Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies
Requirements for the Minor

The minor in Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, approved in 1989, is an interdisciplinary program with faculty from a variety of academic units on campus. WGS minors will gain a more complete understanding of how the social construction of gender has influenced the roles, contributions, and experiences of all individuals. This understanding is coupled with a complex understanding of how gender and sexuality interact with race, social class, dis/ability, nationality, ethnicity, and other sites of social inequality. WGS students are employed in law, education, business, social services, health services, and government at all levels. WGS is also an excellent minor for students majoring in a wide variety of disciplines, such as anthropology, English, history, nursing, political science, psychology, social work, and sociology. At least six of the eighteen credits must be at the 300 level or higher.

The Minor in Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (18 credits)

- At least two courses must be taken at the 300-level or above.
- A grade of C- or better is required for courses applied to the minor.
- At least 6 of the 18 credits must be from courses taken at the University of Maine.
- Electives may be taken from among the courses listed below, additional approved courses, internships, independent study courses, or courses taken at other universities in the U.S. or abroad.

Required Courses (9 credits)

WGS 101 Introduction to Women’s Gender, and Sexuality Studies (offered every semester)

Plus two of the following three WGS courses:

WGS 103 Introduction to LGBTQ Studies
WGS 340 Transnational Feminisms
WGS 410 Feminist, Gender and Queer Theory

Elective Courses (9 credits)

WGS 103 Introduction to LGBTQ Studies
WGS 201 Topics in Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies
WGS 203 Men and Masculinities
WGS 205 Introduction to Feminist and Critical Data Analysis
WGS 230 Women, Health, and the Environment
WGS 250 Women and Music
WGS 270 Gender in Native American Cultures
WGS 301  Intermediate Topics in Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies
WGS 303  SL: Social Movements, Media, and Change
WGS 340  Transnational Feminisms
WGS 360  Gender and Cinema
WGS 371  American Border-crossing: Gendered Perspectives on Modern Migration
WGS 395  Internship in Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (1-6 cr)
WGS 401  Advanced Topics in Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies
WGS 410  Feminist, Gender and Queer Theory
WGS 451  Women’s Sexuality
WGS 480  Senior Seminar
WGS 510  Advanced Studies in Feminist and Queer Theory
WGS 580  Feminist Pedagogy and Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Practicum
ANT 245  Sex and Gender in Cross Cultural Perspective
CHF 351  Human Sexuality
CHF 451  Family Relationships
CHF 452  Violence in the Family
CLA 201  Women in the Ancient World
CLA 401  Amazons: Myth and Reality
ENG 246  American Women’s Literature
ENG 256  British Women’s Literature
ENG 471  Literature, Gender, and Gender Theory
HTY 332  Womanhood in America
HTY 494  Women, History and American Society: Selected Topics
MES 350  Maine Women
PAX 401  Women Activists: Warriors for Peace and Justice
POS 385  Women and Politics
PSY 465  Hormones, Brain and Behavior
PSY 491  Prejudice and Discrimination
SOC 329  Sociology of Gender
SWK 330  Contemporary Issues in Diversity and Pluralism

Additional Electives:
A topics course or Directed Reading in another discipline may be approved as an elective if it contains sustained, systematic study and discussion of issues related to Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies.

Please note: This is a current but not exhaustive list of electives. Our course listings change every semester. Please contact the WGS program at 207.581.3439 with questions.

Contact Information:
Laura Cowan, Director
Kelly Brown, Administrative Specialist
207.581.1228  207.581.3439
laura.cowan@maine.edu  umaine.wgs@maine.edu
404 Chadbourne Hall  422 Chadbourne Hall

Updated 10/12/2021