

WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES, B.A.

Objectives

The mission of Women's and Gender Studies at Loyola Marymount University is to engage students in a critical understanding of the complex ways gender shapes the world around them, particularly in relation to race, sexuality, class, and other social factors. Women's and Gender Studies invites students to participate in a vibrant interdisciplinary program of study that places women at the center of traditional disciplines. It encourages the critical examination of academic fields such as the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, and the arts, as well as the gendered assumptions that underwrite them. Further, Women's and Gender Studies proposes not only that we ask different questions of academic disciplines from the perspective of women but also that we transform those fields and ways of knowing through the innovative theoretical tools and new methodologies that have been developed by feminist scholars and activists over the past thirty years. As a department committed to transformation through education, the mission of Women's and Gender Studies is to call attention to the androcentric nature of society, propose alternatives and strategies that honor women's human rights, and promote a vision of society where gender hierarchy, as well as other forms of social injustice, are eliminated. Grounded in feminist pedagogy, Women's and Gender Studies courses provide students with a broad understanding of the asymmetry of gender relations within diverse historical and cultural contexts. Our mission is to foster a vigorous intellectual environment where students can develop their analytical thinking skills and conceptual tools for social change.

Women's and Gender Studies Student Learning Outcomes

- Students will be able to analyze the complex ways gender shapes the world, particularly in relation to race, sexuality, class, and other social factors.
- Students will be able to evaluate how feminist theories and methodologies provide intellectual tools through which we can examine inequalities and argue for change.
- Students will be able to express commitment to gender and social justice through an intersectional framework.
- Students will be able to clearly articulate their ideas orally and in writing.
- Students will gain information literacy skills.

Major Requirements

Code	Title	Semester Hours
Lower Division Requirements		
WGST 1000	Gender and Social Movements	4
WGST 1100	Gender, Race, and Sexuality in Contemporary Society	4
Select one of the following:		
WGST 2000	Women in Global Communities	
WGST 2200	Women's Bodies, Health, and Sexuality	
WGST 2500	Introduction to LGBT Studies	
Subtotal		8

Upper Division Requirements

WGST 4000 or WGST 4001	Feminist Theories Queer Theories	4
WGST 3100	Feminist & Queer Research Methods	4
WGST 4900	Senior Seminar in Women's and Gender Studies	4
Subtotal		12
Upper Division Options		
Select two of the following: ¹		8
WGST 3200	Gender, Race, and Environmental Justice	
WGST 3300	Gender, Race, and the Graphic Novel	
WGST 3301	Literature by Women of Color	
WGST 3800	Gender and Urban Geographies	
WGST 3900	Gender, Race, and Disability	
WGST 4100	Sex, Trade, Trafficking	
WGST 4101	Queer Migration and Diaspora	
WGST 4500	Feminisms in Action	4
Select one Women's and Gender Studies upper division course		4
Subtotal		16

Total Semester Hours

1

At times a special studies course may be taken in lieu of one of the upper division electives. Please consult the Department for advice.

Women's and Gender Studies majors should have a minimum of a C (2.0) in all Women's and Gender Studies classes.

Please note that cross-listed courses may have departmental prerequisites; consult departments for details.

Women's and Gender Studies Model Four-Year Plan

The normal course load is 16 semester hours (4 classes). By following the model below, a student will complete all lower division core requirements by the end of the sophomore year as well as most major prerequisites. Note that core areas are suggested to provide a distribution of various disciplines every semester. Please be flexible implementing these suggestions, given your own interests and course availability. In four years, this plan meets all common graduation requirements.

Course	Title	Semester Hours
First Year		
Fall		
WGST 1000	Gender and Social Movements	4
FFYS 1000	First Year Seminar	4
University Core		3-4
University Core		3-4
Semester Hours		14-16
Spring		
WGST 1100	Gender, Race, and Sexuality in Contemporary Society	4
RHET 1000	Rhetorical Arts	3-4
University Core		3-4
University Core		3-4
Semester Hours		13-16
Sophomore Year		
Fall		
Select one of the following:		

WGST 2000	Women in Global Communities	
WGST 2200	Women's Bodies, Health, and Sexuality	
WGST 2500	Introduction to LGBT Studies	
University Core		3-4
Elective		3-4
Semester Hours		6-8
Spring		
University Core		3-4
University Core		3-4
WGST Elective		3-4
Any Elective		3-4
Semester Hours		12-16
Junior Year		
Fall		
WGST Upper Division Required Elective		4
WGST Upper Division Required Elective		4
University Core		3-4
Upper Division Elective		3-4
Semester Hours		14-16
Spring		
Select one of the following:		4
WGST 4100	Sex, Trade, Trafficking	
WGST Upper Division Optional Elective		
WGST Upper Division Required Elective		4
University Core		3-4
Upper Division Elective		3-4
Semester Hours		14-16
Senior Year		
Fall		
WGST 3100	Feminist & Queer Research Methods	4
University Core		3-4
Upper Division Elective		3-4
Upper Division Elective		3-4
Semester Hours		13-16
Spring		
WGST 4900	Senior Seminar in Women's and Gender Studies	4
University Core		3-4
Upper Division Elective		3-4
Upper Division Elective		3-4
Semester Hours		13-16
Minimum Semester Hours		99-120