

Women's and Gender Studies (WGS)

WGS 255 INTRODUCTION TO QUEER STUDIES (3-4)

This interdisciplinary course offers an introduction to the field of Queer Studies by analyzing the role of race, gender, sexuality and nationalism in the social construction of modern gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and queer (GLBTQ) identities. Students also learn of queer theoretical approaches to politics, culture and society. Satisfies GE, category D1.

WGS 280 WOMEN'S BODIES: HEALTH AND IMAGE (3)

This course examines research and theory about the health and body image concerns of women across race, ethnicity, sexuality, and class throughout the life cycle. This includes 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. Satisfies GE, category E.

WGS 285 MEN AND MASCULINITY (3)

This course examines construction of masculinity across axes of race, ethnicity, class, nation and ability. Utilizing a multidisciplinary perspective, this course addresses various theories of manhood and masculinity and the impacts on men's and boys' lives in various arenas such as relationships, family, the media, sports, work, crime, and health. Satisfies GE, category E.

WGS 301 GENDER STUDIES LECTURE SERIES (1-4)

A weekly lecture series (or occasional workshops) offering presentations and discussions of current issues from feminist and/or queer perspectives. There is usually a semester-long focus on a particular topic. The lectures are open to the community. May be repeated for credit.

WGS 311 SPECIAL TOPICS IN WOMEN AND GENDER STUDIES (1-4)

A variable-topics seminar focusing upon intensive study of issues related to WGS in society. May be repeated for credit.

WGS 325 YOUTH: GENDER PERSPECTIVES (3-4)

This course examines youth, focusing on the complex interconnections of gender, race/ethnicity, social class, sexuality, and other factors in understanding the experiences and social conditions of youth in the U.S., as well as the methodological issues that arise in conducting research on youth. This course requires community service learning.

WGS 330 PSYCHOLOGY OF WOMEN (3-4)

An exploration of the psychology of women, with attention to issues of power and conflict, intimacy and dependence, special concerns in therapy for women, and the impact of race, class, ethnicity and sexual preference on women's psychological development. Crosslisted as PSY 404.

WGS 350 GENDER, SEXUALITY AND FAMILY (3-4)

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. Fulfills upper-division GE, category E (The Integrated Person).

WGS 365 WOMEN'S HISTORY AND WOMEN'S ACTIVISM (3-4)

This course will take an activist-historical perspective on the history of American women. We will study historical figures, events, and movements central to the history of feminist activism for equality and social justice. The class will address the politics of writing women into history and documenting the diversity of women's activism.

WGS 370 GENDER IN ASIAN AMERICA (3-4)

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 United States - historically and contemporarily. Topics include Asian American participation in women's/civil right movements as well as popular culture representations.

WGS 375 GENDER, RACE AND CLASS (3)

An exploration of the intersection of gender, race, and class in the lives of U.S. women and men through historical approach to the formations of social and political movements, the construction and policing of identity categories, and demands for equality and justice. Satisfies GE, category D1 (Individual and Society, meets Ethnic Studies requirement).

WGS 380 GENDER AND SOCIAL MOVEMENTS (3)

Social movements organized around gender issues and identities are significant sources of social change in modern societies. This course analyzes the structure and dynamics of social movements based on gender, with attention to the roles or organizations, resources, leadership, recruitment, commitment, values, ideology, political culture and countermovements. Case studies will emphasize the women's suffrage movement, the women's peace movement, the feminist movement that began in the 1960s as well as its offshoots and countermovements, the gay and lesbian rights movement, and recent men's movements.

WGS 385 GENDER AND GLOBALIZATION (3-4)

This class will use an interdisciplinary approach to explore how gender, race, class, sexuality, nation, and colonialism intersect locally and globally and to understand how gender shapes the lived realities of women world-wide. We will frame our analyses within an understanding of the processes of globalization and global communities.

WGS 390 GENDER AND WORK (4)

This course explores intersections of gender, race, class, immigration and nation within the U.S. labor market. We examine situations facing workers across economic sectors ranging from professionals to service sector labor. Topics may include: juggling work and family, discrimination/harassment, welfare reform, globalization, and activism/resistance to workplace challenges. Prerequisite: WGS 280, 285, 350, 375 or instructor consent.

WGS 395 COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM (1-4)

The purpose of CIP is to encourage student involvement in the community. Units may be earned for work related to WGS. Cr/NC only.

WGS 399 STUDENT INSTRUCTED COURSE (1-4)

An introductory or advanced course designed by a senior or graduate student and taught under the supervision of faculty sponsor(s). Cr/NC only.

WGS 425 FEMINIST RESEARCH METHODS (3-4)

A feminist critique of traditional methods of constructing knowledge and research practices and a discussion of gender-inclusive research strategies. Students will be given instruction in library and electronic information retrieval.

WGS 440 SOCIOLOGY OF REPRODUCTION (4)

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. Crosslisted with SOCI 440.

WGS 455 QUEER THEORY, QUEER LIVES (4)

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 and post-colonial studies.

WGS 475 CONTEMPORARY FEMINIST THEORY (4)

This course examines both historical and contemporary trends in feminist theory. Students examine how feminist theory might address the complex relationship between race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, class, and nation as they relate to the production of knowledge, the implementation of theory and practice, and social change/activism. Prerequisite: WGS 280, WGS 285 or WGS 350, or by instructor's consent.

WGS 485 SENIOR SEMINAR (4)

This course provides WGS students an opportunity for advanced study on a special topic each semester (determined by instructor). The seminar format allows students an intensive experience and heightened responsibility for course content. The course should be taken during the student's senior year. Prerequisite: WGS 475.

WGS 492 SYLLABUS DESIGN (1)

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 student-taught course in women's and gender studies. 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 program. Most student teachers are required to take WGS 492 before teaching, and WGS 493 while teaching.

WGS 493 TEACHING SUPERVISION (1)

Students acting as teaching assistants or student-teachers enroll in this to gain professional skills development with a faculty member.

WGS 495 SPECIAL STUDIES (1-4)

Upper-division students may elect to do an independent research or action project under the direction of a women's and gender studies faculty member.

WGS 499 INTERNSHIP (1-4)

Supervised training and experience for advanced students in community agencies concerned with women's and men's issues and gender change. Student teaching of a student-taught university course is another form of internship. At present we offer credit (and not a grade) for student teaching and off-campus projects. Internships may be paid.

WGS 500 SEMINAR IN FEMINIST THEORY AND RESEARCH IN SOCIAL SCIENCES (3)

A survey of feminist critiques of social science theory and research in various disciplines (depending on student interest) - anthropology, history, political science, psychology and sociology. A survey of feminist attempts to reformulate and transform social science theory and methods, including debates and disagreements among feminist scholars. Requirements will include an individual research project and analysis. Prerequisite: at least one course in a social science and at least one course that focuses on women or gender (course may be at graduate or undergraduate level).