Women and Gender Studies

The mission of the Women’s and Gender Studies Program at Georgia Southern University is to introduce students to the definitions, perspectives and methodology of the study of gender as an identity category. The Women's and Gender Studies Program at Georgia Southern University offers an inter-disciplinary minor available to all undergraduate students, regardless of major.

As an interdisciplinary minor, the Women’s and Gender Studies Program promotes collaboration across diverse disciplines and among students, faculty, and the community who work together to understand the ways in which ideologies of gender and sexuality permeate the entire fabric of society.

Through course offerings in the undergraduate minor in Women’s and Gender Studies (WGST), the program promotes academic study and dialogue on a broad range of topics related not only to women’s contributions to the fundamental fields of human knowledge and achievement, but also to interdisciplinary studies of feminisms, masculinity, sex, gender, and sexuality.

The Women’s and Gender Studies Program supports research, teaching, and outreach activities that analyze gender as an identity category; the relationship between gender and other identity categories, including race, class, ethnicity, nationality, and sexuality; and historical and contemporary gender issues in local, regional, national, and cross-cultural contexts.

Guided by disciplinary standards, the Women’s and Gender Studies Program supports the University’s mission by fostering research, teaching, and outreach activities that promote integrity, civility, kindness, and collaboration.

Women and Gender Studies Minor


Women and Gender Studies Concentration


WGST 2530  Introduction to Women and Gender Studies
3 Credit Hours.  3 Lecture Hours.  0 Lab Hours.
A multidisciplinary course designed to introduce students to the field of women and gender studies. Students will examine traditional and alternative perspectives on women's and men's experiences.
Cross Listing(s): WGST 2530S.

WGST 2530S  Introduction to Women & Gender
3 Credit Hours.  3 Lecture Hours.  0 Lab Hours.
A multidisciplinary course designed to introduce students to the field of women and gender studies. Students will examine traditional and alternative perspectives on women's and men's experiences.
Cross Listing(s): WGST 2530.

WGST 3090  Selected Topics in Women and Gender Studies
0-15 Credit Hours.  0-15 Lecture Hours.  0 Lab Hours.
Various Selected Topics.
Cross Listing(s): WGST 3090S.

WGST 3137  Topics in U.S. Women's History
3 Credit Hours.  3 Lecture Hours.  0 Lab Hours.
Examines the experiences of women in the United States from colonial times to the present within the overall framework of American history. Explores the impact of major historical events on women; the contributions of women to the social, political, cultural and economic development of the US; and the changing roles of women within the family and the workplace. Topic varies. May be repeated for credit.
Cross Listing(s): HIST 3137.

WGST 3230  Intro to Women and Gender
3 Credit Hours.  3 Lecture Hours.  0 Lab Hours.
A multidisciplinary course designed to introduce students to the field of women and gender studies. Students will examine traditional and alternative perspectives on women and men's experiences.

WGST 3330  Roman Women
3 Credit Hours.  3 Lecture Hours.  0 Lab Hours.
Study of the role of women in the ancient Roman world. Emphasis on their influence within the political, economic, social, religious, and intellectual life of Rome. Examination of the Roman world through the eyes of ancient Roman women from different historical periods and social status.

WGST 3333  Communication and Gender
3 Credit Hours.  3 Lecture Hours.  0 Lab Hours.
Introduces students to the literature of gender and communication. Considers how men's and women's self-perceptions and resulting communication patterns evolve as a function of cultural influences.
Cross Listing(s): COMS 3333.

WGST 4090  Independent Study in Women's and Gender Studies
1-4 Credit Hours.  1-4 Lecture Hours.  0 Lab Hours.
Independent Study in Women's and Gender Studies. The opportunity to design and conduct independent research and/or projects under the direction of a WGST faculty member in a specialized area of Women's and Gender Studies.
Prerequisite(s): WGST 2530.

WGST 4130  Feminist Philosophy
3 Credit Hours.  3 Lecture Hours.  0 Lab Hours.
An introduction to the main topics in Feminist Philosophy to include the adversary method and the 'maleness' of philosophy; dualities of mind and body, male and female, self and other; women's ways of knowing; caring and maternal thinking; and ecofeminism. Feminist philosophy addresses these ideals and assumptions in the western philosophic traditions that have oppressed women and other subordinate groups.
Cross Listing(s): PHIL 4130.

WGST 4331  Gender, Media, and Representation
3 Credit Hours.  3 Lecture Hours.  0 Lab Hours.
Examines the implicit gender messages that are communicated through mass media. Focuses on the representation of gender in the media and how media both reflects and creates cultural values and ideals pertaining to gender.
Prerequisite(s): COMM 2332.
Cross Listing(s): COMM 4331.

WGST 4335  Woman Question in Europe
3 Credit Hours.  3 Lecture Hours.  0 Lab Hours.
An Intellectual History course focusing on the debate over women's nature, women's roles, and the notion of "woman". Although the "woman question" has a history spanning the entire modern period, this course will examine the period 1848-1950 when many of the classic texts appeared.
Cross Listing(s): HIST 4335, SOCI 4332.
WGST 4338  Sport, Culture, and Society
3 Credit Hours.  3 Lecture Hours.  0 Lab Hours.
Examines sport as a social institution, focusing on cultural values related
to sport, stratification within and among sports, and issues of power and
inequality pertaining to sport.
Prerequisite(s): SOCI 1101.
Cross Listing(s): SOCI 4338.

WGST 4530  Revelation and Revolution
3 Credit Hours.  3 Lecture Hours.  0 Lab Hours.
Explores issues of gender, spirituality, and power within the context of
African history.
Cross Listing(s): AAST 4530 and HIST 4530.

WGST 5131  Sex, Violence, and Culture
3 Credit Hours.  3 Lecture Hours.  0 Lab Hours.
Uses feminist theories of gender, sexuality, and patriarchal culture to
explore the relationship between public and private violence. Placing
private violence in a global perspective, this course critiques the gender
stakes of economies of domination and exploitation, the war system, and
ideologies of family and nation.
Prerequisite(s): WGST 2530.
Cross Listing(s): WGST 5131G.

WGST 5633  Writing the Body
3 Credit Hours.  3 Lecture Hours.  0 Lab Hours.
Writing the Body explores the ways in which written discourse is an
intellectual, social, creative, and educational practice that is always
also material and corporeal. As an introduction to discipline-specific
foundations in writing theory and methodologies, this course engages
students in both the analysis and production of written texts and enables
them to explore the ways in which identity narratives are embodied
and performative. Graduate students will be given an extra assignment
determined by the instructor that undergraduates will not be required to do.
Prerequisite(s): A minimum grade of "C" in ENGL 1102.
Cross Listing(s): WGST 5633G, WRIT 5633, WRIT 5633G.