Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (WGSS)

Program Director: Professor Nancy Naples
Office: Room 411, Beach Hall
For major requirements, see the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences section of this Catalog.

1104. Feminisms and the Arts  
(Formerly offered as WS 1104.) Three credits. D’Alleva
Interdisciplinary exploration of the work of women artists in drama, the visual arts, music, literature, and/or film. Key issues of feminist criticism in the arts are discussed. CA 1. CA 4.

1105. Gender and Sexuality in Everyday Life  
(Formerly offered as WS 1105.) Three credits. How gender, sex, and sexuality are woven into systems of difference and stratification that shape everyday life. Examines these processes in the family, education, work, and politics with sensitivity to the diversity of individual experiences across class, racial ethnic groups, cultures, and regions. Provides experience in introductory research methods to analyze the social construction and structural organization of gender and sexuality. CA 2. CA 4.

1121. Women in History  
(Formerly offered as WS 1121.) (Also offered as HIST 1203.) Three credits. The historical roots of challenges faced by contemporary women as revealed in the Western and/or non-Western experience: the political, economic, legal, religious, intellectual, and family life of women. CA 1. CA 4.

1124. Gender and Globalization  
(Formerly offered as WS 1124.) Three credits. Exploration of the construction and reproduction of gender inequality and the gendered nature of global structures and processes. Key topics include women’s rights as human rights; women’s work; gender, development, and the global economy; migration; religious fundamentalism; reproduction, health, and HIV/AIDS; education; violence against women; and gender, war, and peace advocacy. CA 2. CA 4-INT.

1193. Foreign Study  
(Formerly offered as WS 1193.) Credit and hours by arrangement. Prerequisite: Consent of program director required, normally before the student’s departure. May be repeated for credit.

2105. Gender and Science  
(Formerly offered as WS 2105.) Three credits. Prerequisite: Open to sophomores or higher. The historical, sociological, economic, and political processes that shape the ways that gender, race, class, sexuality and nation intersect with science, medicine and technology. CA 4-INT.

2105W. Gender and Science  
(Formerly offered as WS 2105W.) Prerequisite: ENGL 1010 or 1011 or 2011; open to sophomores or higher. CA 4-INT.

2250. Feminisms  
(Formerly offered as WS 3250 and as WS 2250.) Three credits. Prerequisite: Open to sophomores or higher. Recommended preparation: Any 1000-level WGSS course. Current feminist theories and related social and political issues.

2255. Sexuality, Activism, and Globalization  
(Formerly offered as WS 2255.) Three credits. Prerequisite: Open to sophomores or higher. Globalization of LGBT identities, cultures and social movement activism, and cultures from a transnational perspective; use, role, and impact of digital media. CA 4-INT.

2255W. Sexuality, Activism, and Globalization  
(Formerly offered as WS 2255W.) Prerequisite: ENGL 1010 or 1011 or 2011; open to sophomores or higher. CA 4-INT.

2263. Women and Violence  
(Formerly offered as WS 2263 and as WS 3263.) (Also offered as HRTS 2263.) Three credits. Prerequisite: Open
Discussion of violence against women in the U.S. and globally, including close examination of various forms of interpersonal and structural violence as well as the social, political and personal meanings of violence.

2267. Women and Poverty

(Formerly offered as WS 2267 and as WS 3267.) Three credits. Prerequisite: Open to sophomores or higher. Recommended preparation: Any 1000-level WGSS course.

Exploration of poverty and gender inequality within the frameworks of the global political economy in select countries. Impact of race, class, and gender differences on policy.

2268. Baseball and Society: Politics, Economics, Race and Gender

(Formerly offered as WS 2268 and as WS 3268.) Three credits. Prerequisite: Open to juniors or higher.

Baseball in historical, political, sociological, and economic contexts. Topics may include: impact on individuals and families; racial discrimination and integration; labor relations; urbanization; roles of women; treatment of gay athletes; and implications of performance-enhancing drugs.

3052. Women and Politics

(Formerly offered as WS 3052.) (Also offered as POLS 3672.) Three credits. Prerequisite: Open to juniors or higher.

An introduction to feminist thought, the study of women as political actors, the feminist movement and several public policy issues affecting women.

3102. Psychology of Women

(Formerly offered as WS 3102.) (Also offered as PSYC 3102.) Three credits. Prerequisite: Three credits of 2000 to 3000-level psychology. Crawford

Gender roles, socialization, women and work, women’s relationships, violence against women, and other topics. Theory and research. CA 4.

3105. The Politics of Reproduction

Three credits. Prerequisite: Open to juniors or higher; sophomores by consent of instructor. Recommended preparation: any 1000 or 2000-level WGSS course.

National and transnational politics of reproduction including: contraception, sexuality education, abortion, childbirth, surrogacy, adoption, health care policy and funding.

3105W. The Politics of Reproduction

Prerequisite: ENGL 1010 or 1011 or 2011; open to juniors or higher; sophomores by consent of instructor. Recommended preparation: any 1000 or 2000-level WGSS course.

3121. Women in Political Development

(Formerly offered as WS 3216.) (Also offered as POLS 3216.) Three credits. Prerequisite: Open to juniors or higher, others by consent.

How women and gender circumscribe political life and generate relationships of inequality and justice on a global scale. Topics may include conflict and security, development, human rights and legal systems, labor and migration, nation building, political economy, and transnational justice.

3127. Women and Film

(Formerly offered as WS 3217.) Three credits. Prerequisite: Any 1000 or 2000-level WGSS course or instructor consent.

Feminist analysis of film. Investigates women’s roles as filmmakers, writers, editors, and actresses, as well as messages communicated to female viewers.

3247. Gender and War

(Also offered as POLS 3247.) Three credits. Prerequisite: Open to juniors or higher.

Gender aspects of war. Masculinities and militaries; gender-based war violence; laws of war and post-war conditions for male and female soldiers and civilians.

3251. Women and Body Art

(Formerly offered as WS 3251.) Three credits. Not open for credit to students who have passed ARTH 3015.
Women’s use of body art to express aspects of gender identity and interpretation of body art from a variety of cultures. “Body art” encompasses cosmetics, painting, hair styling, tattoo, scarification, clothing, ornaments, plastic surgery and exercise.

3252. Genders and Sexualities
(Formerly offered as WS 3252.) Three credits.
Examination of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender issues. Focused exploration of three to four topics.

3253. Gender Representations in U.S. Popular Culture
(Formerly offered as WS 3253.) Three credits.
Forces in the U.S. that shape and reshape gender in popular culture. CA 2.

3253W. Gender Representations in U.S. Popular Culture
(Formerly offered as WS 3253W.) Prerequisite: ENGL 1010 or 1011 or 2011. CA 2.

3254. Women and Gender in the Deaf World
(Formerly offered as WS 3254) (Also offered as ASLN 3254.) Three credits. Prerequisite: One of WGSS 1104, 1105, or 1124; or consent of the instructor. Recommended preparation: Any 2000-level WGSS course. Simons
The roles of women inside and outside the Deaf world. How language and cultural barriers perpetuate the roles defined for and by d/Deaf women within Deaf and hearing societies.

3255W. Sexual Citizenship
(255W) (Formerly offered as WS 3255W.) Three credits. Prerequisite: ENGL 1010 or 1011 or 2011. Naples
Sexuality as a significant axis of citizenship. How sexual citizenship differs in national, historical, and international contexts. How its different constructions influence such issues as welfare, adoption, marriage, and immigration. CA 4-INT.

3257. Feminist Disability Studies
Three credits. Prerequisite: Open to juniors or higher; sophomores by consent of instructor. Recommended preparation: 1000-level WGSS course.
Social, historical, cultural, and political constructions of the intersecting categories of gender and disability. Through a wide variety of texts and cultural examples, exploration of how disability is gendered, gender is disabled, and both are interwoven by race, ethnicity, class, nationality, sexuality, and subcultures.

3257W. Feminist Disability Studies
Prerequisite: ENGL 1010 or 1011 or 2011; open to juniors or higher; sophomores by consent of instructor. Recommended preparation: a 1000-level WGSS course.

3258. Latina Narrative
(258) (Formerly offered as WS 3258.) (Also offered as LLAS 3230.) Three credits. Prerequisite: ENGL 1010 or 1011 or 2011 or instructor consent. Gonzalez
Feminist topics in contemporary Latina literature and cultural studies.

3259. Fictions of Latino Masculinity
(259) (Formerly offered as WS 3259.) (Also offered as LLAS 3231.) Three credits. Prerequisite: ENGL 1010 or 1011 or 2011 or instructor consent. Gonzalez
Topics in Latino literature and cultural studies with an emphasis on masculinity and male authors.

3260. Latinas and Media
(260) (Formerly offered as WS 3260.) (Also offered as LLAS 3264 and COMM 3321.) Three credits. Prerequisite: Open to juniors or higher. Rios
The role of ethnicity and race in women’s lives. Special attention to communication research on ethnic and racial minority women. CA 4.

3264. Gender in the Workplace
(264) (Formerly offered as WS 264.) Three credits. Prerequisite: WGSS 1105 or WGSS 1124 or instructor consent.
Examination of the gendered dimensions of migration and labor in the global economy and its impact on workers in the U.S. and select other countries.

3265W. Research Methodology
(265W) (Formerly offered as WS 3265W.) Three credits. Prerequisite: Any 1000-level WGSS course WGSS 1104 or WGSS 1124 or HIST 1203; ENGL 1010 or 1011 or 2011 or 3800; open only to Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies majors. Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies majors are strongly urged to take this course as early as possible and before PHIL 3218.

Analyses of gender bias in research design and practice, problems of androcentric values, and over-generalization in research. Varieties of feminist research methods and their implications for the traditional disciplines. Student projects using different methodologies.

3268. Gender and Communication

(268) (Formerly offered as WS 3268.) (Also offered as COMM 3450.) Three credits. Prerequisite: COMM 1000 or instructor consent; open to juniors or higher.

Differences in male/female communication, and an examination of cultural assumptions regarding gender in the communication process. Critically analyze the theory, politics and practice of communication and gender.

3269. Women's Movements

(269) (Formerly offered as WS 3269.) Three credits. Prerequisite: Open to juniors or higher; others by instructor consent. Recommended preparation: Any 1000-level WGSS course.

Examination of women’s movements as related to intersections of gender, race, class, nationality, and sexuality, and to topics such as democracy, economic justice, the environment, health, and sexual freedom.

3270. Masculinities

Three credits. Prerequisite: Open to juniors or higher; sophomores by consent of instructor. Recommended preparation: Any 1000-level WGSS course.

Social construction of masculinity and how maleness is gendered. Examination of the multiple forms of masculinity as influenced by differences in social and cultural expressions of gender, race, ethnicity, class, nationality, sexuality, disability and subcultures.

3270W. Masculinities

Prerequisite: ENGL 1010 or 1011 or 2011; open to juniors or higher; sophomores by consent of instructor. Recommended preparation: Any 1000-level WGSS course.

3271. Seminar on Rape Education and Awareness I

(271) (Formerly offered as WS 3271.) One credit.

Explores issues of sexual violence and trains those enrolled to facilitate rape awareness workshops for the campus community. Students are required to attend an intensive two-day training program and participate in weekly seminars.

3272. Seminar on Rape Education and Awareness II

(272) (Formerly offered as WS 3272.) One credit. Prerequisite: WGSS 3271.

Further explores broader issues of sexual violence and continues to train those enrolled to facilitate rape awareness workshops for the campus community. Students are required to participate in weekly seminars and facilitate rape awareness workshops.

3317. Women and Crime

(Also offered as SOCI 3317.) Three credits. Prerequisite: Open to juniors or higher.

Women as offenders, victims and practitioners in the criminal justice system.

3317W. Women and Crime

(Also offered as SOCI 3317W.) Three credits. Prerequisite: ENGL 1010 or 1011 or 2011; open to juniors or higher.

3350. Anthropological Perspectives on Women

(231) (Formerly offered as WS 3350.) (Also offered as ANTH 3350.) Three credits.

Major conceptual and historical problems in the study of gender in anthropology. Women’s roles in different historical and contemporary settings and new understandings of family, kinship, power, and cultural ideologies.

3402. Women in the Bible

(273) (Formerly offered as WS 3402.) (Also offered as ANTH 3402.) Three credits.

An introduction to Biblical interpretation from a feminist perspective, examining how women are represented in the Hebrew Scriptures and the New Testament. Issues of authorship, translation, point of view, cultural context and language.
3403. Women and Religion

(Formerly offered as WS 3403.) (Also offered as ANTH 3403.) Three credits. Linnekin

Gender issues in the world’s religions. Survey of women’s theological standing, ritual activities and participation in a cross-cultural sample of religions, both monotheistic and polytheistic.

3416. Gender and Sexuality in Modern Europe

(Formerly offered as WS 3416.) (Also offered as HIST 3416.) Three credits. Shafer

The construction of gender difference and ideas about sexuality in western Europe since 1789. Masculinity and femininity, sexuality, identity and the state; European power and personhood in global context.

3453. Women and Health

(Formerly offered as WS 3453.) (Also offered as SOCI 3453.) Three credits. Prerequisite: Open to juniors or higher. Ratcliff

Social factors shaping women’s health, health care, and their roles as health-care providers.

3560. Constructions of Race, Gender, and Sexuality in U.S. History

(Formerly offered as WS 3560.) (Also offered as HIST 3560.) Three credits. Not open for credit to students who have passed HIST 3095 when taught as Constructions of Race, Gender, and Sexuality in U.S. History. McEluya

Examination of historical development, interconnections, and complexities of conceptions of race, gender, and sexuality in U.S. from European conquest to the present.

3561. History of Women and Gender in the U.S. to 1850

(Formerly offered as WS 3561.) (Also offered as HIST 3561.) Three credits. Prerequisite: Open to juniors or higher.

Gender ideologies of indigenous and settler cultures, changing conditions of women’s and men’s lives as the U.S. became a nation, while emphasizing intersections with ethnicity, race, class, religion, and region.

3562. History of Women and Gender in the United States, 1850-Present

(Formerly offered as WS 3562.) (Also offered as HIST 3562.) Three credits. Prerequisite: Open to juniors or higher.

History of gender and the lives and cultural representations of women in the U.S., emphasizing intersections with race, sexuality, class, region, and nation.

3621. Sociology of Sexualities

(Formerly offered as WS 3621.) (Also offered as SOCI 3621.) Three credits. Not open for credit to students who have passed SOCI 246 or 246W. Bernstein

Explores the social organization, construction, and politics of sexualities; particular focus on lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer experiences and the intersection of sexualities, gender, race, and class. CA 4.

3621W. Sociology of Sexualities

(Formerly offered as WS 3621W.) (Also offered as SOCI 3621W.) Prerequisite: ENGL 1010 or 1011 or 2011. Not open for credit to students who have passed SOCI 246 or 246W. CA 4.

3622. History of Gender and Sexuality in Latin America and the Caribbean

(Also offered as AFRA, HIST, and LLAS 3622) Three credits.

Topics may include: empire and colonialism/anti-colonialism; slavery, science, and the state; cultural practices and institutions; feminisms and masculinities; law and public policies; immigration; forms of labor and political mobilization; sex and reproduction; and human rights from historical perspective.

3652. Black Feminist Politics

(Formerly offered as WS 3652.) (Also offered as AFRA 3652 and POLS 3652.) Three credits. Prerequisite: Open to juniors or higher.

An introduction to major philosophical and theoretical debates at the core of black feminist thought, emphasizing the ways in which interlocking systems of oppression uphold and sustain each other.

3891. Internship Program

(Formerly offered as WS 3891.) Three to nine credits. Hours by arrangement. Prerequisite: One WGSS course; open only with consent of Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Internship Coordinator. Corequisite: To be taken concurrently with WGSS 3894.
A field placement 9-18 hours per week in an organization related to the student’s major field of study. Such work is overseen by the field work supervisor and the Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Internship Coordinator.

3894. Internship Seminar

(262) (Formerly offered as WS 3894.) Three credits. Prerequisite: Open only with consent of Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Internship Coordinator. McComiskey

A weekly seminar on women and work in which students integrate their field experience with readings, class discussion and guest lecturers.

3893. Foreign Study

(293) (Formerly offered as WS 3993.) Credit and hours by arrangement. Prerequisite: Consent of program director required, normally before the student’s departure. May count toward the major with consent of the director. May be repeated for credit.

3995. Special Topics

(298) (Formerly offered as WS 3995.) Credits and hours by arrangement. Prerequisites and recommended preparation vary. With a change in content, may be repeated for credit.

3998. Variable Topics

(295) (Formerly offered as WS 3998.) Three credits. Prerequisites and recommended preparation vary. With a change of topic, may be repeated for credit.

3999. Independent Study

(299) (Formerly offered as WS 3999.) Credits and hours by arrangement. Prerequisite: Open only with the consent of the instructor and Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program Director. This course may be repeated for credit with a change in subject matter.

4994W. Senior Seminar

(289W) (Formerly offered as WS 4994W.) Three credits. Prerequisite: ENGL 1010 or 1011 or 2011; for Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies majors only. Recommended preparation: WGSS 3265W and PHIL 3218 or instructor consent. McComiskey

Capstone course integrating and analyzing Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies theory and substance through research on a common topic and discussion of advanced texts.