

Women's and Gender Studies (WGS)

WGS 200 INTRODUCTION TO WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES (3)

Explores social, political, and cultural dimensions of gender in society and culture. This course foregrounds intersectional feminist analyses: how gender is co-constituted with race, sexuality, nation, ability, economy, and other forms of social power. Students learn about the field of WGS, feminist analysis, interdisciplinary methods, and social justice. GE E.

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 Area D1. Course taught in face-to-face, hybrid and online modes.

WGS 285 MEN AND MASCULINITY (4)

This course examines construction of masculinity across axes of race, sexuality, class, nation, and ability. Utilizing a multidisciplinary perspective, this course addresses various theories of masculinity and masculinity's impact on peoples lives in areas such as relationships, media representation, work, culture, development, and health. Satisfies GE Area E. Course taught in face-to-face, hybrid and online modes.

WGS 300 GENDER, RACE AND REPRESENTATION (3)

This course uses feminist cultural studies, arts, and media studies methods to explore how intersections of gender and race structure contemporary society. Tracing the production of difference through culture, we foreground the study of race, gender, and representation as a method through which to understand and transform the social world. GE C1, Ethnic Studies. Course taught in face-to-face, hybrid and online modes.

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 302 QUEER STUDIES LECTURE SERIES (1)

A weekly lecture series offering presentations and discussions of ethical, literary, activist, intellectual, and artistic approaches to society and culture from lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer perspectives. The lectures are open to the community. May be repeated for credit. Satisfies GE Area C2.

WGS 305 LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER, AND QUEER U.S. HISTORY (3)

Historical development of institutions, ideals, social and cultural transformations, and economic and political processes in the U.S. since colonization with a focus on the evolution of sexual and gender diversity. Satisfies GE category D3 and the state history requirement. Core course of Queer Studies Minor.

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 with different topic.

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. Originates in Psychology. Cross-listed as PSY 404.

WGS 335 REPRODUCTIVE POLITICS (4)

Interdisciplinary examination of theoretical, historical, political, and popular discourse about reproduction and sexuality. Focuses on how feminist movements, cultural representations, public policies, and laws regarding reproduction have shaped gender norms and racial knowledge. Highlights the role of women, people of color, and LGBTQ people in shaping reproductive and sexual justice. Teaching Mode: Face-to-Face, Hybrid, and Online.

WGS 351 LATINO CULTURAL STUDIES (4)

This course focuses on the theoretical debates that have shaped the field of Chicano and Latino studies. We will explore the relationship between dominant racial formations and cultural production. Cross-listed with CALS 350.

WGS 360 RACE, GENDER, AND PERFORMANCE (3)

Cross-List for THAR 375: Race, Gender, and Performance.

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. Cross-listed as HIST 345.

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. Teaching Mode: Face-to-Face, Hybrid, and Online. Cross-listed as AMCS 370.

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 a historical approach to the formations of social and political movements, the construction and policing of identity categories, and demands for equality and justice. Teaching Mode: Face-to-Face, Hybrid, and Online. Satisfies GE Area 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 of 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 TRANSNATIONAL FEMINISMS (3-4)

Through feminist analytical lenses, examines transnational movement of goods, bodies, practices, ideologies, and culture. Explores connections between lives and cultures of people in diverse places with those in the U.S. Topics may include labor, migration, cultural production, diasporic literature and art, activism, and state violence. WGS major requirement.

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 200, 255, 285, 300, 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. May be repeated for credit.

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 405 PSYCHOLOGY OF GENDER (4)

Explores gender through a social psychological perspective. Topics include gender socialization, the structural function of gender stereotypes, masculinity, and gender discrimination. Course originates in the Psychology Department and is cross-listed as PSY 405.

WGS 414 GENDER AND SOCIETY IN EARLY MODERN EUROPE (4)

This course examines the role of gender in early modern Europe from the late Middle Ages to the end of the 18th century. Topics include religion, law, labor, social and family relations. The course also considers the impact of major historical developments such as the Renaissance, Reformation, Scientific Revolution, industrialization, and the rise of the modern state on gender relations. Cross list for HIST 414.

WGS 420 GENDER AND ETHNICITY (4)

A historical overview of racism and sexism as they affect women of color, focusing on issues in which racism and sexism intersect, e.g. affirmative action, abortion, sterilization, violence against women, and other issues. Cross list for AMCS 420.

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. Prerequisite: WGS 200, 255, WGS 285, WGS 300, or WGS 375.

WGS 430 WOMEN AND CRIME (4)

An in-depth analysis of women/girls and crime in the field of criminology and criminal justice. The class examines the significance of gender in pathways to crime as well as the nature and extent of female offending, victimization, and incarceration. The course focuses on feminist theory and methodology. Prerequisites: course restricted to WGS Majors and Minors. Course originates in CCJS, and is cross-listed as CCJS 430.

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. Prerequisite: Course restricted to WGS Majors and Minors. Cross-listed as SOCI 440.

WGS 446 WOMEN IN AMERICAN HISTORY (4)

Cross-List for HIST 446: Women in American History

WGS 449 GENDER AND SEXUALITY IN LATIN AMERICA (4)

This course examines changing definitions, institutions, and behaviors related to gender, sexuality, and the family in Latin America from indigenous civilizations to contemporary societies. Topics include the transition from European colonies to nation-states, and the social, economic, and political changes in Latin America. Course originates in History Department and is cross-listed as HIST 449.

WGS 450 WOMAN OF COLOR FEMINISMS (4)

Taking an interdisciplinary approach centering theory, writing, and literature by women of color, we examine intersections of race, class, ethnicity, sexuality and other categories of power for U.S. women of color. Key themes include: politics of representation, stigmatization, state and interpersonal violence, economic justice, reproductive justice, queerness/sexuality, and strategies of empowerment and resistance. Teaching Mode: Face-to-Face, Hybrid, and Online.

WGS 451 FEMINIST PERSPECTIVES IN LITERATURE (4)

Feminist Perspectives is an advanced course in reading, writing, and research that will engage feminist perspectives in literature. This course is interdisciplinary in approach and is conducted in a seminar format. May be repeatable once for credit. This course is a cross-list with ENGL 451.

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. Prerequisites: WGS 200, 255, 285, 300, 302, or 375, or instructor consent.

WGS 474 FOUNDATIONS OF FEMINIST THOUGHT (4)

Exploration of concepts and authors in diverse feminist theory and praxis from the past three centuries. Building a base of the foundational strands and tensions, students will develop an engagement in key feminist analytical concepts, terms, and thinkers. WGS majors/minors must take either WGS 474 or 475. Prerequisite: WGS 200.

WGS 475 CONTEMPORARY FEMINIST THEORY (4)

Examines contemporary trends in feminist theory, with a focus on one or more major themes. Students examine how feminist theory addresses the complex relationship between gender, the production of knowledge, implementation of theory and practice, and social change/activism. WGS majors/minors must take WGS 474 or 475. Prerequisite: WGS 200.

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: Completion or concurrent enrollment of WGS 475 or 474. Majors and minors only.

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. May be repeated for credit.

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. May be repeated for credit up to 8 units.

WGS 498 CAREERS IN WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES (1)

Learn about many WGS career paths, strategize about maximizing coursework, service, and internship experience to prepare for careers, and grapple with some of the gendered challenges and opportunities of the world of work. WGS majors should take alongside internship units. Prerequisite: WGS 200. Fall only.

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 majors and minors only.

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).