

# WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES (WGS)

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Courses primarily for undergraduates:

## WGS 1600: Gender Justice

Credits: 1. Contact Hours: Lecture 0.5, Discussion 0.5.

Half semester course. Examines the socialization process in the United States and how our perspectives are formed. An introduction to patriarchy, sexism, and ally development are explored. Skills to enhance communication and understanding among women and men will be developed. Offered on a satisfactory-fail basis only. (Typically Offered: Fall, Spring)

## WGS 2010: Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

Introduction to the interdisciplinary field of Women's and Gender Studies. Contemporary status of women in the U.S. and worldwide from social, economic, historical, political, philosophical and literary perspectives. Analysis of intersection of gender, race, class, and sexuality. Subject matter includes work, health, sexuality, and violence. Foundation for the other courses in the program. Meets U.S. Diversity Requirement.

## WGS 2030: Introduction to Lesbian Communities

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

Study of contemporary and historic lesbian cultures and communities from a US and international perspective. Addresses issues of race, class, gender and sexuality as they intersect with the formation of lesbian identities. Explores who identifies as lesbian and how that dis/enables political resistance and formation of community. Meets U.S. Diversity Requirement.

## WGS 2050: Introduction to Queer Studies

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

*Prereq:* ENGL 1500

Interdisciplinary study of issues relating to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer identities in the U.S. Attention will be given to race and socioeconomic class. Meets U.S. Diversity Requirement.

## WGS 2100: Gender and Sexuality in American Pop Culture

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

Introduction to research and theory examining the ways gender and sexuality are conveyed through popular culture texts. Analysis of codes and their influence on the development of identities that shape how we view the world. Discussion of intersectional topics including race and class.

## WGS 3010: International Perspectives on Women and Gender

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

Repeatable.

*Prereq:* WGS 2010 or 3 credits in WGS at 3000 level or above

Study of women in a range of cultures, depending on faculty specialization. Special emphasis on women in development seen in postcolonial context. Meets International Perspectives Requirement. (Typically Offered: Fall, Spring)

## WGS 3070: Women in Science and Engineering

(Cross-listed with BIOL 3070/ WISE 3070).

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

*Prereq:* ENGL 2500; *Sophomore classification*

The interrelationships of women and science and engineering examined from historical, sociological, philosophical, and biological perspectives. Factors contributing to under-representation; feminist critiques of science; examination of successful strategies. Does not satisfy biology major advanced credit requirements. Meets U.S. Diversity Requirement. (Typically Offered: Fall)

## WGS 3080: Write Like a Woman

(Cross-listed with ENGL 3080).

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

*Prereq:* ENGL 2500

Writing and reading interpretive fiction written by women. Emphasis on stories that embody a female literary life, gender-specific ways of creating characters and conflicts, analytical reading and writing, workshop criticism and shared commentaries. Includes multi-modal projects. (Typically Offered: Fall)

## WGS 3200: Ecofeminism

(Cross-listed with ENVS 3200).

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

*Prereq:* WGS 2010 or 3 credits in WGS at 3000 level or above

Women's relationships with the earth, non-human nature, and other humans. The course explores the connections between society's treatment of women and nature; origins of ecofeminism and how it relates to the science of ecology, conventional and sustainable agriculture as well as how ecofeminism relates to other branches of feminist philosophy. Evaluation and critique of modern science, technology, political systems and SOLUTIONS will be included.

**WGS 3210: Economics of Discrimination**

(Cross-listed with ECON 3210).

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

*Prereq:* ECON 1010

Economic theories of discrimination. Analysis of the economic problems of women and minorities in such areas as earnings, occupations, and unemployment. Public policy concerning discrimination. Poverty measurement and antipoverty programs in the U.S. Meets U.S. Diversity Requirement.

**WGS 3230: Gender and Communication**

(Cross-listed with SPCM 3230).

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

Examination of how understanding and enactment of gender identity is shaped by communication. Verbal and nonverbal communication across various contexts including personal relationships and the media. Explores discourse of social movements aiming to transform cultural definitions of gender. Meets U.S. Diversity Requirement.

**WGS 3250: Portrayals of Gender and Sexualities in the Media**

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

*Prereq:* *Sophomore classification*

Survey of how the media and popular culture portray gender and sexualities and the impact on individuals and society. Images of women, men, transgender as well as heterosexual, non-heterosexual and others. Studies both historical and emerging images in the media in terms of stereotypes and positive images.

**WGS 3270: Gender and Sexualities in Society**

(Cross-listed with SOC 3270).

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

Develop a foundational understanding of the role of gender and sexuality in society. Students will explore the biological, social, and cultural meanings of gender and sexuality and their intersections with class, race/ethnicity, ability, socioeconomic status and other identities. Contemporary social science research, theories, and feminist perspectives as they relate to gender and sexuality, and explores gender and sexuality within families, education, the media, politics, and the economy. Meets U.S. Diversity Requirement. (Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer)

**WGS 3280: Sociology of Masculinities and Manhood**

(Cross-listed with SOC 3280).

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

*Prereq:* SOC 1340 or WGS 2010

Examination of socially constructed and idealized images of manhood, the nature of social hierarchies and relations constructed on the basis of imagery, ideologies, and norms of masculinity. Theories on gender (sociological, psychological, and biological). Particular attention given to theory and research on gender variations among men by race, class, ethnicity, sexual orientation, physical ability and age. (Typically Offered: Spring)

**WGS 3330: Women, Gender, and Leadership**

(Cross-listed with LDST 3330).

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

*Prereq:* *Sophomore classification*

An intersectional approach to understanding gender and leadership as it relates to women from various races, ethnicities, gender identities, sexual orientations and abilities. Meets U.S. Diversity Requirement.

**WGS 3360: Religion, Sex and Gender**

(Cross-listed with RELIG 3360).

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

*Prereq:* (3 credits in RELIG or WGS) or Permission of Instructor

Gender and sexuality in the historical and contemporary contexts of various religious traditions. Meets International Perspectives Requirement. (Typically Offered: Fall)

**WGS 3380: Feminist Philosophy**

(Cross-listed with PHIL 3380).

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

A critical, theoretical examination of the philosophical and intellectual commitments that underlie feminist projects. Questions of identity, knowledge, and ethics will be considered from both historical and contemporary perspectives. Topics will include sex and gender, self and other, nature and nurture, masculinity and femininity, equity and justice, patriarchy, oppression, and intersectionality. 3 credits in PHIL or WGS recommended. (Typically Offered: Fall)

**WGS 3390: Goddess Religions**

(Cross-listed with RELIG 3390).

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

Focal study of selected global Goddess traditions in context, including American Goddess spirituality. Historical and cross-cultural images, identities, and discourses of female divinity.

**WGS 3420: Culture, Sex, and Gender**

(Cross-listed with ANTHR 3420).

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

Cross-cultural examination of gender and sexuality. Emphasis on global and transnational perspectives. Topics will include varied gender and sexual expressions, status and roles, intersectionality in global or transnational contexts, and the examination of systems of oppression cross-culturally. ANTHR 2010 or WGS 2010 recommended. Meets International Perspectives Requirement. (Typically Offered: Spring)

**WGS 3440: Human Reproduction**

(Cross-listed with BIOL 3440).

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

*Prereq:* BIOL 2120

Biology of human reproduction, including reproductive systems, hormones, and endocrinology of pregnancy, presented from a clinically-oriented perspective. Reviews health-related conditions such as infertility, sexually-transmitted diseases, and complicated pregnancy. (Typically Offered: Spring)

**WGS 3450: Women's Literature**

(Cross-listed with ENGL 3450).

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

*Prereq:* ENGL 2500

Focused study of literature by women and about women that focuses on a particular genre (fiction, non-fiction, poetry, film, drama, media), author, or theme.

**WGS 3460: Psychology of Women**

(Cross-listed with PSYCH 3460).

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

*Prereq:* PSYCH 1010; 1 additional PSYCH course

Survey of theory and research related to major biological, interpersonal, and cultural issues affecting girls' and women's psychological development and behavior. Meets U.S. Diversity Requirement. (Typically Offered: Spring)

**WGS 3490X: Psychology of Sexual Orientation**

(Cross-listed with PSYCH 3490X).

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

Repeatable.

*Prereq:* PSYCH 1010; 3 additional credits in PSYCH

Development of major human sexual orientation identities (e.g., bisexual, gay, heterosexual, and lesbian) from a research perspective. How persons navigate life contexts (e.g., family, work, relationships) in connection with their sexual identity. Factors that enhance positive sexual orientation identity development. (Typically Offered: Spring)

**WGS 3500: Women of Color in the U.S**

(Cross-listed with AFAM 3500).

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

*Prereq:* 3 credits in WGS or AFAM

Economic, social, political and cultural roles of Women of Color in the U.S. Includes literary, philosophical, and artistic expressions. Myths and realities explored.

**WGS 3520: Queer Literature**

(Cross-listed with ENGL 3520).

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

*Prereq:* ENGL 2500

Focused study of literary portrayals of queer lives and relationships from many different genres. Attention to changing definitions and representations of sexual orientation and LGBTQ identities over time.

**WGS 3700F: Studies in English Translation: French Topics on Women and Gender Studies**

(Cross-listed with FRNCH 3700F).

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

Repeatable.

Topics vary according to faculty interest. Readings, discussions, and papers in English. Meets International Perspectives Requirement.

**WGS 3700G: Studies in English Translation: German Topics on Women or Feminism**

(Cross-listed with GER 3700G).

Credits: 3-4. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

Repeatable, maximum of 6 credits.

*Prereq:* Sophomore classification

Topics vary according to faculty interest. Author, genre or period study, women writers, cinema, or contemporary theory. Three credits: English, open to all students. Four credits: Required for German concentration credit, supplementary readings and compositions in German. For enrollment in fourth credit, 6 credits in GER at the 3000-level. Meets International Perspectives Requirement.

**WGS 3700R: Studies in English Translation: Russian Topics on Women or Feminism**

(Cross-listed with RUS 3700R).

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

Repeatable.

Topics vary according to faculty interest. Author, genre or period study, women writers, cinema, or contemporary theory. Readings, discussions, and papers in English. Meets International Perspectives Requirement.

**WGS 3700S: Studies in English Translation: Hispanic Topics on Women or Feminism**

(Cross-listed with SPAN 3700S).

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

Repeatable, maximum of 6 credits.

Topics vary according to faculty interest. Author, genre or period study, women writers, cinema, or contemporary theory. Readings, discussions, and papers in English. May not be counted as a prerequisite. Meets International Perspectives Requirement.

**WGS 3740: Sex, Gender, and Culture in the Ancient Mediterranean World**

(Cross-listed with HIST 3740/ CLST 3740).

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

Survey of the roles of women and others on the margins and the issues that impacted them in the ancient Greek and Roman worlds. Evidence from literature, the visual arts, and archaeology. Contemporary approaches to studying women, gender, and sexuality in ancient history. Intersections of gender categories with ideas of slave and free status, citizenship, and ethnicity. Readings from ancient and modern sources. Meets International Perspectives Requirement.

**WGS 3800: History of Women in Science, Technology, and Medicine**

(Cross-listed with HIST 3800).

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

*Prereq: Sophomore classification*

History of women's relationship to the fields of science, technology, and medicine, as students and professionals, consumers, subjects and patients, family members, workers and citizens. Concentrates especially on 19th and 20th century United States, concluding with an examination of current issues of special interest to women in science, technology, and medicine. Meets U.S. Diversity Requirement.

**WGS 3850: Women in Politics**

(Cross-listed with POLS 3850).

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

Entry and participation of women in politics in the United States and other countries. Contemporary issues and strategies for change through the political process. Meets U.S. Diversity Requirement. (Typically Offered: Spring)

**WGS 3860: History of Women in America**

(Cross-listed with HIST 3860).

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

*Prereq: Sophomore classification*

A survey of social, economic, and political aspects of women's role from colonial era to present; emphasis on employment, education, concepts of sexuality, and changing nature of the home. Meets U.S. Diversity Requirement.

**WGS 3870: First Ladies in U.S. History**

(Cross-listed with POLS 3870/ HIST 3870).

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

*Prereq: Sophomore classification*

Evolution of the role and office of the First Lady in U.S. history, including her political activism, social impact, and international influence. Analysis of the authority, intersectionality and agency of First Ladies in the aggregate and exploration of how individual First Ladies have interpreted and adapted this unique public position. Offered even-numbered years. (Typically Offered: Fall)

**WGS 4010: Feminist Theories**

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

*Prereq: 3 credits in WGS at the 3000 level or above*

Current theories of feminism, the feminine and sexual difference. Topics in race, class, sexuality, and ethnicity as they are addressed in diverse feminisms. May include readings in lesbian, Black, postcolonial, psychoanalytic and postmodern thought. Meets U.S. Diversity Requirement.

**WGS 4020: Feminist Research in Action**

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

*Prereq: WGS 2010; WGS 3010*

Feminist research methods and scholarship. Class collaborates on a community research and action project to improve women's lives. (Typically Offered: Spring)

**WGS 4100: Human Trafficking**

(Dual-listed with SOC 5100/ WGS 5100). (Cross-listed with SOC 4100).

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

*Prereq: WGS 2010 or 3 credits in WGS at 3000 level or above*

Issues related to human trafficking and modern-day slavery in the US and world. History of and concepts defining forms of violence experienced by trafficking victims and methods used to recruit and control victims. Students will learn how to educate others about this crime against humanity. Examines international, federal, and state legislation to prevent human trafficking. Graduation Restriction: Only one of WGS 4100 may count toward graduation.

**WGS 4220: Women, Men, and the English Language**

(Cross-listed with LING 4220/ ENGL 4220).

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

*Prereq: ENGL 2190 or LING 2190*

The ways men and women differ in using language in varied settings and the ways in which language both creates and reflects gender divisions. (Typically Offered: Spring)

**WGS 4250: Intersections of Race, Class and Gender**

(Dual-listed with WGS 5250).

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

Race, ethnicity, class and gender distinctions and intersections lead to inequitable distributions of power, social well-being, and resources. Explores how inequities are institutionalized and how multiple identities are experienced by women in daily life. Meets U.S. Diversity Requirement.

**WGS 4300: Gender and Consumer Culture**

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

*Prereq:* WGS 2010 or 3 credits in WGS at 3000 level or above

Historical roots of consumer culture, political economy, technology, and how the rise of the mass-market intersects with cultural ideas of gender, race, class, and sexuality. How gender, as well as personal and group identities, is formed through all forms of consumption. Examination of gendered advertising, material goods, and lifestyles created around specific acts of consumption.

**WGS 4350: Gender, Globalization and Development**

(Dual-listed with WGS 5350).

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

*Prereq:* WGS 3010

Cross-cultural study of historical and contemporary dimensions of gender, globalization and development. Explores the interdependence of socio-economic and political aspects of globalization using feminist postcolonial and transnational frameworks. Analyses of case studies and activism in contexts of economic livelihoods, environmental justice, and cross-border migrations.

**WGS 4400: Gender Issues in Sports**

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

*Prereq:* WGS 2010 or 3 credits in WGS at 3000 level or above

Social, economic, political, and cultural variables that influence and shape sports, especially for girls and women. Topics include Title IX, coaching and administrative challenges for women, media and gender, and issues related to eating disorders, homophobia, and gender identity in sport.

**WGS 4500: Topics in Women's and Gender Studies**

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

Repeatable, maximum of 6 credits.

*Prereq:* WGS 2010 or 3 credits in WGS at 3000 level or above

Advanced research and theory related to special topics and issues in women's and gender studies. Specific topics indicated in the schedule of classes. Graduation Restriction: A maximum of 6 credits of WS / WGS 4500 can count toward graduation.

**WGS 4570: History of American Sexualities**

(Cross-listed with HIST 4570).

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

*Prereq:* Sophomore classification

The social construction of American sexualities from the colonial era to the present with particular emphasis on how ideas about sex and sexuality have shaped American public life, including education, public policy, party politics, and racial justice. Meets U.S. Diversity Requirement.

**WGS 4580: Queer Fashions: History, Culture, and the Industry**

(Dual-listed with AMD 5580/ WGS 5580). (Cross-listed with AMD 4580).

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

Focus on analyzing the dressed and undressed body of individuals in the queer and trans communities in various cultural contexts with a focus on material culture. Examine concepts related to gender and sexuality and the changing definitions and representations of individuals who identify in the queer and trans communities focusing on appearance, fashion, and the body. Historic and current representations of fashion, styles, and appearances will be analyzed and discussed. Attention to how sexuality and gender intersect with and shape other identities including race, ability, body size, and class. Examine the complex structures, systems, and ideologies that uphold discrimination and inequitable distribution of power and resources as related to the course material. Attention will mostly be given to North American perspectives. We will use material culture to explore how objects related to fashioning the body reveal lived experiences about the owners and consumers. Offered even-numbered years. Meets U.S. Diversity Requirement. (Typically Offered: Spring)

**WGS 4600: Seminar in Gender and Ethnicity**

(Cross-listed with ENGL 4600).

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

Repeatable, maximum of 6 credits.

*Prereq:* Junior standing

Selected readings of various authors, movements, eras, or genres.

Readings in criticism; required research paper.

**WGS 4900: Independent Study**

Credits: 1-3. Repeatable, maximum of 6 credits.

*Prereq:* Instructor Permission for Course

Independent study on a topic in Women's Studies. (Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer)

**WGS 4910: Internship**

Credits: 1-3. Repeatable, maximum of 6 credits.

*Prereq:* Junior or senior classification; permission of department

Internship designed to provide an application of Women's and Gender Studies principles and methods in a workplace. To be arranged with an internal or external employer and conducted under the supervision of a member of the Women's Studies faculty. (Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer)

**WGS 4940: Women/Gender in Art**

(Cross-listed with ARTH 4940).

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

Issues of gender related to cultural environments from the Middle Ages to contemporary times in Europe and America. Feminist movement beginning in the 1970s and specifically gender issues in art that are becoming widespread in the artistic culture.

**WGS 4990: Senior Thesis**

Credits: 3.

*Prereq: Senior classification; Permission of Instructor*

Senior thesis to be independently researched and written under the supervision of a member of the Women's Studies faculty. (Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer)

**Courses primarily for graduate students, open to qualified undergraduates:**

**WGS 5010: Contemporary Feminist Theories**

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

Advanced study of current theoretical developments in Women's Studies in the U.S. and around the world. Examination of the epistemological bases of feminist scholarship. (Typically Offered: Fall)

**WGS 5020: Advanced Seminar in Feminist Research Methods**

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

Focus on feminist interdisciplinary research methods. Analysis of contemporary issues facing feminist scholars. Students conduct original research. (Typically Offered: Spring)

**WGS 5100: Human Trafficking**

(Dual-listed with SOC 4100/ WGS 4100). (Cross-listed with SOC 5100).

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

Issues related to human trafficking and modern-day slavery in the US and world. History of and concepts defining forms of violence experienced by trafficking victims and methods used to recruit and control victims. Students will learn how to educate others about this crime against humanity. Examines international, federal, and state legislation to prevent human trafficking. Graduation Restriction: Only one of WGS 4100 may count toward graduation.

**WGS 5250: Intersections of Race, Class and Gender**

(Dual-listed with WGS 4250).

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

Race, ethnicity, class and gender distinctions and intersections lead to inequitable distributions of power, social well-being, and resources. Explores how inequities are institutionalized and how multiple identities are experienced by women in daily life.

**WGS 5350: Gender, Globalization and Development**

(Dual-listed with WGS 4350).

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

Cross-cultural study of historical and contemporary dimensions of gender, globalization and development. Explores the interdependence of socio-economic and political aspects of globalization using feminist postcolonial and transnational frameworks. Analyses of case studies and activism in contexts of economic livelihoods, environmental justice, and cross-border migrations.

**WGS 5450: Women's Literature**

(Cross-listed with ENGL 5450).

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

Repeatable, maximum of 6 credits.

Primary texts by women writers; historical, thematic, formal, or theoretical approaches; secondary readings; e.g., Nineteenth-Century Women Writers; American Women's Personal Narratives; Southern Women Writers of the U.S.

**WGS 5580: Queer Fashions: History, Culture, and the Industry**

(Dual-listed with AMD 4580/ WGS 4580). (Cross-listed with AMD 5580).

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

Focus on analyzing the dressed and undressed body of individuals in the queer and trans communities in various cultural contexts with a focus on material culture. Examine concepts related to gender and sexuality and the changing definitions and representations of individuals who identify in the queer and trans communities focusing on appearance, fashion, and the body. Historic and current representations of fashion, styles, and appearances will be analyzed and discussed. Attention to how sexuality and gender intersect with and shape other identities including race, ability, body size, and class. Examine the complex structures, systems, and ideologies that uphold discrimination and inequitable distribution of power and resources as related to the course material. Attention will mostly be given to North American perspectives. We will use material culture to explore how objects related to fashioning the body reveal lived experiences about the owners and consumers. Offered even-numbered years. Meets U.S. Diversity Requirement. (Typically Offered: Spring)

**WGS 5860: Readings Seminar in Women's and Gender History**

(Cross-listed with HIST 5860).

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

Readings in women's and gender history.

**WGS 5900: Special Topics**

Credits: 1-30. Repeatable.

*Prereq: Instructor Permission for Course*

Independent study on a topic in Women's Studies. (Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer)

**WGS 5940: Women/Gender in Art**

(Cross-listed with ARTH 5940).

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

Issues of gender related to cultural environments from the Middle Ages to contemporary times in Europe and America. Feminist movement beginning in the 1970s and specifically gender issues in art that are becoming widespread in the artistic culture.

**Courses for graduate students:****WGS 6210: Pedagogies of Dissent**

(Cross-listed with ELPS 6210).

Credits: 3. Contact Hours: Lecture 3.

Critical examination of the theoretical foundations of contemporary and historical pedagogical traditions that seek to challenge the status quo, expand justice, and deepen democracy. (Typically Offered: Spring)