

Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

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The WGSS major empowers students as advocates and agents of social justice for their communities, workplaces, and the wider world. Whatever their career goals, our curriculum prepares students to be conscientious citizens by focusing on large questions of social difference and inequality across categories such as gender, sexuality, race, ethnicity, class, ability, religion, and nationality. Our courses pair academic rigor with civic engagement and range in scope from the local to the transnational. As an interdisciplinary field, WGSS courses provide students with a framework for developing and integrating a broad range of transferable skills. These skills include effective oral and written communication, strategic approaches to research, critical analysis of evidence, and the application of field-specific theoretical models. By critically analyzing the assumptions, norms, discourses, and systems that structure social identities and behaviors, WGSS aims not only to produce new knowledge, but also to question and reshape what counts as knowledge.

Online information about the WGSS major, minors, and course offerings can be found at <http://wgs.tcnj.edu/>.

Requirements for the Major (10 course units)

- **5 Core Courses:**

- WGS 200 Introduction to Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies
- WGS 325 Feminist Theories OR WGS 365 Black Feminist Thought
- WGS 326 Intersectional Qualitative Research Methods (or similar course by advisement)
- WGS 398 Feminism in the Workplace: Field Study in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies
- WGS 495 or 496 Senior Seminar

- **5 course units of additional WGS courses:**

One of these courses must consider gender in global perspective (either 200 or 300 level).

Choose one of the following to fulfill the global requirement:

- WGS 222/HGS 210 Nonviolence and Peace Action
- WGS 237/CLS 237 The Body and Monument in Ancient Greece
- WGS 271/WLC 271 Gender and Language
- WGS 310/HIS 324/HON 337 Women in Eastern Europe
- WGS 321/CMP 321 Gender and Disability: Literary Perspectives
- WGS 327/HIS 327 European History Since 1780
- WGS 360/LIT334 Literature by Latinas and Latin American Women
- WGS 375 Transnational Feminisms
- WGS 376/LIT316 Global Women Writers
- WGS 377 Gender Politics of Development
- WGS 378/SOC 303 Women in World Perspective
- WGS 380/HON 338 Gender and Democracy
- SOC 303/WGS 378 Women in World Perspectives

- One elective must be cross-listed with African American Studies.
The following courses fulfill this requirement.
 - AAS/WGS 150 Introduction to Social Justice
 - AAS/WGS 252 Gender, Race, and Cultural Production
 - AAS/WGS 270 Topics in AAS and WGSS
 - AAS 280/WGS 260 Women of African Descent in Global Perspective
 - AAS 376/WGS 361 African American Women's History
 - AAS/WGS 362 The History of Black Lives Matter
 - AAS/WGS 370 Topics in AAS/WGSS
 - HIS/WGS 373 Slavery and Black Womanhood
 - WGS 377/AAS 366 Gender Politics of Development in Africa
 - AAS 385/WGS 365 Black Feminist Thought (taken in addition to rather than as a substitute for WGS 325 Feminist Theories)
 - AAS 470/WGS 470 Topics in AAS and WGSS

- **Five courses of the 10 in the major must be at the 300 level or above.**

Requirements for Dual Education/WGS Majors (10 course units)

- **4 Core Courses:**
 - WGS 200 Introduction to Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies
 - WGS 325 Feminist Theories or WGS 365 Black Feminist Thought
 - WGS 350 Gender Equity in the Classroom OR EFN 457 Critical Pedagogy
 - WGS 495 or 496 Senior Seminar
- **6 course units of additional WGS courses:**

One of these courses must consider gender in global perspectives (either 200 or 300 level).

Choose one of the following to fulfill this requirement:

 - WGS 222/HGS 210 Nonviolence and Peace Action
 - WGS 237/CLS 237 The Body and Monument in Ancient Greece
 - WGS 271/WLC 271 Gender and Language
 - WGS 310/HIS 324/HON 337 Women in Eastern Europe
 - WGS 321/CMP 321 Gender and Disability: Literary Perspectives
 - WGS 327/HIS 327 European History Since 1789
 - WGS 360/LIT 334 Literature by Latinas and Latin American Women
 - WGS 375 Transnational Feminisms
 - WGS 376/LIT316 Global Women Writers
 - WGS 377 Gender Politics of Development
 - WGS 378/SOC 303 Women in World Perspective

- One elective must be cross-listed with African American Studies.
The following courses fulfill this requirement.
 - AAS/WGS 150 Introduction to Social Justice
 - AAS/WGS 252 Gender, Race, and Cultural Production
 - AAS/WGS 270 Topics in AAS and WGSS
 - AAS 280/WGS 260 Women of African Descent in Global Perspective
 - AAS 376/WGS 361 African American Women's History
 - AAS/WGS 362 The History of Black Lives Matter
 - AAS/WGS 370 Topics in AAS/WGSS
 - HIS/WGS 373 Slavery and Black Womanhood
 - WGS 377/AAS 366 Gender Politics of Development in Africa
 - AAS 385/WGS 365 Black Feminist Thought (taken in addition to rather than as a substitute for WGS 325 Feminist Theories)
 - AAS 470/WGS 470 Topics in AAS and WGSS
- **Five courses of the 10 in the major must be at a 300 level or above.**
- **Dual majors in Education/WGSS should select 4 English or writing courses, 1 VPA course, 1 American History course, and 3 other Social Science courses, either within the WGSS major or as non-major electives.**

Program Entrance, Retention, and Exit Standards

Every major program at the College has set standards for allowing students to remain in that program, to transfer within the College from one program to another, and to graduate from a program. The following are the standards for Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. Minimum grades are noted in parentheses:

- Retention in the program is based on the following performance standards in these "critical content courses": WGS 200 Introduction to Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (C-), WGS 325 Feminist Theories (C-), WGS 498 Senior Seminar: Methods and Theory (C-) or WGS 499 Women's Leadership and Social Change (C-).
- Graduation requires a GPA of 2.0, in WGSS courses and overall.

Honors Policy

Prerequisites: WGS 325 Feminist Theories and WGS 326 Intersectional Qualitative Research Methods (or equivalent course).

Any WGSS major with a GPA of at least 3.5 in the major and the permission of the department chair may pursue departmental honors by extending the projects they develop in WGS 498 into a second semester by enrolling in WGS 496. The second semester product may be an extended research paper or another kind of research-based project produced under the supervision of a faculty mentor. A departmental committee of 2-3 members will approve project proposals and evaluate the completed work in conjunction with the faculty mentor. For more information, please contact the department chair.

Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Major Learning Goals

Students who complete the Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies major at The College of New Jersey are expected to:

1. **Demonstrate knowledge of central concepts, terms, distinctions, questions, arguments, and theories in the discipline of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies.**
2. **Explain intersectional theory and apply intersectional analyses across categories of social differences and systems of power.**
3. **Critically analyze how cultural assumptions, social norms, practices, and institutions produce structural inequalities in societies; develop and evaluate intersectional practices for access and inclusion.**
4. **Analyze feminist theories and praxis on a historical and transnational scale, with reference to central questions, arguments, and movements in the discipline of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies.**
5. **Undertake original intersectional, interdisciplinary research, demonstrating an ability to apply feminist theories, methodologies, and ethics to the production of knowledge privileging marginalized standpoints across a range of academic disciplines.**
6. **Practice civic engagement informed by ethical feminist praxis with a focus on social justice.**

Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Major Course Sequence**First Year**

FYS First Year Seminar

HSS 099/ Orientation to Humanities and Social Sciences

FYW 102/Academic Writing (if required)

WGS 200/Introduction to Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

Two WGS options (by advisement)

Liberal Learning courses*

Electives

* *Chinese 151 and 152, Japanese 151 and 152, and Russian 151 and 152 are intensive courses and carry two course units of credit each. Students should take this into account when planning a normal four-course semester.*

Second Year

Gender in Global Perspective—Choose one:

- WGS 222/HGS 210 Nonviolence and Peace Action
- WGS 271/WLC 271 Gender and Language
- WGS 310/HIS324/HON337 Women in Eastern Europe
- WGS 321/CMP 321 Gender and Disability: Literary Perspectives
- WGS 327 European History Since 1780
- WGS 360/LIT334 Literature by Latinas and Latin American Women
- WGS 375 Transnational Feminisms
- WGS 376/LIT316 Global Women Writers
- WGS 377 Gender Politics of Development
- WGS 380/HON 338 Gender and Democracy
- SOC 303 Women in World Perspectives

AAS/WGS cross-listed course--choose one:

- AAS/WGS 150 Introduction to Social Justice
- AAS/WGS 252 Gender, Race, and Cultural Production
- AAS/WGS 270 Topics in AAS and WGSS
- AAS 280/WGS 260 Women of African Descent in Global Perspective
- AAS 376/WGS 361 African American Women's History
- AAS/WGS 362 The History of Black Lives Matter
- AAS/WGS 370 Topics in AAS/WGSS
- HIS/WGS 373 Slavery and Black Womanhood
- WGS 377/AAS 366 Gender Politics of Development in Africa
- AAS 385/WGS 365 Black Feminist Thought (taken in addition to rather than as a substitute for WGS 325 Feminist Theories)
- AAS 470/WGS 470 Topics in AAS and WGSS

One WGS option (by advisement)

Liberal Learning courses*

Electives

** Chinese 151 and 152, Japanese 151 and 152, and Russian 151 and 152 (offered annually) are intensive courses and carry two course units of credit each. Students should take this into account when planning a normal four-course semester.*

Third Year

WGS 325/Feminist Theories OR WGS 365/Black Feminist Thought

WGS 326/Intersectional Qualitative Research Methods (or similar course by advisement)

WGS 398/Feminism in the Workplace: Field Study in Women's Studies

Liberal Learning courses*

Electives

** Chinese 151 and 152, Japanese 151 and 152, and Russian 151 and 152 (offered annually) are intensive courses and carry two course units of credit each. Students should take this into account when planning a normal four-course semester.*

Fourth Year

WGS 495 or 496/Senior Seminar

Liberal Learning courses

Electives

** Chinese 151 and 152, Japanese 151 and 152, and Russian 151 and 152 (offered annually) are intensive courses and carry two course units of credit each. Students should take this into account when planning a normal four-course semester.*

WGSS Studies majors whose first major is Elementary, Early Childhood, Urban Education option in Elementary or Early Childhood Education, Special Education, or Education of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing must also complete the requirements for the WGSS major.

When planning their academic program, students should consult with their advisers in *both* departments. These plans should take into account requirements for the major, liberal learning, professional courses, and state certification. Students are encouraged to consult the Academic Requirement Report which is available on PAWS.

Requirements for the Minor in WGSS

The minor in WGSS consists of five courses as follows:

- WGS 200 Introduction to Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (may be substituted by another WGS course at discretion of department chair)
- Four more WGS courses (two of these courses must be at the 300 or above level) or courses from other departments that offer Gender credit (listed below).

Sexuality and Queer Studies Minor

The minor in Sexuality and Queer Studies provides students with a broad interdisciplinary education in the sociocultural, historical, political, and theoretical foundations of LGBTQ studies. In addition, the minor provides avenues for the study of sexualities more generally, engaging students in critical analyses of the existing organization and social meaning of sexual identities and sexual practices.

Requirements (5 courses total): One required course (either WGS 240: Introduction to LGBTQ Studies or WGS 241: Introduction to Sexuality Studies); and four additional courses. Two of the five courses must be at the 300 or above level.

Required:

One course selected from the two courses below:

- WGS 240: Introduction to LGBTQ Studies (offered annually); or,
- WGS 241: Introduction to Sexuality Studies (offered annually)

Options:

Four courses selected from the courses below:

- WGS 240: Introduction to LGBTQ Studies (if not taken as the required course above)
- WGS 241: Introduction to Sexuality Studies (if not taken as the required course above)
- WGS 250: Politics of Sexuality
- WGS 270: Topics in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (with a Sexuality and/or Queer Studies focus)
- WGS 306/CLS 325: Sex and Gender in Greco-Roman Antiquity
- WGS 307/MUS 355: Gender, Sexuality, and Pop Music in the 1980s

WGS 340/HIS 397: LGBTQ History in the US
 WGS 341/LIT 313: Queer Literature
 WGS 342: LGBTQ Issues in K-12 Education
 WGS 343: Queer Studies
 WGS 344: Transgender Studies
 WGS 366: Sexual and Gender Minority Mental Health
 WGS 370: Topics in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (with a Sexuality and/or Queer Studies focus)
 WGS 391: Independent Study in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (with a Sexuality and/or Queer Studies focus)
 WGS 393: Independent Research in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (with a Sexuality and/or Queer Studies focus)

Women in Learning and Leadership

Women in Learning and Leadership (WILL) is a curricular and co-curricular course of study designed to develop leadership skills and provide leadership experiences. WILL offers active learning opportunities that empower women as leaders and fosters a deeper understanding of women's roles and contributions to society. Successful completion of WILL results in a Women's and Gender Studies minor.

Requirements for WILL

Five Courses

- WGS 200/Introduction to Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (WILL section): An introductory level course that introduces students to the discipline. In the WILL section there is special emphasis on women and leadership.
- Gender in Global Perspectives (either 200 or 300 level)—A requirement that may be fulfilled by courses that examine feminist issues and theories in a global context. Choose one from the following:
 - WGS 222/HGS 210 Nonviolence and Peace Action
 - WGS 252/AAS 252 Gender, Race, and Cultural Production
 - WGS 271/WLC 271 Gender and Language
 - WGS 310/HIS324/HON337 Women in Eastern Europe
 - WGS 321/CMP 321 Gender and Disability: Literary Perspectives
 - WGS 327 European History Since 1780
 - WGS 360/LIT334 Literature by Latinas and Latin American Women
 - WGS 375 Transnational Feminisms
 - WGS 376/LIT316 Global Women Writers
 - WGS 377/Gender Politics of Development
 - WGS 380/HON 338 Gender and Democracy
 - SOC 303/Women in World Perspectives
- WGS 325/Feminist Theories OR WGS 365 Black Feminist Thought
- WGS 398/Feminism in the Workplace: Field Study in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies
- WGS 498 Senior Seminar: Methods and Theory or WGS 499 Women's Leadership and Social Change (Either can count as Senior Capstone)

Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies course options*(for course descriptions see department listings):*

AAH 320/Women, Art, and Society

AAH 343/WGS 305 Looking at Women: Representation, Feminism, and Film AAH 370

Topic: Women Artists

AAH 404/WGS 404 Women in Classical Art

AAS 252/WGS 252 Gender, Race, and Cultural Production

AAS 280/WGS 260 Women of African Descent in Global Perspective

AAS 321 Race, Gender and the News

AAS 335/WGS 335/Caribbean Women Writers

AAS 362/WGS 363/History of Black Lives Matter: Intersectional Anti-Racism and Violence Studies

AAS 373/WGS 363 Slavery and Black Womanhood

AAS 375/WGS 365/Black Feminist Thought

AAS 376/WGS 361/African American Women's History

CLS 237/WGGS 237/The Body and Monument in Ancient Greece

CLS 325/WGS 306/Sex and Gender in Greco-Roman Antiquity

COM 300/Intergender Communication

COM 343/WGS 305/Looking at Women: Representation, Feminism, and Film

CMP 321/WGS 321 Gender and Disability: Literary Perspectives

CMP 340/Educational Equity and Social Justice in Documentary Film

CRI 256/Women in the Criminal Justice System

ECO 325/WGS 355/Women, Gender, and Work

EFN 427 Critical Pedagogy

HGS 210/WGS 222/Non-Violence and Peace Action

HIS 114/Medieval Women

HIS 165/Topics: North America/US (When topic relates to WGS content)

HIS 195/Western Sexualities

HIS 196/WGS 165/Gendered History of Food

HIS 324/WGS 310/Women in Eastern Europe: 1848–Present

HIS 327/WGS 327/European Social History Since 1789

HIS 350/Race and Gender in Latin America

HIS 365/WGS 361/Topics: African American Women's History

HIS 365/WGS 328/Topics: When Topic is Gender in 20th Century US

HIS 373/WGS 363/Slavery and Black Womanhood

HIS 375/Race and Gender in the 19th Century American South

HIS 384/WGS 303/Women in the 20th Century US

HIS 385/WGS 302/Women in the US to 1900

HIS 397/WGS 340/Gay and Lesbian History

HIS 45X/Reading Seminar (When topic relates to WGS content)

HON 332/Gender and National Identity in Latin America

HON 337/WGS 310/Women in Eastern Europe: 1848–Present

HON 338/WGS 380/Gender and Democracy

HON 362/Goodwives and Witches: Women in Colonial America

IDS 100/Race, Class, and Gender

JPW 385/Literature of Literary Journalism

IDS 110/Race, Class, and Gender

LIT 211/WGS 211/British and American Women Writers

LIT 212/Cultural Representation of Gender
LIT 255/WGS 255/Shakespeare and Gender
LIT 313/WGS 341/Queer Literature
LIT 315/WGS 320/Men and Masculinities
LIT 316/WGS 376/Global Women Writers
LIT 317/WGS 317/The Witch in Literature
LIT 319/WGS 314/Women's Autobiographies, Diaries, and Letters
LIT 334/WGS 360/Literature by Latinas and Latin-American Women
LIT 335/WGS 335/Caribbean Women Writers
LIT 370/Studies: American Feminist Literature: The 1960s–1980s
LIT 370/Studies: Childbirth in Women's Literature
LIT 370/Studies: Language, Gender, and Culture
LIT 370/Studies: Study of Medieval and Renaissance Women Writers
LIT 370/Studies: Shakespeare and His Sisters
LIT 370/Studies: Black Women Writers
LIT 379/WGS 379/Asian American Literature
LIT 395/Topics in Women Writers
LIT 499/Seminar in Theory and Research: (When Topic is Gender Related)
MUS 355/WGS 307/Gender, Sexuality & Pop Music in the 1980s
PHL 280/WGS 280/Feminism and Philosophy
POL 215/Gender and Politics
PSY 336/WGS 366/Sexual and Gender Minority Mental Health
PSY 350/Psychology of Women
PSY 351/WGS 351/Gender Gap in Science Careers
PSY 353/Psychology of Gender
PSY 355/ Psychology of Power, Oppression and Privilege
PSY 356/Psychology of Personal Relationships
REL 373/WGS 373/Women & Spirituality: The Feminine Divine
SOC 303/WGS 378/Women in World Perspective
SOC 333/WGS 333/Body Image, Culture, and Society
SOC 334/WGS 329/Gender in US Society
SOC 335/Courtship, Marriage, and the Family
SOC 365/Poverty and Welfare in the US
WGS 166/Documenting US Women's History
WGS 167/Gender, US History, and Film
WGS 168/Gender, History, and US Immigration
WGS 175/Feminist Ethics in Nursing Care
WGS 209/Reproductive Justice: Transnational Perspectives
WGS 210/Women and Health: Power, Politics, and Change
WGS 220/Gender and Popular Culture
WGS 225/Gender in Children's Literature
WGS 230/Gendered Technoculture: Feminism, Gender, and Technology
WGS 235/Gender and Violence
WGS 236/Feminist Disability Studies
WGS 240/Introduction to Gay and Lesbian Studies
WGS 241/Introduction to Sexuality Studies
WGS 250/Politics of Sexuality
WGS 330/Gender and Public Policy

WGS 342/LGBTQ Issues in Education

WGS 343/Queer Studies

WGS 344/Transgender Studies

WGS 345/Medicine, Science, and Empire

WGS 350/Gender Equity in the Classroom

WGS 370/Topics in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

WGS 374/Ecofeminism

WGS 375/Transnational Feminisms

WGS 377/Gender Politics of Development

WGS 391/Independent Study in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

WGS 393/Independent Research on Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

WGS 397/Learning Assistantship in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

WGS 399/Internship in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

WGS 470/Topics on Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

WGS 497/Honors Independent Research

WGS 498/Senior Seminar

WGS 499/Women's Leadership and Social Change

WLC 271/WGS 271 Gender and Language