WOMEN AND GENDER STUDIES

College of Liberal & Creative Arts
Dean: Dr. Andrew Harris

Department of Women and Gender Studies
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Chair: Kasturi Ray
Undergraduate Advisor: Nan Alamilla Boyd
Graduate Advisor: Martha Kenney
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Program Scope
Women and Gender Studies examines the importance of gender and feminism in relation to issues such as race, class, sexuality, labor, colonialism, and globalization. Students study how bodies, families, communities, and nations are gendered in specific cultural and historical contexts and investigate connections to their own lives, roles, and contributions. The expertise of the department lies in interdisciplinary, intersectional, and transnational studies of power. 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 works by feminists who confront and transform various institutions and arenas, including politics, law, non-profit groups, 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.

The Women and Gender Studies major requires at least 39 units, of which 30 must be at the upper-division level. Twelve units must be completed in the Women and Gender Studies core courses. Of the 27 elective units, 21 units of electives must be Women and Gender Studies courses and 6 units of electives may be taken in other departments upon advisement. Each student, with an advisor, creates their own program that reflects their goals and prepares them for the next step in their life, whether it be a career or further education.

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 a WGS undergraduate 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 the relationships among feminist theories, social/global structures, and the production of gender and sexuality.

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, health and wellness professions, 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.

Professor


SUE V. ROSSER (2009), Professor of Sociology, Professor of Women and Gender Studies; B.A. (1969), M.S. (1971), Ph.D. (1973), University of Wisconsin, Madison.

Associate Professor

Assistant Professor
CHRISTOPH HANSSMANN (2017), Assistant Professor of Women and Gender Studies; B.A. (1999), Wesleyan University; M.P.H. (2006), University of Washington; Ph.D. (2017), University of California, San Francisco.
MARTHA KENNEY (2014), Assistant Professor of Women and Gender Studies; B.A. (2006), University of King’s College; Ph.D. (2013), University of California, Santa Cruz.

Major

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

Minor

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

Master

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

WGS 105 Feminism and Self-Care: Perspectives and Practices (Unit: 1)

Intellectual engagement with and active practice of feminist self-care. Consideration of feminist scholars who have argued the importance of embodiment and experiential learning in relation to self-care practices. May be repeated for a total of 2 units. (CR/NC grading only)

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
- 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 LLD Pre-Fall 2019
- D1: Social Sciences
- Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
- Global Perspectives
- Social Justice

WGS 210 Introduction to Feminism and the State (Units: 3)

Introduction to intersectional feminist engagements with state violence and community resistance. Racial, gendered, and geopolitical histories of state power in relation to creative and political movements. Topics may include voting, migration, war, policing, incarceration, and globalization. Skills include critical thinking, written expression, feminist analysis of creative, analytic, and empirical sources.

WGS 220 Introduction to Feminist Disability Studies (Units: 3)

Prerequisites: Upper-division standing; a 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; GE Area A2; WGS 200, WGS 220, or WGS 280.

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

Course Attributes:

- Graduation Writing Assessment

WGS 301 Women, Gender, and Community (Units: 3)

Prerequisite: Upper-division standing or consent of the 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)

Prerequisites: GE Areas A1*, A2*, A3*, and B4* all with grades of C- or better or consent of the instructor.

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)
Prerequisites: GE Areas A1, A2, and A3.

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)
Prerequisites for WGS 805: Graduate standing; WGS 700; or consent of the instructor.
Prerequisites for WGS 305: Upper-division standing; GPA of 3.0 or higher; or consent of the instructor.

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 355 History of Women in Latin America (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: Upper-division standing; GE Area E; or consent of the instructor.

History of the changing roles of women in Latin America from the colonial period to the present.
(This course is offered as HIST 355 [formerly HIST 535], WGS 355 [formerly WGS 535], and LTNS 533. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.)

WGS 400 That’s Not What I Said: Feminism, Oral History, and Research Methods in Women and Gender Studies (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: GE Areas A1, A2, A3, and B4.

Review of the feminist challenge to positivism that launched women and gender studies as a field. Highlighting interdisciplinary, intersectional, and transnational methods and modes of analysis. Considers the politics of knowledge production and, as an extended example, discusses the historic use of oral history as a feminist method and practice. Readings and discussion will focus on the challenges of cross-cultural research and the possibilities of shared authority in the relationship between researchers and research subjects.

WGS 420 Native Genders and Feminism (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: GE Areas A1*, A2*, A3*, and B4* all with grades of C- or better or consent of the 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 with a focus on 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; GE Areas A1, A2, and A3; or consent of the instructor.

Explore geographic frameworks linking gender and environment and examine how they have influenced the practice of development. Case studies from the United States, 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)
Prerequisites: GE Areas A1*, A2*, A3*, and B4* all with grades of C- or better or consent of the instructor.

A comparative, interdisciplinary, and 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 the 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 470 The Politics of Sex and Reproduction (Units: 4)
Prerequisite: Upper-division standing or consent of the instructor.

Examination of the politics of sex and reproduction in the United States through policy, law, and theory. The role of the state on issues such as abortion, infertility, pregnancy, pornography, sex work, contraceptives, and procreative and non-procreative sex. Analysis of gender roles and the way conceptions of femininity and masculinity are written into U.S. law.
(This course is offered as PLSI 470, SXS 470, and WGS 470. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.)
WGS 485 Women and Media (Units: 3)  
Prerequisites: GE Areas A1*, A2*, A3*, and B4* all with grades of C- or better or consent of the instructor.

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
- Social Justice

WGS 505 Gender, Sexuality, and Latino Communities (Units: 3)  
Prerequisite: Upper-division standing or consent of the 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)  
Prerequisites: GE Areas A1, A2, and A3.

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)  
Prerequisites: GE Areas A1*, A2*, A3*, and B4* all with grades of C- or better or consent of the instructor.

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)  
Prerequisites: GE Areas A1*, A2*, A3*, and B4* all with grades of C- or better or consent of the instructor.

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)  
Prerequisites: GE Areas A1*, A2*, A3*, and B4* all with grades of C- or better or consent of the instructor.

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 are examined.

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

WGS 516 Gender and Visual Culture (Units: 3)  
Prerequisites: GE Areas A1, A2, A3, and B4.

Using an interdisciplinary and transnational perspective, 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)  
Prerequisites: GE Areas A1, A2, A3, and B4.

Influence of social theory on feminist issues and literatures. Topic to be specified in the Class Schedule. May be repeated for a total of 6 units when topics vary.

WGS 534 Gender and the Law (Units: 3)  
Prerequisites: GE Areas A1*, A2*, A3*, and B4* all with grades of C- or better or consent of the instructor.

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 536 Gender, Globalization, and Women's Human Rights (Units: 3)  
Prerequisites: GE Areas A1*, A2*, A3*, and B4* all with grades of C- or better or consent of the instructor.

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)**
Prerequisites: GE Areas A1*, A2*, A3*, and B4* all with grades of C- or better or consent of the instructor.

The 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)**
Prerequisites: GE Areas A1*, A2*, A3*, and B4* all with grades of C- or better or consent of the instructor.

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)**
Prerequisites: GE Areas A1*, A2*, A3*, and B4* all with grades of C- or better; ENG 216 or ENG 218 or equivalent; or consent of the instructor.

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)**
Prerequisites: GE Areas A1, A2, A3, and B4.

Literature by U.S. women of color. 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)**
Prerequisites: GE Areas A1*, A2*, A3*, and B4* all with grades of C- or better or consent of the 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 LLD Pre-Fall 2019
- UD-C: Arts and/or Humanities
- Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
- Global Perspectives
- Social Justice

**WGS 552 Transgender Identities and Communities (Units: 3)**
Prerequisites: GE Areas A1, A2, and A3.

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)**
Prerequisites for WGS 754: Graduate standing; WGS 700; or consent of the instructor.

Prerequisites for WGS 554: Upper-division standing; WGS 200; GPA of 3.0 or higher; or consent of the instructor.

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 561 Women, Ethnicity, and Social Movements (Units: 3)**
Prerequisites: GE Areas A1, A2, A3, and B4 or consent of the instructor.

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)
Prerequisites: GE Areas A1*, A2*, A3*, and B4* all with grades of C- or better or consent of the instructor.
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 the present.
Course Attributes:
• UD-D: Social Sciences
• Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
• Social Justice

WGS 563 Gender, Sexuality, and the Politics of Mobility (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: GE Areas A1*, A2*, A3*, and B4* all with grades of C- or better or consent of the instructor.
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
• Global Perspectives

WGS 564 Women Writers and the Politics of Decolonization (Units: 3)
Prerequisites for WGS 764: Graduate standing; WGS 700; or consent of the instructor.
Prerequisites for WGS 564: Upper-division standing; GPA of 3.0 or higher; or consent of the instructor.
Literature by women writers which addresses histories of colonialism and 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)
Prerequisites: GE Areas A1, A2, and A3.
Examination of differences/similarities in women’s lives in the Muslim/Arab world, including diaspora in Europe and North America, and minorities in the Arab Middle East. 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)
Prerequisites: GE Areas A1, A2, and A3.
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. (This course is offered as WGS 566 and RRS 566 [Formerly ETHS 566]. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.)
Course Attributes:
• Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities
• Global Perspectives
• Social Justice

WGS 571 Gender, Poverty, and Globalization (Units: 3)
Prerequisites for WGS 771: Graduate standing; WGS 700; or consent of the instructor.
Prerequisites for WGS 571: Upper-division standing; GPA of 3.0 or higher; or consent of the instructor.
Understanding of globalization and its relation to poverty. Serve 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)
Prerequisites for WGS 778: Graduate standing; WGS 700; or consent of the instructor.
Prerequisites for WGS 578: Upper-division standing; GPA of 3.0 or higher; or consent of the instructor.
Ecological issues concerning women and gender from a developing 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: GE Areas A1, A2, and A3.
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 591 Critical Approaches to Transgender Health, Science, and Medicine (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: A 200-level WGS course or consent of the instructor.
Examination of transgender and nonbinary health, medicine, and science in the U.S. and transnationally. Exploration of practices defined as "trans health," and their circulation in science, health, medicine, and popular culture. Focus on transsexual medicine; local and transnational health activist interventions; biomedical classifications; health policies and bureaucracies; and racialized and sexualized notions of "health" and "health disparities."
WGS 593 Gender, Health, and the Environment (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: GE Areas A1*, A2*, A3*, and B4* all with grades of C- or better or consent of the instructor.

A transnational and intersectional approach to global environmental justice issues. Critical examination of how extraction, manufacturing, agriculture, military, and waste industries affect human health. Foregrounds how indigenous communities and communities of color are affected by and resist environmental violence. Builds scientific and media literacy necessary to understand complex issues such as nuclear waste, water contamination, air pollution, and climate change.

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

WGS 595 Feminist Anthropology (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: GE Area A2.

Ethnographic, physical, anthropological, and prehistorical topics related to 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 601: Graduate standing or consent of the instructor. Prerequisites for WGS 601: Upper-division standing; WGS 200; GPA of 3.0 or higher; or consent of the 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 for WGS 602: Graduate standing or consent of the instructor. Prerequisites for WGS 602: Upper-division standing; GPA of 3.0 or higher; or consent of the instructor.

The 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)
Prerequisites: GE Areas A1, A2, and A3; a WGS course; or consent of the instructor.

The 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, and reproductive and non-reproductive sexualities.

WGS 612 Queer Theory (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: GE Areas A1, A2, and A3; Women and Gender Studies majors and minors and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Studies minors; WGS 200; or consent of the 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: GE Areas A1*, A2*, A3*, and B4* all with grades of C- or better; WGS 200; or consent of the 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 640 Race and Sexual Migration (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Upper-division standing or consent of the instructor.

Exploration of physical and ideological migrations of both hetero- and homosexuality and their relationship to ethnicity and race. Emphasis on tracing the movement of individuals and ideas between regions with both official and unofficial borders. Review of recent scholarship on race, sexuality, and migration. Use of both secondary and primary sources. (This course is offered as RRS 640, SXS 640, and WGS 640. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.)

WGS 645 Sex, Race, Lies, and Love in San Francisco (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Upper-division standing or consent of the instructor.

San Francisco is well-known as a city where "anything goes" especially with regards to sexuality. From early days as a bustling mining outpost for fortune-seeking bachelors, the city quickly gained a reputation for its rowdy sexuality and questionable morality. Exploration of sexual freedom and gender identity demonstrations and declarations in San Francisco in relation to race and ethnicity. Emphasis on the issues of desire, power, and privilege through the disciplinary lenses of Ethnic Studies and Sexuality Studies. (This course is offered as RRS 645, SXS 645, and WGS 645. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.)

WGS 681 Genetics, Biotechnology, and the Politics of Difference (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division standing; GE Area A2; one WGS course; or consent of the instructor.

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 or equivalent; WGS 300GW.

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 Feminist Praxis and the Non-Profit Industrial Complex (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: Restricted to upper-division WGS majors and minors; WGS 300GW; or consent of the instructor.

Community Service Learning course that applies questions and theories from feminist studies to the practice of community; we apply a critical feminist lens to understanding the non-profit industrial complex (NPIC) from the inside. Explore what it means to negotiate the NPIC and how we can practice community accountability. The course couples in-class work with internship work at an organization of the student’s choosing.

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: Restricted to Women and Gender Studies graduate students.

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 the 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 the 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 the 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 the 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 722 Feminism, Race, and the Politics of Difference (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: WGS 700 or consent of the 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 745 Gender and Global Migration (Units: 3)
Prerequisites for WGS 754: Graduate standing; WGS 700; or consent of the instructor.

Prerequisites for WGS 554: Upper-division standing; WGS 300; GPA of 3.0 or higher; or consent of the instructor.

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 the 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 the 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)
Prerequisites for WGS 764: Graduate standing; WGS 700; or consent of the instructor.

Prerequisites for WGS 554: Upper-division standing; GPA of 3.0 or higher; or consent of the instructor.

Literature by women writers which addresses histories of colonialism and imperialism. Emphasis on intersections of gendered political, economic, and social transformations.

(WGS 764/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 766 Gender and Modernity in the Muslim and Arab Worlds (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: WGS 700 or consent of the 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 771 Gender, Poverty, and Globalization (Units: 3)
Prerequisites for WGS 771: Graduate standing; WGS 700; or consent of the instructor.

Prerequisites for WGS 571: Upper-division standing; GPA of 3.0 or higher; or consent of the instructor.

Understanding of globalization and its relation to poverty. Serve 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 the 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 778 Women, Globalization, and Ecology (Units: 3)
Prerequisites for WGS 778: Graduate standing; WGS 700; or consent
of the instructor.
Prerequisites for WGS 578: Upper-division standing; GPA of 3.0 or higher;
or consent of the instructor.

Ecological issues concerning women and gender from a developing 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 797 Advanced Feminist Graduate Literatures (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: WGS 700; consent of the graduate advisor.

Prepares students to write a feminist literature review on topics related to
their Culminating Experience projects. Develops intensive graduate-level
writing skills tied to reading a variety of literature reviews and learning
the conventions of writing literature reviews. (CR/NC only grading only)
[Formerly WGS 897]

WGS 798 Feminist Internship: Gender and the Nonprofit Industrial
Complex (Units: 1-4)
Prerequisite: WGS 700 (may be taken concurrently) or consent of the
instructor.

Supervised community service learning. Course topics include the
analysis of gendered politics of volunteer labor, the nonprofit industrial
complex, theory and practice binary, local and global contexts, and
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 the instructor.
Prerequisites for WGS 601: Upper-division standing; WGS 200; GPA of 3.0
or higher; or consent of the 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 for WGS 802: Graduate standing or consent of the instructor.
Prerequisites for WGS 602: Upper-division standing; GPA of 3.0 or higher;
or consent of the instructor.

The 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 803 Women and Gender Studies Lecture Series (Units: 3)
Prerequisites for WGS 805: Graduate standing; WGS 700; or consent
of the instructor.

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 803/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 the 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 grading
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 896 Directed Reading - Culminating Experience Examination
Preparation (Units: 3)
Prerequisites: WGS 700 and advancement to candidacy.

Research, writing and preparation for the M.A. Exam, in consultation with
faculty on a specialized topic as well as standardized topics to include
feminist theories, queer theories, social movements, embodiment and
political economy emphasizing feminist lenses. (CR/NC grading only)

WGS 896EXM Culminating Experience Examination (Unit: 0)
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 896EXM 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 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.