

Women's and Gender Studies (WGS)

The minor in Women's and Gender Studies gives students the opportunity to explore these two interdisciplinary fields through academic study and creative activities focused on women's and men's experiences in gendered cultures and sub-cultures in the U.S. and globally. The purpose of the program is to develop students' understanding of their own and others' identities by recognizing the nexus of gender and other identity markers, such as race, class, nationality, religion, sexuality, and others. The program complements a variety of professional and liberal arts majors.

Minor requirements in Women's Studies

Required semester hours

20 sh

Required core courses

2010, 2020, 2130, 3100

Electives

4 additional hours from WGS 2150 or 4910.

Notes and restrictions

- Students must complete a form listing the courses they have taken to complete the minor, to be obtained from the department and on the department website.
- Students must turn in a simple portfolio to the chair of the department containing the following:
 1. A statement of their specific goals upon entering the program
 2. A self-assessment of the achievement of those goals-including what educational experiences most enhanced their learning, curricular and extracurricular.
 3. Two samples of student work from each course: completed: projects, essays or exams.

2010 **Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies (4 sh)** GE

This course introduces students to Women's and Gender Studies by exploring contemporary gendered issues through the lenses of race, class, sexuality, and disability. Women's experiences across cultures and co-cultures are emphasized.

2020 **Gender and Justice (4 sh)**

This course traces the pursuit of justice and equal rights for women and men in the U.S. through the first and second wave feminist movements, as well as contemporary feminist and queer movements. The focus is on the ethics and moral reasoning used in the past and today to frame the cultural debates.

2130 **Contemporary Feminism (4 sh)**

This course introduces students to Women's and Gender Studies by exploring contemporary gendered issues through the lenses of race, class, sexuality, and disability. Women's experiences across cultures and co-cultures are emphasized.

2150 **Gender Studies (4 sh)**

Exploration of male and female gender roles in culture and society. Importance of gender in workplace, family, education, and belief systems. Analysis of power. Assessment of the contribution of feminist theories to study of gender. Cross-listed with SOC 2150. Prerequisite: SOC 1910.

3100 **Global Perspectives on Feminism and Gender (4 sh)**

This course explores the ways in which gender equality and justice vary across global cultures. Students examine the opportunities and

challenges created by transnationalism, including those related to global economics, human rights, ecology, and cultural traditions.

3910 **Topics in Women's Studies (1-4 sh)**

An in-depth study of a chosen topic within any discipline.

4910 **Independent Study in Women's Studies (1-4 sh)**

Advanced independent research in Women's Studies.