

# WOMEN'S, GENDER, AND SEXUALITY STUDIES

## CURRICULUM COMMITTEE:

*Nancy Grace (English), Chair*

*Travis Foster (English)*

*Amber Garcia (Psychology)*

*Raymond Gunn (Sociology)*

*Katherine Holt (History)*

*Monika Flaschka*

*Stacia Kock*

The WGSS curriculum is based in feminist scholarship—both within traditional disciplines across the academic divisions and in response to questions that cannot be answered within the framework of a single discipline. To foster this interdisciplinary inquiry, the Women's Studies Program was established in 1978 and has been built upon the feminist teaching, scholarship, and activism of faculty and students with a wide variety of disciplinary and cross-disciplinary perspectives. In the past few decades, the program has grown and evolved, changing its name to the Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program in 2008 to recognize important changes within feminist scholarship.

Acknowledging this important history, WGSS courses retain Women's Studies' focus on examining previously unavailable information about the lives and contributions of women and analyzing the effects of cultural attitudes, power and inequality, and social structures on the experiences of women. The courses also incorporate the important and transformative scholarship and questions that have been revealed by Men's and Queer Studies, about the relationships between patriarchy, men's experiences, and the dynamic mutability of gender. By valuing the relationship between theoretical and experiential knowledge, and privileging historically marginalized voices, WGSS encourages scholarship and teaching that is committed to the feminist principle of creating a more just world for all.

## **Major in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies**

Consists of eleven courses:

- WGSS 12000
- Two of the following courses: WGSS 20200, 20400, or 20600
- WGSS 31000
- Four electives from cross-listed courses accepted for WGSS credit.

Two of these must be courses accepted for WGSS credit from one division (AH, HSS, or MNS).

One of these must be a course accepted for WGSS credit from a second division (AH, HSS, or MNS).

One elective must be a course accepted for WGSS credit and focused on race, class, or culture in an area other than the United States.

- Junior Independent Study: WGSS 40100
- Senior Independent Study: WGSS 45100
- Senior Independent Study: WGSS 45200

## Minor in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

Consists of six courses:

- WGSS 12000
- One of the following courses: WGSS 20200, 20400, or 20600
- WGSS 31000
- Two electives from cross-listed courses accepted for WGSS credit from two different divisions (AH, HSS, or MNS).

One of these must be a course accepted for WGSS credit and focused on race, class, or culture in an area other than the United States.

- WGSS 33000

## Special Notes

- Majors and minors may substitute one WGSS 200-level course, WGSS 40000, or WGSS 40700 for one of the cross-listed courses.
- WGSS 40700 is strongly recommended.
- Only grades of C- or better are accepted for the major or minor.

## WOMEN'S, GENDER, AND SEXUALITY STUDIES COURSES

### WGSS 12000. INTRODUCTION TO WOMEN'S, GENDER, AND SEXUALITY STUDIES

This course is an interdisciplinary overview of the discipline of Women's Studies and the issues, theories, and feminist approaches to the study of gender and sexuality. It explores the meaning of the terms "gender" and "sexuality" in a historical and transnational context—particularly through their complex intersections with race, class, and nationality—and the political movements mobilized around these terms. Students will gain the critical tools necessary to examine how gender and sexual orientation are constructed in society and how these constructions might be shaped by individual experience. *Annually. Fall and Spring. [W+, AH or HSS]*

### WGSS 20200. HISTORY OF WESTERN FEMINIST THOUGHT

A broad introduction to the history and literature of Western feminist thought, beginning with precedents in the middle ages and the early modern eras and focusing on the major thinkers of the suffrage movement (First Wave) through the Second and Third Waves of the women's movement. A consideration of the impact of feminists of color and of feminist postcolonial critiques, queer studies, and queer theory on contemporary feminist thought concludes the course. *Prerequisite: WGSS 12000 or permission of instructor. Every three years; alternates with WGSS 20400 and 20600. Not offered 2011-2012. [W+, AH or HSS]*

### WGSS 20400. GLOBAL FEMINISMS (Latin American Studies)

This course will explore how feminism is understood throughout the world and examine struggles for women's equality in both a historical and transnational perspective. It examines the relationship between Western and so-called "Third World" feminisms, especially as efforts to empower women are impacted by nationalism, race, class and caste, religion, sexuality, and immigration. It will also interrogate the complex process of globalization to understand why it is experienced differently based on gender, as well a geographical location. Theoretical developments in feminist and postcolonial theory and case studies of transnational feminist activism will allow students to critically explore political movements to address a variety of human rights issues throughout the world. *Prerequisite: WGSS 12000. Every three years; alternates with WGSS 20200 and 20600. Spring 2012. [C, HSS]*

### WGSS 20600. QUEER LIVES

This course addresses a broad range of "queer" issues and the lived experiences of sexual minorities throughout the world. It explores major events in the history of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, transsexual, and queer political movements in the United States and transnationally to understand the social construction of identities and movements and how they have changed in different times and places—often as a result of race-, class-, and gender-based inequities. This course also considers the categories we use to describe same-sex desire. How do Western terms used above help (or hinder) our understandings of the experiences of Indian hijras, Thai "Toms" & "Dees," Native American two-spirit people, drag queens & kings, and others who don't fit "neatly" within single categories of gender, sex, and sexuality? *Prerequisite: WGSS 12000. Every three years; alternates with WGSS 20200 and 20400. Not offered 2011-2012. [C, HSS]*

#### **WGSS 31000. SEMINAR IN FEMINIST LEARNING AND TEACHING**

A rethinking of students' previous work in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies through an in-depth immersion in advanced theoretical readings, literature, and personal writings pertaining to women, gender, and sexuality. The course is taught through feminist pedagogy and collaborative learning. The seminar is required of majors and minors but open to other interested students. *S/NC course. Prerequisite: WGSS 12000 and one 200-level WGSS course, or permission of instructor. Annually. Fall 2011.*

#### **WGSS 32000-32003. SPECIAL TOPICS IN WGSS**

An advanced seminar exploring current theory and research on selected interdisciplinary issues in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. Topics will be announced in advance by the faculty member teaching the course. *Prerequisite: WGSS 12000 or permission of instructor. Annually. Not offered 2011-2012. [W+]*

#### **WGSS 33000. FEMINIST METHODOLOGIES**

What makes a research methodology feminist? Through advanced interdisciplinary readings and short writing assignments, students will be introduced to feminist research methods as well as distinctive feminist critical approaches to issues in the social sciences, physical sciences, and the humanities. This course is required of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies majors and minors, but it is designed for other students planning to incorporate feminist perspectives into their senior research. *Prerequisite: WGSS 12000 and/or permission of instructor. Annually. Spring 2012.*

#### **WGSS 40000. TUTORIAL IN WGSS**

Independent research on a topic in consultation with a supervising faculty member. *Prerequisite: WGSS 12000 and at least one other course from Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies courses or cross-listings; the approval of both the supervising faculty member and the chairperson is required prior to registration.*

#### **WGSS 40100. FEMINIST METHODOLOGIES**

What makes a research methodology feminist? Through advanced interdisciplinary readings and short writing assignments, students will be introduced to feminist research methods as well as distinctive feminist critical approaches to issues in the social sciences, physical sciences, and the humanities. This course is required of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies majors and minors, but it is designed for other students planning to incorporate feminist perspectives into their senior research. *Prerequisite: WGSS 12000 and one 200-level WGSS course, or permission of instructor. Annually. Spring 2012.*

#### **WGSS 40700. WGSS PRACTICUM**

Supervised participation in practical efforts toward understanding and/or working for gender equity; to be undertaken through approved placement in an organization in the community or a student-defined project addressing these goals. The work will culminate in written analysis of the practicum experience in relation to coursework in WGSS. Students interested in a practicum experience are also urged to explore the Antioch Women's Students Semester in Europe (Fall), the GLCA Philadelphia Center Urban Program, and make prior arrangements with a Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies faculty member to count their off-campus work as a practicum upon submission of a reflective paper or journal entries. *Prerequisite: WGSS 12000 and at least one other WGSS course; permission of the chairperson is required before registration. Annually. Fall and Spring.*

#### **WGSS 45100. SENIOR INDEPENDENT STUDY – SEMESTER ONE**

The first semester of the Senior Independent Study project, in which students use the methods and perspectives of feminist interdisciplinary scholarship to pursue questions of their own design, developed within the context of their prior course work and their interests within the major, and which culminates in a thesis and an oral examination in the second semester. *Prerequisite: WGSS 40100.*

#### **WGSS 45200. SENIOR INDEPENDENT STUDY – SEMESTER TWO**

The second semester of the Senior Independent Study project, which culminates in the thesis and an oral examination. *Prerequisite: WGSS 45100.*

### **CROSS-LISTED COURSES ACCEPTED FOR WOMEN'S, GENDER, AND SEXUALITY STUDIES CREDIT**

#### **AFRICANA STUDIES**

**AFST 24000. AFRICANA WOMEN IN NORTH AMERICA: EARLIEST TIMES THROUGH THE  
CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT [C, HSS]**

**AFST 24100. AFRICANA WOMEN IN CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY [C, HSS]**

**ART AND ART HISTORY**

- ARTD 21600. GENDER IN TWENTIETH-CENTURY ART [AH]
- ARTD 31018. THE VISUAL CULTURE OF CHILDHOOD IN EUROPE, 1300-1800 [AH]

**CHINESE STUDIES**

- CHIN 22200. WOMEN IN CHINESE LITERATURE [C, AH]

**CLASSICAL STUDIES**

- AMST 22300. GENDER AND SEXUALITY IN CLASSICAL ANTIQUITY [AH]

**COMPARATIVE LITERATURE**

- CMLT 23000. COMPARATIVE SEXUAL POETICS [W, AH]

**ECONOMICS**

- ECON 24500. ECONOMICS OF GENDER [HSS]

**ENGLISH**

- ENGL 21002. BLACK WOMEN WRITERS [AH]
- ENGL 21004. GENDER, RACE, AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF EMPIRE [AH]
- ENGL 21008. GENDER, SEX, AND TEXTS [AH]
- ENGL 21017. FEMINIST/QUEER THEORY [AH]
- ENGL 22003. VIRGINIA WOOLF [AH]
- ENGL 22011. JAMES BALDWIN AND TONI MORRISON [AH]
- ENGL 22015. REPRESENTING SEXUALITIES IN AMERICAN LITERATURE [AH]
- ENGL 30000. QUEENS [AH]

**GERMAN STUDIES**

- GRMN 22700. GERMAN LITERATURE IN TRANSLATION: GENDER, POWER, TEXT
- GRMN 22800. TOPICS IN GERMAN SOCIETY AND CULTURE: WOMEN IN GERMAN SOCIETY AND CULTURE [C]

**HISTORY**

- HIST 10100-10176. INTRODUCTION TO HISTORICAL INVESTIGATION (depending on topic)  
[W, some sections count toward C, HSS]
- HIST 10101. HISTORY OF MEN IN AMERICA [W+, Ct, HSS]
- HIST 20100. CRAFT OF HISTORY: TOPIC IN GENDER HISTORY [W, AH]
- HIST 24700. WOMEN IN U.S. HISTORY [HSS]
- HIST 27502. STUDIES IN HISTORY: HISTORY OF BRAZIL [HSS]
- HIST 30126. WOMEN'S LIVES IN LATIN AMERICA [C, R, HSS]
- HIST 30142. SOCIAL HISTORY OF AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMEN [HSS]

**MUSIC**

- MUSC 21900. WOMEN IN MUSIC [C, AH]

**PHILOSOPHY**

- PHIL 21200. RACE, GENDER, AND JUSTICE [C, AH]

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

- PHED 20000. WOMEN IN SPORT

**POLITICAL SCIENCE**

- PSCI 21000. WOMEN, POWER, AND POLITICS [C, HSS]
- PSCI 23500. CONTEMPORARY FEMINIST POLITICAL THEORY [HSS]

**PSYCHOLOGY**

- PSYC 21500. PSYCHOLOGY OF WOMEN AND GENDER [HSS]

**RELIGIOUS STUDIES**

- RELS 22900. WOMEN AND RELIGION [C, R]
- RELS 25200. THIRD WORLD FEMINIST THEOLOGY [R]
- RELS 26719. GLOBAL CATHOLICISM IN AMERICA [R]

**SOCIOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY**

ANTH 22500. GENDER IN WORLD CULTURES [C, HSS]

SOCI 20700. SOCIOLOGY OF GENDER [HSS]

SOCI 21102. AMERICAN MASCULINITIES [HSS]

**SPANISH**

SPAN 30900. TRENDS IN SPANISH-AMERICAN LITERATURE: SPANISH-AMERICAN WOMEN  
WRITERS AND THE FEMALE LITERARY TRADITION [C, AH]

**THEATRE**

THTD 24500. FEMINISM AND THEATRE [C, AH]