Women's Studies

Program in Women, Gender and Social Justice
College of Arts and Letters

153 Introduction to Women Authors
Fall, Spring, Summer. 4(4-0) Interdepartmental with English. Administered by English.

Writings by women from various racial, socioeconomic and historical backgrounds. Women's choices of subject matter and style. Women's re-definition of literary genres.

201 Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies (D)
Fall, Spring, Summer. 3(3-0)

Foundational knowledge, theories, methods in women's and gender studies and of women's experience historically and across the globe.

202 Introduction to Contemporary Feminisms and Gender Theories (D)
Spring. 3(3-0) P: WS 201 RB: Or approval of program. R: Not open to freshmen.

Theories of feminism and gender from a variety of intellectual, political, cultural, religious, sexual, racial, ethnic, national, and global perspectives.

203 Introduction to Methods for Women's and Gender Studies Research (D)
Fall of even years. 3(3-0) P: Completion of Tier I Writing Requirement

Interdisciplinary research methods for global women's and gender studies.

204 Lesbian, Bisexual, and Gay Studies: Psychological and Cultural Issues
Spring of odd years. 3(3-0)


211 Introduction to Gender and Environmental Issues
Spring. 3(3-0) Interdepartmental with Environmental Economics and Policy and Environmental Studies and Applications and Forestry and Fisheries and Wildlife. Administered by Fisheries and Wildlife. R: Not open to freshmen.


225 Language and Gender
Fall. 3(3-0) Interdepartmental with Linguistics. Administered by Linguistics.

Gender and language in societies around the world. Issues such as status, power and politeness in monolingual and multilingual societies. The role of gender in language development, language variation and language change.

301 Sexual Violence Against Women and Children: Theory and Response
Spring. 3(3-0) RB: WS 201 or WS 202 or WS 203 R: Not open to freshmen.

Sexual violence against women and children from theoretical and applied perspectives. Rape, battering, incest and sexual harassment. Intersection of race, class, gender and violence. Individual and collective strategies to prevent or deter assault, race, class, gender and violence.

302 Jewish Women's Experiences and Writings
Fall of even years. 3(3-0) RB: WS 201 or WS 202 or WS 203 R: Not open to freshmen.


312 African American Women
Spring. 3(3-0) Interdepartmental with History. Administered by History.

Black women in American history. Slavery, the work place, politics, and the Civil Rights movement.

315 Religion and Gender
Spring of odd years. 3(3-0) Interdepartmental with Religious Studies. Administered by Religious Studies.

The relationship between religion and gender viewed through foundational sacred texts and historical interpreters that define gender, sexuality, the body, the divine. Contemporary responses to the relationship between religion and gender through ritual, liturgy, new religious movements, and feminist theology.

320 Gender and Popular Culture
Spring. 3(3-0) Interdepartmental with American Studies. Administered by American Studies.

P: Completion of Tier I writing requirement. RB: AMS 261

Issues in gender and sexuality, power and agency, values and norms. Application of American Studies theories and methods.

321 Lesbian Cultures and Identities
Fall of even years. 3(3-0) RB: WS 201 and WS 202

Lesbian history, lesbian cultures/communities, and the construction of lesbian identity.

353 Readings in Women Writers
Fall, Spring. 3(3-0) A student may earn a maximum of 6 credits in all enrollments for this course. Interdepartmental with English. Administered by English. P: Completion of Tier I Writing Requirement R: Not open to freshmen.

Extensive reading in texts by women, focused within a particular national tradition or period within a particular genre. Critical responses to these texts. Feminist approaches to literature.

355 Readings in Sexuality and Literature
Fall, Spring. 3(3-0) A student may earn a maximum of 6 credits in all enrollments for this course. Interdepartmental with English. Administered by English. P: Completion of Tier I Writing Requirement RB: 6 credits of literature R: Not open to freshmen.

Extensive reading in literature drawing on gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and/or queer perspectives.

356 Philosophical Aspects of Feminism (D)
Fall, Spring. 4(4-0) Interdepartmental with Philosophy. Administered by Philosophy.

RB: One PHL course.

Conceptual and normative issues in feminist theory. Topics such as sexism, oppression, coercion, control, power, equality, personhood, respect and self-respect, rape, separation, community, intimacy, and autonomy.

400 Senior Seminar: Women in Ancient Greece and Rome (W)
Spring of odd years. 3(3-0) Interdepartmental with Classical Studies. Administered by Classical Studies. P: Completion of Tier I writing requirement. R: Not open to freshmen or sophomores.

Image, role, and status of women in Greek society as seen through literary sources.

401 Feminist Theory
Spring. 4(4-0) P: WS 201 and WS 202 R: Not open to freshmen or sophomores.


403 Women and Change in Developing Countries
Spring. 3(3-0) RB: WS 201 or WS 202 or WS 203 R: Not open to freshmen or sophomores.

Effects of economic, political, and social change on women in developing countries. Interrelationships of gender, class, race, and nationality.

404 Women and the Law in the United States
Fall of odd years, Spring of odd years. 3(3-0) Interdepartmental with Fisheries and Wildlife. Administered by Women's Studies. RB: WS 201 or WS 202 or WS 203 R: Not open to freshmen or sophomores.

Law in the United States as a vehicle for structuring and maintaining women's social roles, and for social change.

412 Women in Modern European History
Fall, Spring. 3(3-0) Interdepartmental with History. Administered by History. RB: HST 206

Women in European society, economy, and politics since 1750, emphasizing the lives of ordinary women and the impact of industrial capitalism and the nation-state.

413 Families in Historical Perspective
Fall. 3(3-0) Interdepartmental with History. Administered by History. R: Not open to freshmen.

Family forms and socio-economic change in Europe and the United States. Gender, childhood, courtship, sexual relations, marriage, divorce, childbearing, and old age in peasant, industrial, and postindustrial society. War, welfare state, and the family. The marginalized: vagrants, foundlings, immigrants, and single mothers.

420 History of Sexuality since the 18th Century
Fall. Spring. 3(3-0) Interdepartmental with History. Administered by History. R: Not open to freshmen.

Changing gender roles, sex in the Victorian era, prostitution, pornography, birth control, emergence of homo- and heterosexuality, sex under fascism, the sexual revolution, contemporary conflicts.
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421 Women and Gender in Africa
Fall, Spring. 3(3-0) Interdepartmental with History. Administered by History. RB: HST 361 R: Not open to freshmen or sophomores.
Gender-aware and women-centered approaches to the study of African history.

425 Women and Criminal Justice
Spring of even years. 3(3-0) Interdepartmental with Criminal Justice. Administered by Criminal Justice. P: CJ 110 RB: CJ 220 or WS 201 R: Open only to juniors or seniors.
Theories on women's victimization and criminality. Women's experiences as victims, offenders, and criminal justice employees. Laws and their effects on the rights of women in the criminal justice system.

431C Studies in Film and Gender
Fall. 4(4-2) Interdepartmental with English. Administered by English. P: ENG 230 RB: ENG 330 and ENG 332
Study of films by women and about women, gender, masculinity, or sexuality.

448 Seminar in Gender and Literature
Spring. 3(3-0) A student may earn a maximum of 6 credits in all enrollments for this course. Interdepartmental with English. Administered by English. P: (ENG 360 or ENG 362 or ENG 364 or ENG 368) or (WS 202 or WS 204 or approval of department) R: Open to juniors or seniors in the Department of English or in the Women, Gender and Social Justice Specialization or approval of department.
Advanced analysis in literary works within the context of sexual differences or sexuality studies. May include women writers, feminism, masculinity studies, gay, lesbian, or transgender studies. Topics vary.

453 Women and Work: Issues and Policy Analysis
Spring. 3(3-0) Interdepartmental with Environmental Economics and Policy. Administered by Environmental Economics and Policy. RB: EC 201 or EC 202 or (EEP 201 or concurrently) R: Not open to freshmen or sophomores.

456 Topics in Feminist Philosophy (D)
Fall of odd years. 4(4-0) Interdepartmental with Philosophy. Administered by Philosophy. RB: (PHL 356 or WS 401) or two 400-level courses in PHL.
Philosophical issues in a framework of feminist politics and critique. Standpoint theories, care/justice ethics, ontological status of genders/races, theories of power/domination, determinism/freedom.

482 Seminar in Feminist Literary and Cultural Theory
Spring. 3(3-0) A student may earn a maximum of 6 credits in all enrollments for this course. Interdepartmental with English. Administered by English. P: (ENG 280 or ENG 353 or ENG 448 or WS 202) and completion of Tier I writing requirement R: Open to juniors or seniors in the Department of English or in the Women, Gender and Social Justice Specialization.
Advanced analysis in feminist literary, critical, and cultural theory and its implications for reading and studying literature.

490 Independent Study
Fall, Spring. 1 to 3 credits. A student may earn a maximum of 6 credits in all enrollments for this course. RB: WS 201 or WS 202 or WS 203 R: Open only to juniors or seniors; approval of program.
Individual reading and research on women and gender.

491 Special Topics
Fall, Spring. 3 to 4 credits. A student may earn a maximum of 8 credits in all enrollments for this course. RB: WS 201 or WS 202 or WS 203 R: Not open to freshmen or sophomores.
In-depth study of special topic emphasizing women and gender.

492 Advanced Seminar in Women's and Gender Studies (W) (D)
Spring. 4(4-0) P: (WS 201 or approval of college) and completion of Tier I writing requirement RB: Undergraduates with previous experience in Women's and Gender Studies. R: Not open to freshmen or sophomores.
Guided advanced reading, research, and writing in topics in global gender and women's studies.

493 Internship
Fall, Spring, Summer. 2 to 4 credits. A student may earn a maximum of 4 credits in all enrollments for this course. P: WS 201 or WS 202 or WS 203 R: Not open to freshmen or sophomores.
Application of course work in Women's and Gender Studies through work experience related to women's and gender concerns. Experience in legislative, community, or educational settings in the U.S. and overseas.

860 Seminar in Women's History
Fall, Spring. 3(3-0) A student may earn a maximum of 10 credits in all enrollments for this course. Interdepartmental with History. Administered by History.
Political, social, and economic history of women. Major interpretations and research findings. Topics vary.

890 Individual Reading
Fall, Spring, Summer. 1 to 4 credits. A student may earn a maximum of 12 credits in all enrollments for this course. R: Approval of department.
Faculty supervised graduate level reading in special topics.