The Program for the Study of Women and Gender

Director and Adviser
Helena Michie

Professors
Jane Chance
Marcia J. Citron
Margret Eifler
James D. Faubion
Lynne Huffer
Anne C. Klein
Susan Keech McIntosh
Helena Michie
Deborah Nelson-Campbell
Meredith Skura
Ewa M. Thompson
Susan Wood

Associate Professors
José F. Aranda, Jr.
Peter C. Caldwell
Scott S. Derrick
Katharine M. Donato
Lucille P. Fultz
Eugenia Georges
Deborah A. Harter
Betty Jospeh

Assistant Professors
Colleen R. Lamos
Caroline F. Levander
Elizabeth Long
Susan Lurie
Honey Meconi
Nanxiu Qian
Carol E. Quillen
Paula Sanders
Julie M. Taylor

Lecturer
Thad Logan

Degrees Offered: B.A.

This undergraduate major takes an interdisciplinary approach in its exploration of women’s experiences and the role that ideas about sexual differences have played in human societies. Areas of inquiry include women’s participation in social and cultural production; the construction of gender roles and sexuality; the relationship between ideas about gender and concepts inherent in other social, political, and legal structures; and the implications of feminist theory for philosophical and epistemological traditions. Students acquire an understanding of how adopting gender as a significant category of analysis challenges existing disciplines. They also gain proficiency in the methods used to study and compare cultural constructions of gender and sexuality, and they become familiar with the ongoing fundamental debates in women’s and gender studies.

Degree Requirements for B.A. in the Study of Women and Gender

For general university requirements, see Graduation Requirements (pages 18–20). Students majoring in the study of women and gender must complete:

- 36 semester hours of departmental course work (30 hours if this is a second major)
- WGST 101 Introduction to the Study of Women and Gender OR WGST 201 Introduction to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Studies

- WGST 499 and WGST 500 (capstone courses in fall and spring respectively)
- At least 1 approved non-Western studies course
- At least 1 approved critical race studies course
- At least 1 approved theory course

Of the remaining required courses, no more than 4 courses may be from a single department. All students must work out their individual courses of study with their faculty advisers. Each student’s course of study must be approved by the director of the major. Major tracking forms are available in the SWG office for declared SWG majors.

The following courses are among those that can be used to fulfill requirements for the major. As course offerings may vary from year to year, students are urged to consult with their faculty advisers or with the director at the beginning of each semester.

Please note that not all courses listed below will be offered during the academic year. For a current list of courses that will be offered in fall 2002 and spring 2003, please visit the SWG website at http://www.ruf.rice.edu/~swg.

I. Courses that satisfy the Core Requirements

WGST 101 Introduction to the Study of Women and Gender
WGST 201 Introduction to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Studies
WGST 499 Capstone: Research in the Study of Women and Gender (fall)
WGST 500 Capstone: Research in the Study of Women and Gender (spring)

II. Courses that satisfy the Non-Western Studies Requirement

WGST 210 Islam and Politics
WGST 240 Gender and Politicized Religion
WGST 250 International Political Economy of Gender
WGST 283 Women in the Islamic World
WGST 299 Women in Chinese Literature
WGST 323 The Knowing Body: Buddhism, Gender, and the Social World
WGST 328 Latin American Genders
WGST 340 Gender and Politicized Religion (enriched version)
WGST 352 Feminism and Nationalism
WGST 357 Buddhism and the Female
WGST 362 Women and Visual Culture in Islamic Societies
WGST 399 Women in Chinese Literature (enriched version)
WGST 432 Islam in South Asia
WGST 455 Women and Gender in Islamic Societies

III. Courses that satisfy the Critical Race Studies Requirement

WGST 234 History of American Women I: Colonial Beginnings to Civil War
WGST 235 History of American Women II: Civil War to Present
WGST 354 Survey: Chicano/a Poetry
WGST 387 Mexican and Mexican American Literature: 1848–1950
WGST 453 Topics in African American Literature

IV. Courses that satisfy the Theory Requirement

WGST 339 Feminist Philosophy
WGST 391 Producing Feminist Knowledge: Methodology and Visual Culture
WGST 407 Introduction to Feminist Literary Theory and Criticism
WGST 430 Studies in Literary Theory: Queer Theory
WGST 434 French Feminist Theory
WGST 456 Developments in French Feminist Theory
WGST 460 Feminist Social Thought
WGST 480 Feminist Literary Theory: Feminist Film Theory
WGST 481 Literary Theory: What’s Left of Literary Theory?
WGST 482 Problems in Contemporary Feminist Theory

Other Courses
WGST 117 The Language of Love: Amorous Expression in the French Tradition
WGST 214 Introduction to Women’s History
WGST 220 Gendered Perspectives on the Law
WGST 225 Women in Greece and Rome
WGST 232 Engendering American Democracy: The History of the Right to Vote
WGST 233 The Female Body in Contemporary Culture
WGST 237 Gender and Politics in European History
WGST 300 Medieval Literature: Medieval Women Writers
WGST 301 Arthurian Literature
WGST 305 Chaucer and the Subversive Other: Women, Gender, Nation, Class
WGST 310 Problems in Literary History
WGST 311 Society and the Sexes in Modern France
WGST 312 Survey of Old English Literature: Gender and Power in Old English
WGST 314 Introduction to Women’s History (enriched version)
WGST 324 Sociology of Gender
WGST 327 20th-Century Women Writers: Sex, Gender, and Modernism
WGST 329 Literature of the American West: Women in the West
WGST 331 The Psychology of Gender
WGST 332 Self, Sex, and Society in Ancient Greece
WGST 333 Masculinities
WGST 335 The Lifecycle: A Biocultural View
WGST 336 History as a Cultural Myth
WGST 337 Feminist Issues: Witches, Saints, Soldiers, and Shrews—Women’s Voices in the Renaissance
WGST 338 Gender and Society in Early Modern Europe
WGST 341 Gender and Politics

WGST 349 Survey of British Women Writers: 1400–1900
WGST 360 Topics in Political Cinema
WGST 361 New German Cinema
WGST 365 Gender, Subjectivity, and the History of Photography
WGST 367 American Ecofeminism
WGST 368 Mythsologies
WGST 381 History of American Women I: Colonial Beginnings to the Civil War (enriched version)
WGST 382 History of American Women II: Civil War to the Present (enriched version)
WGST 388 Generation X in Literature and Culture
WGST 389 Feminine and Masculine Identity
WGST 400 Constructing Identities in Modern Fiction
WGST 402 Feminist Issues: Gender and Immigration
WGST 405 Austen Only
WGST 406 Christine De Pizan in 15th-Century England
WGST 408 Sex and Class in the British 18th Century
WGST 410 The Literary and Historical Image of the Medieval Woman
WGST 411 Special Topics: Masculinity and Literature on American Culture
WGST 412 Women and Women’s Voices in French Literature
WGST 413 Medieval Women Writers
WGST 415 Sociolinguistics
WGST 420 Women and Gender in 19th-Century Europe
WGST 421 Shakespeare and Difference
WGST 421 Shakespeare and Difference
WGST 421 Shakespeare and Difference
WGST 437 Gender and Politics in European History (enriched version)
WGST 440 Women in Music
WGST 441 Hildegard of Bingen
WGST 442 Women in Russian Literature
WGST 443 Victorian Studies: Representing Sexuality in Victorian Culture—Prose, Poetry, Art, Drama, and Advertising
WGST 450 The Literary and Historical Image of the Medieval Woman (enriched version)
WGST 451 Women, Politics, and Political History
WGST 454 German Women Authors

WGST 461 Gender, War, and Representation in Modern France and England
WGST 462 19th-Century American Literature: Sentiment and Slavery—U.S. Antebellum Fiction
WGST 468 Women and the Welfare State: Sexual Politics and American Poverty
WGST 483 Feminist Issues
WGST 484 Victorian Fiction

See WGST in the Courses of Instruction section.