
Women's Studies

(undergraduate)

The Women's Studies Program offers an interdisciplinary course of study in the historical, economic, political, social and cultural experience of women. The program's central foci are the socio-cultural processes associated with the production and maintenance of gender, its intersections with race, class, sexuality and generation, and the allocation of rights, obligations and rewards that are based on these.

Faculty members from a variety of disciplines offer regular courses in women's studies. Each semester the Women's Studies Department publishes a list of courses relevant to the program. Internships and special projects in local agencies are also possible under the supervision of the program's director. For additional women's studies courses, students should consult the *Schedule of Classes*.

Requirements for Women's Studies Certificate

1. Minimum of eight courses (32 credit hours).
2. At least five of these courses must be in addition to those counted toward the student's major.
3. No more than two courses may be taken at the 100 level. One should be WOMN 100, Introduction to Women's Studies.
4. At least four courses must be taken at the 300/400 level. One should be a seminar, an independent study or an internship.
5. Courses must be divided among at least three different departments.
6. At least two different divisions or schools must be represented (as indicated by their cross-listing).
7. At least two of the courses must be classified as diversity courses.
8. Courses passed with a grade of D do not fulfill requirements for the minor.
9. Only one course taken under the Pass/Fail option will be credited toward the certificate.

Requirements for Women's Studies Minor

1. Minimum of six courses (24 credit hours).
2. At least four of these courses must be in addition to those counted toward the student's major.
3. No more than two courses may be taken at the 100 level. One should be WOMN 100, Introduction to Women's Studies.

4. At least two courses must be at the 300/400 level. One should be a seminar, an independent study or an internship.

5. Courses must be divided among at least three different departments.

6. At least two different divisions or schools must be represented (as indicated by their cross-listing).

7. At least one of the courses must be classified as a diversity course.

8. Courses passed with a grade of D do not fulfill requirements for the minor.

9. Only one course taken under the Pass/Fail option will be credited toward the minor.

COURSE OFFERINGS

NOTE: Unless otherwise noted, all undergraduate courses carry 4 credits and are offered every year.

WOMN 100 A-B. INTRODUCTION TO WOMEN'S STUDIES

An interdisciplinary approach to contemporary topics in women's studies. Uses theoretical and experimental modes of exploration and feminist writings by a wide range of authors to investigate intersections of gender with race, class, sexuality, ethnicity, nationality and age as configured and articulated in women's negotiations with their social settings. WOMN 100A aims at multilayered and nuanced understanding, seeking to highlight women's cultural diversity in the U.S., taking substantial account of African-American, Native American, Asian American and Latin American women. WOMN 100B aims at a multilayered and nuanced understanding, seeking to highlight global interdependencies undergirding women's lives and their role in shaping those interdependencies. Takes substantial account of interregional interactions and relations.

WOMN 126 (also ANTH 126). WOMEN AND CULTURE

variable credit
Cross-cultural examination of societal factors related to the role of women. Ways in which cultural definitions of "femaleness" affect attitudes toward women and their activities in society. Economic, social, political and religious factors related to position of women. Non-Western societies, representing a range of cultural experience, analyzed to illustrate working of these factors.

WOMN 214 (also ANTH 214, LING 214). LANGUAGE, SEX AND GENDER

Theoretical and empirical aspects of the relationship between language and the sexes. Sexism in linguistic structures: sex- and gender-determined patterns of language use; social and psychological implications of sex registers.

WOMN 221 (also ANTH 221). ANTHROPOLOGY OF SEX AND SEXUALITY

Cross-cultural study of sex, sexuality and gender. Sexual practice and organization, gender identities, interaction of biological and cultural aspects. Anthropological models of sex and sexuality; interrelations of Western and non-Western modes of thought and practice. Methodological and ethical issues in sex research.

WOMN 226 (also ANTH 226). WOMEN IN LATIN AMERICA

Examines women's changing roles in various social formations, using case studies from pre-Columbian, colonial, post-revolutionary and contemporary Latin America to examine how the variables of class, gender, race and ethnicity affect women's status.

WOMN 229 (also ANTH 229). WOMEN, CRIME AND CULTURE

Cross-cultural review of women's involvement in crime and violence. Issues of cultural change, community values, economic and social realities as may relate to nature of women's crimes. Cultural perceptions of role of women, how these affect attitudes both of public and of law enforcement agencies toward female offender/victim.

WOMN 240 (also SOC 240). WOMEN OF COLOR IN THE U.S.

Examination of the diverse struggles (political, economic, social, legal, etc.) of Asian, Native American, African American and Latina/Chicana women in the U.S. and the ways in which public institutions and agencies (federal, state, local) deal with women of color.

WOMN 254 (also SOC 254). FAMILY AND KINSHIP

Perspectives on family structure and functioning; consequences of social class and other variables on stability and effectiveness of family; effects of family on personality.

WOMN 256 (also SOC 256). GENDER AND SEXUAL IDENTITIES

Origins of contemporary sex roles and gender relations. Biological, social and cultural bases of sex role differences and sexual identities; social structural and cross-cultural variations in contemporary sex-role development and sexual identities; emergence of alternative lifestyles. Critical examination of social-analytic perspectives on gender and sexuality.

WOMN 270 (also SOC 270). GROWING UP FEMALE IN 19TH-CENTURY ENGLAND

Childhood and adolescence in 19th-century England in relation to work, family, education and sex roles of period. Changes in nature of childhood and family life, with special regard to experiences of work and working-class girls and women. Variety of research materials used.

WOMN 281 (also CINE 280). WOMEN IN FILM

Study of how women are presented in film. How to analyze films from socio-historical perspective. Roles women are given in film narratives (wives, mothers, sisters, seductresses, objects of spectacle and male desire, career women); how such representations shape notions about function of family, fashion, race, class, insanity. How women have participated in or been excluded from creating the images that represent them. Women's relationship to men and the definition of males in film.

WOMN 300 (also HD 350). PEACE AND WAR

Introduction to peace studies, a relatively new, transdisciplinary field that analyzes the causes of war, violence and systemic oppression. Explores processes by which conflict and change can be managed so as to maximize justice while minimizing violence. Emphasis on the establishment of positive life-affirming and life-enhancing values and structures. Lecture/discussion format with invited guest speakers. Not open to students who have taken PSJ 300 or PS 300.

WOMN 317 (also PHIL 317). TOPICS IN FEMINIST PHILOSOPHY

Issues in feminist ethics: aesthetics, epistemology, philosophy of language, social philosophy and philosophy of science are studied in the work of contemporary feminist philosophers.

WOMN 322 (also HD 322). WOMEN AND WORK IN AMERICA

Interdisciplinary course on the female labor force today. Changing conditions of women's work in service, production, clerical, craft and professional employment. Mutual influences of social policy, family life and economic institutions on women's work experience. Possible future for women workers; strategies for their realization in light of current theories. Not open to students who have taken AMST 325.

WOMN 324 (also SOC 324). WOMEN'S WORK

Social and historical processes through which work is organized and allocated on basis of gender; relationship of these processes to changes in world economy. Growth in women's poverty and struggles of women in paid and unpaid labor force.

WOMN 330 (also SOC 330). LATIN AMERICAN WOMEN

Political, social and economic roles of women in Latin America. Examines the experience of women in the rural, urban, mining, industrial, service and informal sectors, and women's survival under military dictatorships, colonialism and neocolonialism.

WOMN 333 (also ENG 333). WOMEN AND SOCIETY IN MEDIEVAL LITERATURE

The various roles assigned to women in a broad range of "courtly," religious and realistic texts, including those written by women (such as Marie de France, Christine de Pisan, Julian of Norwich, Margery of Kempe) as well as those written by the "standard" authors of the period (such as Dante, Chretien, Chaucer, the Gawain-Poet).

WOMN 334 (also PLSC 333). CIVIL RIGHTS AND LIBERTIES

Supreme Court opinions dealing with environmental law, consumer rights, communications, elections, citizenship, immigration, nationality; strategies and tactics used to change judicial policies in these and other areas of civil rights and liberties. Prerequisite: PLSC 331.

WOMN 337 (also HIST 337). EUROPEAN WOMEN'S HISTORY

Survey of entry of European women into public life between 1750 and 1945. Topics include women's role in political parties, professional careers, waged and unwaged labor. History of private women in the family through study of love, sex, birth control and fertility in modern European past.

WOMN 340 (also SOC 340). WOMEN AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Studies the causes for which women are arrested and incarcerated in local jails, state and federal institutions, immigration facilities, concentration camps and juvenile detention centers. Also examines the types of offenses for which women are arrested, the punishment they receive and the treatment they face once institutionalized. Attention will be given to how women respond to the conditions of incarceration.

WOMN 343 (also HIST 340). SOCIAL AND POLITICAL DIMENSIONS OF THE AIDS PANDEMIC

Social, political and intellectual effects of the global AIDS pandemic. As the pandemic undergoes a continuing metamorphosis, so too does the course. Issues of race, gender, class, sexualities, injecting drug use and safer sex; questions of historicity and sociality. We are most insistently attentive to the fact that AIDS is most importantly something other than merely an object for intellectual scrutiny.

WOMN 367 (also HIST 367). AMERICAN WOMEN, 1600-1880

Focuses on history of American women in social movements and public policy during the 17th, 18th and much of 19th centuries. Examines women's lives through their participation in social movements and their influence on public policy. Compares different groups of women, such as African American and white women in antislavery movement. Particular emphasis given to changes in family and public life that promote power of women in those arenas.

WOMN 368 (also HIST 368). U.S. WOMEN IN THE 20TH CENTURY

Focuses on history of United States women in social movements and public policy for past hundred years. Examines women's lives through their participation in social movements and their influence on public policy. Compares different groups of women, such as African American and white women in recent feminist movements. Particular emphasis given to women and creation of welfare state, and to legal changes affecting women's lives, such as affirmative action and abortion law.

WOMN 383 (also ENG 383). MODERN WOMEN WRITERS

Selected works by 20th-century women writers, including Simone deBeauvoir, Virginia Woolf, Doris Lessing, Anais Nin, Colette, Maxine Hong Kingston, Alice Walker, Sylvia Plath, Adrienne Rich. Fiction, poetry and some theoretical discussion.

WOMN 394 (also ENG 394). BLACK WOMEN WRITERS

Examines the specifics of black women's writing cross-culturally African American, Caribbean, African, Brazilian, black British, etc. Attention to the multiple meanings of black womanhood as represented in literature and in theoretical works. Feminist theory by women of color forms an important counterpoint and ideological backdrop to literary explorations. Examines the social construction of gender and social hierarchies as confronted by black women writers.

WOMN 410 (also ANTH 410, AFST 410). WOMEN OF AFRICA

Lives of women in selected cultures in Africa: how these women view their lives in traditional and modern settings. How do women react to increasing modernization and social change? What strategies have women developed for coping with unpredictable changes? What alterations are occurring in women's roles vis-à-vis men? Are women active agents of social change or passive recipients molded by and to changing social order? Prerequisites: one socio-cultural anthropology course and junior standing.

WOMN 411 (also ANTH 411). WOMEN OF THE MIDDLE EAST

Ethnographic explorations of the lives of women in the Middle East. How women perceive and react to forces of modernization and change; strategies they use to deal with increasingly complex and unpredictable social, economic and political circumstances. Course orientation is comparative, analytical. Prerequisite: one socio-cultural anthropology course.

WOMN 432 (also NURS 332, HDEV 449). HOLISTIC HEALTH PRACTICES

This course deals with the concepts of holistic health, holistic health nursing and holistic health practices. The main focus will be on the investigation of nontraditional, alternative health practices. Several areas will be explored, starting with the overall ideas and historical background of holism and health and moving into various modalities including nutrition, therapeutic touch, relaxation techniques, herbology, meditation, environment, imagery, play and laughter, and music.

WOMN 480. SPECIAL TOPICS**WOMN 495. INTERNSHIP IN WOMEN'S STUDIES**

variable credit

Internships in women's studies are with agencies and organizations that provide services relevant to women. Interns negotiate with the agency with which they wish to work and are supervised by faculty working in the area of women's studies with whom they negotiate an internship learning contract. Open to juniors and seniors only.

WOMN 497. INDEPENDENT WORK

Special project to integrate student's previous work in women's studies. Prerequisite: program director's approval.