

WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES COURSES

255. Introduction to Queer Studies (3-4 units) (Fall)

This interdisciplinary course offers an introduction to the emergent field of queer studies by analyzing the role, race, ethnicity, gender, and sexuality plan in the social construction of modern gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer (LGBTQ) identities.

280. Women's Bodies: Health and Image (3 units) (Fall and Spring)

This course examines research and theory about the health and body image concerns of women throughout the life cycle, including the gender politics of medical research, mental health, body image, reproductive health and chronic illness. Students will be exposed to current theoretical work and writing about the body in society, including focusing on weight and appearance issues for women of different races and social classes. Women and men will develop the skills necessary to become better consumers of health information, including training in how to evaluate the quality of medical and health information available on the World Wide Web. Satisfies GE, category E.

285. Men and Masculinity (3 units) (Fall and Spring)

Examination of men's mental and physical health within the larger context of men's lives. A multidisciplinary perspective will be used to explore how various populations of men experience health, disease and disability, the social sources of health and illness and men's body image concerns. In addition, this course will develop an understanding of various theories of manhood or masculinity, and explore how men's participation in various activities—including relationships, family, fatherhood, sports, crime and violence—influence their health and well-being.

301. Gender Studies Lecture Series (1-2 units) (Fall and Spring)

A weekly lecture series (or occasional workshops) offering presentations and discussions of current issues from gender studies-informed perspectives. There is usually a semester-long focus on a particular topic, such as queer studies or feminist studies. The lectures are open to the community.

350. Gender, Sexuality and Family (3 units) (Fall and Spring)

An exploration of changing ideals and practices of gender, sexuality and family life in the United States, drawing especially on recent feminist scholarship. Topics for reading and discussion will focus on both women and men. Prerequisites: ENGL 101 or PHIL 101; and one course in sociology, psychology, American history or women's studies; or consent of the instructor.

370. Gender in Asian America (3-4 units) (Once per year)

This interdisciplinary course examines gender, race, class, and sexuality in Asian America. We consider how Asian American women and men fit into debates about sexism and racism in the U.S. – historically and contemporarily. Topics include Asian American participation in women's civil rights movements as well as popular culture representation.

375. Gender, Race and Class (3 units) (Fall and Spring)

An overview of the interaction of race, sex, and class oppression and resistance in the historical and contemporary experience of Native American, Asian American, African American, and Latin people. The course seeks to enhance understanding of how racism and sexism function in the political, social, and economic systems of the U.S. Cross-listed as AMCS 420 or POLS 330. Satisfies GE, cat. D1 Ethnic Studies (Individual and Society).

385. Gender and Globalization (4 units) (Once per year)

This course examines how globalization processes impact women around the world, including within the U.S. Utilizing sociological, historical, and anthropological studies, literary essays, and films we will examine the role the U.S. plays in the global political economy in relation to women's labor migration, sweatshop labor, and sex trafficking among other topics.

390. Gender, Work and Organization (4 units) (Spring)

A review and critical evaluation of research on gender, work, and organization. Topics include gender differences in earnings, advancement and career selection, bureaucratic and alternative forms of work organization, balancing work and family demands, and practical and policy solutions for gendered problems men and women face in the workplace.

cont'd – Women's and Gender Studies Courses

395/499. Community Involvement Program/Internships (1-4 units)

The purpose of CIP is to encourage student involvement in the community. Projects sponsored by Women's Studies focus upon women's needs and organizations. Supervised training and experience for advanced students in community agencies concerned with women and gender change. Student teaching is another form of internship. At present we offer credit (and not a grade) for student teaching and off-campus projects. Special contracts are required and are obtainable either in the Department office or the Center for Field Experience. Internships may be paid. Prerequisite: WGS 395 or consent of instructor.

425. Feminist Research Methods (4 units) (Fall)

A feminist critique of traditional methods of constructing knowledge & research practices and a discussion of gender-inclusive research strategies. Students will be given instruction in library and electronic information retrieval, and in grant writing for research funding. Students will design, execute and report on a research project. Students who are not majoring in WGS may take this class in conjunction with (or after) a methods class in their discipline.

440. Sociology of Reproduction (3-4 units) (Once per year)

An exploration of sociological perspectives on human reproduction. Topics include reproduction and gender identity, the social implications of reproductive technologies, historical and contemporary perspectives on normal pregnancy and childbirth, the cultural context for breastfeeding, and the politics of reproductive rights and choices in the United States. Cross-listed with Soci 440.

455. Queer Theory, Queer Lives (4 units) (Spring)

This interdisciplinary course offers advanced work in queer studies by looking at the production of theories about same-sex sexualities in history, culture and politics. The course presents queer theory in conjunction with critical race theory, feminist theory, or post-colonial studies. Prerequisite: WGS 255: Introduction to Queer Studies/Instructor consent.

475. Contemporary Feminist Theory (4 units) (Fall)

An overview of the development of feminist thought since WWII in relation to the historical and social conditions of women and men, and to the development of the women's movement, men's movement, and gay and lesbian movements. An exploration of the current controversies about how we conceptualize gender difference. The aim of the intellectual work in this course is not only to increase our knowledge, but to enhance our ability to reason theoretically and to link theory with our practice to end gender inequality. Prerequisite: WGS 280, WGS 285, WGS 350 or WGS 375 or consent of instructor.

485. Senior Seminar (4 units) (Spring)

This course provides an opportunity for advanced study on a special issue each time it is offered, including topics such as health, family and work. The special topic will be explored in seminar format for the first half of the course. The second half of the course will be devoted to student presentations on the development of gender analysis within their disciplinary concentrations. Students will write research papers or design organizational or advocacy programming. This course is for seniors. Prerequisites: WGS 350 & 375 or instructor's consent.

492. Syllabus Design (1 unit) (Fall and Spring)

Students work on an individual basis with a faculty member to develop reading materials, lecture and discussion topics, and assignments appropriate to the teaching of a specific course. Student-taught courses must be approved by the Coordinator, and students must follow established procedural guidelines for teaching in the Women's and Gender Studies Department. Student teachers are required to take WGS 492 before teaching and WGS 493 while teaching.

493. Teaching Supervision (1 unit) (Fall and Spring)

In order to continue professional skill development in the teaching of adults, students enrolled in WGS 499 (Intern. In Teaching) are required to enroll in concurrent supervised group discussion relating to the implementation of adult learning theory. Students acting as teaching assistants in the University or teaching adults in a community context are also able to enroll in this course. Prerequisite: EDUC 490. Corequisite: WGS 499 or instructor's consent.