender Studies graduate students. Consent of instructor and committee chair; completion of all other MA in WGS core courses.
Enrollment in 896EXAM required for students whose culminating experience consists of an examination only. Not for students enrolled in a culminating experience course numbered WGS898, WGS895 or WGS 894. ATC and Proposal for Culminating Experience Requirement forms must be approved by the Graduate Division. See department graduate advisor. (CR/NC, RP)

WGS 897 Advanced Feminist Graduate Literatures (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: WGS 700; consent of Graduate Advisor.
Prepares students to write a feminist literature review on topics related to their Culminating Experience projects. Reading of a variety of literature reviews and learning the conventions of writing literature reviews. (CR/NC only)

WGS 898 Master's Thesis (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: WGS 700; approval of Advancement to Candidacy (ATC) and Culminating Experience (CE) forms by Graduate Studies; consent of graduate major advisor.
Intensive study of a topic or issue within the field of women and gender studies, culminating in a written thesis showing independent thinking, appropriate methodology and organization, clarity of purpose, thorough documentation, and relevant conclusions. Advancement to Candidacy (ATC) and Proposal for Culminating Experience Requirement forms must be approved by the Graduate Division before registration. (CR/NC only)

WGS 899 Independent Study (Units: 1-4)
Prerequisite: Consent of graduate major adviser and supervising faculty member.
Study is planned, developed, and completed under the direction of a member of the department faculty. Open only to graduate students who have demonstrated ability to do independent work. Enrollment is by petition. May be repeated for a total of 6 units.