

Women's and Gender Studies



College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters

The Field

Like any major in the liberal arts, the main purpose of the Women's and Gender Studies (WGST) program is to sharpen your analytical, writing, speaking, and critical thinking skills. The UM-Dearborn WGST program uses an interesting, relevant and interdisciplinary focus to achieve these goals. WGST majors examine the ways that gender – through its connection with other forms of power such as race, class, sexuality and national location – shape lives, bodies, institutions and worlds.

WGST Majors are introduced to the foundations of the field in courses on women's issues, gender theory and methodology, social institutions, and cultural studies. Drawing on courses offered across the curriculum, majors then can develop concentrations in areas of particular interest. These concentrations include, but are not limited to, leadership and social change; gender, law and justice; social work and counseling; global and cross-cultural gender issues; and gender, arts and communications media.

Many students choose to double-major in WGST. In addition to a major, the program offers a minor and a track in the Master of Arts in Liberal Studies program. It also provides unique civic engagement opportunities through its Women in Learning and Leadership program.

Career Opportunities

Women's and Gender Studies provides a broad liberal arts foundation that can well prepare an individual to follow many different career paths. There is growing demand in professions such as business, medicine, social work, law, teaching, counseling and government service for expertise on gender issues. Further, many WGST students say that the course of study gives them the confidence to apply their skills in non-traditional careers.

The major is also good preparation for graduate work in academic fields such as women's studies, history, anthropology, psychology, American studies, and literature. It also prepares you for professional programs in fields such as medicine, law, social work, public administration, and counseling.

UM-Dearborn students with degrees in WGST have had success in a wide variety of career paths, including social service, government, education, medicine, law, psychology, arts administration, and business.

The Major

Degree-seeking students are required to fulfill the required courses in effect at the time admitted or readmitted to the program. Since these are subject to change, students should see an advisor for current requirements.

Prerequisites

Students majoring in Women's and Gender Studies must take WGST 275 as a prerequisite.

Requirements

Students are required to complete at least 27 hours in upper-level (300 or above)

Feminist Foundations:

One course from WGST 384, 409

Gender, Culture, and Representation:

Two courses from: WGST 315, 385, 386, 387, 425, 433, 445, 455, 4555, 470, 473, 486, 487

Gender and Social Institutions:

Two courses from: WGST 325, 326, 338, 362, 370, 404, 405, 406, 407, 412, 420, 446, 447, 461, 476, 481, 3651, 3955

Capstone Experience:

One course from: WGST 478, 498

Electives:

Three additional courses (9 credit hours) upper level WGST

Cognates

The program also requires completion of six credit hours of cognates in related fields.

The Undergraduate Catalog provides complete details on program requirements.

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Internships in Women's and Gender Studies

Women's and Gender Studies majors can participate in the WGST Internship Program. An internship gives students the opportunity to apply the theory to practice in a variety of work settings. Students are placed in a site depending upon their career goals. Recent placements include Vista Maria, the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office, Cabrini Clinic, First Step Domestic Violence Shelter, and ACCESS.

Minor/Area of Focus/Certificate

Women's and Gender Studies is also available as a minor, an area of focus in General Studies or Liberal Studies, or as a certificate program. The minor/area of focus requires successful completion of WGST 275 and a minimum of 15 credit hours of upper level WGST coursework.

The Courses

275	Introduction to Women's Studies
315	Body, Image and Culture
325	Gender and Science
326	Poverty and Discrimination
338	Women & Islam in Middle Eastern History
362	Women, Politics and the Law
365I	Women, Leadership & Social Change
370	Women in America – Historical Perspective
384	Feminist Philosophy
385	Gender Differences in Language
386	Gender Issues in Literature
387	Film and Feminisms
390	Topics in Women's Studies
3955	Women and Organizations
404	Dissed : Difference, Power & Discrimination
405	Gender Roles
406	Culture and Sexuality
407	Sexual Praxis and Theory
409	Feminist Theories
412	Men and Masculinity
416	Early Modern Japan Paint & Wood Prints
420	Kinship and Marriage
425	Women in Classical Antiquity
433	Writing Women in Renaissance
445	20th & 21st Century Women Authors
446	Marriage and Family Problems
447	Family Violence
455	Gender and Media Studies
4555	Immigrant Cultures and Gender
461	Corrections Officers and Inmates
470	Black Women in Lit., Film & Music
473	Arab-American Women Writers
476	Inside Out Prison Exchange
478	Women's Studies Internship
481	Gender and Globalization
486	Queer Theory and Literature
487	Monsters, Women and the Gothic
490	Topics in Women's Studies
498	Women's & Gender Studies Thesis
499	Independent Studies

The Faculty

Camron Amin, History
Pamela Aronson, Sociology
Carolyn Kraus, Communications
Elizabeth Rohan, Composition
Erik Bond, English
Gabriella Eschrich, French
Georgina Hickey, History
Gloria House, African and African American Studies
David Chatkoff, Psychology
Suzanne Bergeron, Women's Studies & Social Sciences
Elaine Clark, History
Susan Erickson, Art History
Jim Gruber, Sociology
Eva Huseby-Darvas, Anthropology
Lora Lempert, Sociology
Maureen Linker, Philosophy
Rashmi Luthra, Communications
Pam McAuslan, Psychology
Karen Morgan, Library
Marilee Benore Parsons, Biochemistry
Sheryl Pearson, English and Communications
Pamela Pennock, History
Bruce Pietrykowski, Economics
Jane Sheldon, Psychology
Patricia Smith, Economics
Deborah Smith-Pollard, English
Mary Trepanier-Street, Education
Marie Waung, Psychology
Kathy Wider, Philosophy

For More Information

For more information about the Women's and Gender Studies program please contact:
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