COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES

Center for the Study of Women, Gender, and Sexuality

Contract Major  2020-2021 Undergraduate Catalog

Requirements for the B.G.S. Degree

Major in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (B.A. or B.S.)
Coordinator: Kristen Myers, Director, Center for the Study of Women, Gender, and Sexuality

The Center for the Study of Women, Gender, and Sexuality offers a broad array of courses regularly taught by joint appointment faculty, Graduate Assistants, and staff. The Center offers undergraduate programs, including a certificate and a minor in Women’s and Gender Studies and a certificate and a minor in LGBTQ+ Studies. Students may double-minor in both WGST and LGBTQ+ Studies. Grounded in social movements and reaching toward more just and equitable futures, the field of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies empowers students to become deeply informed agents of personal and collective transformation.

Requirements in Department (19 hours)

WGSS 101 Women, Sex, and Gender Today (3 hours)
  Available for general education credit
  Fulfills the Human Diversity Requirement
WGSS 201 Global Gender Issues (3 hours)
  Available for general education credit
WGSS 300 Research Methods in WGSS (4 hours)
WGSS 350 LGBTQ+ Studies (3 hours)
  Available for general education credit
  This is a Writing Infused Course
  Fulfills the Human Diversity Requirement
WGSS 432 Feminist and Queer Theories (3 hours)
  This is a Writing Infused Course
WGSS 499 Capstone (3 hours)

Requirements outside Department (B.A. 15-27 hours; B.S. 25-30 hours)

Electives (15 hours)
Students choose 15 credit hours of electives from the following list

ANTH 361 - Cross-Cultural Perspectives on Women (3)
ANTH 422 - Gender in Southeast Asia (3)
  This is a Writing Infused Course
ANTH 441 - Sex and Gender in Primates (3)
  This is a Writing Infused Course
ANTH 468 - Anthropology of Gender (3)
BIOS 324X - Women in Science (3)
   Available for general education credit
   Fulfills the Human Diversity Requirement
BKST 402 - The Africana Woman (3)
COMS 410 - Communication and Gender (3)
   Available for general education credit
   Fulfills the Human Diversity Requirement
ENGL 381 - American Ethnic Literature (3)
   This is a Writing Infused Course
   Fulfills the Human Diversity Requirement
ENGL 382 - Women Writers: The Tradition in English (3)
   This is a Writing Infused Course
   Fulfills the Human Diversity Requirement
ENGL 383 - Gay and Lesbian Literature (3)
   This is a Writing Infused Course
ENGL 434X - Language and Gender (3)
   Fulfills the Human Diversity Requirement
FLFR 445 - Feminism in France (3)
   This is a Writing Infused Course
FLSP 380 - Gender and Hispanic Business Practices (3)
FLSP 439 - Women Authors in Hispanic Literature (3)
   This is a Writing Infused Course
FLSP 445 - Latin American Women Writers (3)
   This is a Writing Infused Course
FSMD 464 - Social Psychology of Dress and Appearance (3)
   Fulfills the Human Diversity Requirement
GEOG 324X - Women in Science (3)
   Available for general education credit
   Fulfills the Human Diversity Requirement
HDFS 384 - Asian American Families (3)
   Fulfills the Human Diversity Requirement
HIST 322 - Women in Modern Europe (3)
   Fulfills the Human Diversity Requirement
HIST 346 - Women in Asian History (3)
   Fulfills the Human Diversity Requirement
HIST 353 - Women in African History (3)
   This is a Writing Infused Course
   Fulfills the Human Diversity Requirement
HIST 367 - U.S. LGBT History (3)
   Fulfills the Human Diversity Requirement
HIST 369 - Women in United States History (3)
   Available for general education credit
   Fulfills the Human Diversity Requirement
HIST 402 - Gender and Sexuality in History (3)
   Fulfills the Human Diversity Requirement
HIST 407 - Medieval Women (3)
   This is a Writing Infused Course
   Fulfills the Human Diversity Requirement
MGMT 498 - Equal Opportunity and Employment (3)
NUTR 406 - Global Food and Nutrition Issues (3)
   This is a Writing Infused Course
   Available for general education credit
PHIL 355 - Feminism and Philosophy (3)
   Fulfills the Human Diversity Requirement
POLS 373 - Women and Politics (3)
   Fulfills the Human Diversity Requirement
POLS 411 - Constitutional Law II (3)
PSYC 424 - Adolescent Development (3)
PSYC 474 - Psychological Basis of Sexuality (3)
SCL 100 - Foundation of Social Change Leadership (3)
   Available for general education credit
SCL 200 - Application of Social Change Leadership (3)
SOCI 354 - Families and Social Change (3)
   Available for general education credit
SOCI 356 - Health, Aging, and Society (3)
SOCI 357 - The Sociology of Gender (3)
SOCI 450 - Social Inequality (3)
   This is a Writing Infused Course
SOCI 487 - Gender and Crime (3)
   This is a Writing Infused Course
WGSS 202 - Women and Cultural Expression (3)
   Available for general education credit
   Fulfills the Human Diversity Requirement
WGSS 240 - Issues in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (3)
WGSS 324 - Women in Science (3)
   Available for general education credit
   Fulfills the Human Diversity Requirement
WGSS 332 - Growing Up Girl (3)
   Fulfills the Human Diversity Requirement
WGSS 390 - Internship in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (1-3)
WGSS 424 - Topics in Gender and STEM (3)
WGSS 430 - Special Topics in Women’s and Gender Studies (3)
WGSS 434 Language and Gender (3 hours)
   Fulfills the Human Diversity Requirement
WGSS 435 - Gender and the Environment (3)
   Fulfills the Human Diversity Requirement
WGSS 436 - Current Debates Seminar: Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (3)
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WGSS 439 - Independent Study in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (3)
WGSS 450 - Transgender Studies (3)
  Fulfills the Human Diversity Requirement

For the B.A. degree
Fulfillment of B.A. foreign language requirement (0-12)
(See “Foreign Language Requirement for the B.A. Degree”)

For the B.S. degree
Mathematics/laboratory science sequence (10-15)
(See “College Requirement for the B.S. Degree”)

Special Requirement (12-28 hours)
Students must also fulfill the requirements of a minor, which must be selected in consultation with a department adviser.

Total Hours for Major in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies 46-74 (B.A.) OR 56-77 (B.S.) with NO Foundational Studies and NO Knowledge Domain General Education requirements.

Foundational Studies (0-12 hours)
Writing Requirement (0-6 hours)
100-level Rhetoric and Composition (0-3 hours)
200-level Writing in the Domains (3 hours)
Oral Communication Requirement (0-3 hours)
Quantitative Literacy Requirements (0-3 hours)

Knowledge Domain Requirements (21 hours)
Creativity and Critical Analysis (6 hours)
Select any two courses from the list of courses in the Creativity and Critical Analysis knowledge domain listed in the catalog.
Nature and Technology (6 hours)
Select any two courses from the list of courses in the Nature and Technology knowledge domain listed in the catalog.
Society and Culture (6 hours)
Select any two courses from the list of courses in the Society and Culture knowledge domain listed in the catalog.
Elective from any knowledge domain (3 hours)
Select any course from the list of all Knowledge Domain courses in the catalog.

Electives
In consultation with catalog requirements, students would take electives or pursue additional certificates, minors, and/or majors to reach the graduation requirement of 120 hours.
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Total Hours for a Major in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies: 67-107 (B.A.); 77-110 (B.S.) including Foundational Studies and Knowledge Domain General Education requirements

Dean’s List Criteria

Rationale: The Center for the Study of Women, Gender, & Sexuality is poised and ready to offer this new major. The CSWGS already offers a broad array of courses regularly taught by joint appointment faculty, Graduate Assistants, and staff. The Center offers rigorous and relevant undergraduate programs, including a certificate and a minor in Women’s and Gender Studies (WGST) and a certificate and a minor in LGBTQ+ Studies. Students are so eager to pursue these courses that many double-minor in both WGST and LGBTQ+ Studies, and a small number go through the laborious process of designing a contract major [Note: contract majors can only count 24 hours of WGSS courses. This hurts students who take more than that. A major would allow them to get credit for all of their hours in WGSS]. For students, a WGSS major would stand effectively on its own or pair in exciting ways with another major or minor in another discipline. The WGSS major would encompass our entire curriculum, bringing us up to date with a vibrant, multifaceted, and inherently interdisciplinary field of study that speaks to contemporary societies in ways that are especially evident in the present moment. Students are eager not only to understand and to interrogate social, cultural, and political realities, but also to create change. Grounded in social movements and reaching toward more just and equitable futures, the field of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies empowers students to become deeply informed agents of personal and collective transformation.

Further rationale and program specifics are included in the program proposal which is attached.

Impact Statement: All the outside departments have been consulted regarding the addition of their courses to the list of electives. None of the departments identified any negative impact on course availability or enrollment with these changes.
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