Women's Studies Minor

Minors in Women's Studies

Certificate of Study in Women's Studies

[See Certificates of Study]

See also the Women's Studies Emphasis within the Critical Race, Gender and Sexuality Studies (CRGS) major.

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The Program

Students completing this minor will have demonstrated the ability to:

- use intersectional analysis to examine social issues
- explain prominent debates in critical social theory
- examine gendered, racialized, and/or sexualized relations in a transnational context
- articulate the relationship between social justice movements and history.

As the academic branch of the women's movement, Women's Studies challenges assumptions upon which the Western tradition of scholarship has been based and seeks to integrate the diverse experiences and perspectives of women into the curriculum.

Our core curriculum offers students the analytical tools for understanding gender as it is constructed within and through differences of ethnicity, class, sexuality, and nationality. It enables students to interpret the diverse lives, issues, and voices of women in our multicultural and transnational world.

Women's Studies faculty, from departments campuswide, work closely with the program leader to offer a dynamic and student-centered minor; certificate of study, as well as the pathway in Women's Studies within the Critical Race, Gender and Sexuality Studies major. Our program also works with the student-run Women's Resource Center and other women's groups on campus to provide a network of resources, support, and referral on women-centered issues, organizations, and events. We sponsor programs of interest to women, including workshops and speakers.

This program is useful in the following careers: administrator of nonprofit women's organization, affirmative action officer; attorney, community organizer; computer software designer; coordinator of women's programs in government and business, counselor; editor, environmental activist, international development worker; journalist, legal assistant, lobbyist for women's issues, political advocate, psychologist, rape crisis specialist, researcher on women's projects, social worker; teacher; union organizer; urban planner; women's resource center director; women's health care specialist, writer;

Requirements for the Minor

The minor consists of 16 units: 10 required units plus six elective units. At least one course (3 units minimum) must have significant international content.

Required (10 units)

- WS 106 (3) Introduction to Women's Studies
- WS 107 (3) Women, Culture, History
- CRGS 390 (4) Theory & Methods

Electives (minimum 6 upper division units)

At least one course (3 units minimum) must have significant transnational analysis (these courses are marked with an asterisk).

- CRGS 235 (1) Act to End Sexualized Violence
- CRGS 313/EDUC 313 (3) Community Activism
- CRGS 330 (3) Women of Color Feminisms
- CRGS 360 (4) Gender & US Law
- CRGS 430/ANTH 430 (3-4) “Queer” Across Cultures
- WS 300/PSYC 300 (3) Psychology of Women
- WS 303 (3) Anticolonial Women's Movements*
- WS 306/FREN 306/GERM 306/SPAN 306 (3) Sex, Class & Culture: Gender & Ethnic Issues in International Short Stories*
- WS 308B/ENGL 308B (3) Women in Literature
- WS 308C/ENGL 308C (3) Women in Literature*
- WS 309B/COMM 309B (3) Gender and Communication
- WS 315/ANTH 315 (4) Sex, Gender & Globalization*
- WS 316/SOC 316 (4) Gender & Society
- WS 317/ANTH 317 (4) Women in Development*
- WS 318/EDUC 318 (3) Gay & Lesbian Issues in Schools
- WS 320 (3) Act to End Violence Seminar
- WS 336/ES 336/ENGL 336 (3) American Ethnic Literature
- WS 340 (3-4) Ecofeminism*
- WS 350 (4) Health & Body Politics*
- WS 370 (3-4) Queer Women’s Lives, or
- ENGL 360 (4) Special Topics in Literature when offered as Queer Women’s Literature
- WS 419/PSYC 419 (3) Family Violence
- WS 436/PSYC 436 (3) Human Sexuality
- WS 480 (1-5) Special Topics
- And other advisor-approved courses

* Courses with significant transnational analysis.