

GENDER, SEXUALITY, & WOMEN'S STUDIES (BA IN INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES)

Gender, Sexuality, & Women's Studies Program

Gender, Sexuality, & Women's Studies is an interdisciplinary academic program designed to acquaint students with current scholarship and theory on women, gender, and feminism. Each semester a wide variety of courses in humanities and social science departments as well as in Gender, Sexuality, & Women's Studies offers students the opportunity for cultural and cross-cultural studies of the effects of representations and assumptions about gender, race, class, ethnicity, and sexuality on our lives. Courses generally of interest to Gender, Sexuality, & Women's Studies students and eligible for major credit are listed below; in addition, a separate flyer listing each semester's eligible courses is available through the Gender, Sexuality, & Women's Studies office (757) 221-2457 and on the Gender, Sexuality, & Women's Studies web page (<https://www.wm.edu/as/gsws>). Students may declare an interdisciplinary major or a minor in Gender, Sexuality, & Women's Studies.

The Gender, Sexuality, & Women's Studies major prepares students who wish to gain a strong interdisciplinary perspective in advance of employment and/or graduate or professional study leading to careers in a wide variety of fields including law, education, politics, business, social action, the arts, medicine and so on. Graduates of Gender, Sexuality, & Women's Studies programs nationwide report reasons for choosing this field of study that range from lifelong interest in feminism, to discovering new intellectual challenges, to providing themselves with the confidence and freedom to "do whatever you choose to do."

The following guidelines have been reviewed and approved by the Gender, Sexuality, & Women's Studies Curriculum Committee, the Gender, Sexuality, & Women's Studies Executive Committee and the Committee for Honors and Interdisciplinary Studies.

Additional Courses Eligible for Major or Minor

Following is a sample listing of courses that have been counted toward the major or minor. Not all of these courses are offered every semester, and additional courses may qualify for Gender, Sexuality, & Women's Studies credit. Check the Gender, Sexuality, & Women's Studies flyer or web page or consult a program advisor for a list of each semester's approved courses. (Note: Courses in which topics vary should be selected according to the relevance of the topics offered that semester; sample titles are given. Students may request permission from Gender, Sexuality, & Women's Studies to count a particular course not listed in the flyer if the course's relevance to the student's program of study can be demonstrated.)

Code	Title	Hours
Freshman Seminars: in topics related to Gender, Sexuality, & Women's Studies (most disciplines; check schedule)		
AMST 470	Topics American Studies (e.g., Multiculturalism in America; Masculinity in America)	1-4
AFST 205	Introduction to Africana Studies	3

ENGL 465	Special Topics in English (e.g., Love and the Novel: Lesbian Fictions)	1-3
ENGL 475	Seminar in English (e.g., Woolf; The Brontes; 20th Century American Women Writers)	4
FREN 355	Contemp Women French Writers	3
GOVT 360	Building the American Welfare State	3
GOVT 390 & GOVT 391	Topics in Government and Topics in Government (e.g., Varieties of Feminist Ideology)	3
HIST 211 & HIST 212	Topics in History and Topics in History (e.g., Southern Women)	3
HIST 221	United States Women's History, 1600 to 1877	3
HIST 222	United States Women's History since 1877	3
HIST 349	The Queer South	3
HIST 490C	Senior Colloquium (e.g., Black Women in the Americas; Gender and the Civil War)	4
or HIST 491C	Senior Colloquium	
International Studies 390: Topics		
HHP 460	Topics Course (e.g., Sport, Body and Culture)	1-4
MUSC 365	Special Topics in Music (e.g., Music and Gender)	4
RELG 208	Topics in Religion (e.g., Women in the Christian Tradition)	3
RELG 308	Topics in Religion (e.g., History of Adam and Eve; Women and Their Bible; Theologies of Liberation)	3-4
RUSN 308	Topics in Russian Literature and Culture (Taught in English) (e.g., Women in Russian Literature)	1-4
RUSN 309	Topics in Russian Cinema (Taught in English) (e.g., Women in Russian Film)	3-4
SOCI 342	Families and Kinship	3
SOCI 333	Globalization and International Development	3
SOCI 356	Sociology of Work	3
SOCI 415	Sociology of Sexualities	3
SOCI 405	Special Topics in Sociology (e.g., Race, Gender and Health; Gender and Sexuality in Cross Cultural Perspective)	3

Course Requirements

An interdisciplinary major in Gender, Sexuality, & Women's Studies requires a minimum of 32 credit hours. No more than 9 credits of introductory courses, excluding GSWS 205 Introduction to Gender, Sexuality, & Women's Studies, and 6 credits of independent study may count toward the major. All students must complete at least 32 credit hours distributed across five groups of courses, all meeting approved Gender, Sexuality, & Women's Studies criteria, as follows. These courses must be cross-listed in at least three different departments.

Code	Title	Hours
Core Courses		
GSWS 205	Introduction to Gender, Sexuality, & Women's Studies	3
GSWS 405	Feminist Theory	3
Select one of the following:		
GSWS 490	Senior Seminar	
GSWS 495	Honors	
GSWS 496	Honors	
Focus Areas		

Select one course with a focus on gender and international issues (outside of the U.S., Canada, and Great Britain) (list available from major advisor and on the GSWS webpage);	3
Select one course with a focus on LGBTQ issues (list available from major advisor and on the GSWS webpage);	3
Select one course with a focus on gender and race/ethnicity issues (list available from major advisor and on the GSWS webpage);	3
Approved Electives	14
Total Hours	32

Major Writing Requirement

Code	Title	Hours
GSWS 405	Feminist Theory	3

Note

Students must take courses grounded in three different departments and cross-listed with GSWS.

GSWS 391 Topics in Gender and International Issues courses fulfill the requirement for gender and international issues; GSWS 392 Topics in LGBTQ Issues courses fulfill the requirement for LGBTQ issues; and GSWS 393 Topics in Gender and Race/Ethnicity Issues courses fulfill the requirement for race/ethnicity issues. Other courses that fulfill these requirements will be designated with "GIN" for gender and international issues; "LGBT" for LGBTQ issues; and "GRE" for gender and race/ethnicity issues. GSWS 490 Senior Seminar courses will be assigned an attribute based on their subject matter.