Nature of the Program

The Graduate Certificate in Women’s and Gender Studies is available to any student admitted to a graduate degree program at West Virginia University. The graduate certificate consists of fifteen hours of graduate-level work in women’s and gender studies, using courses approved as primary or component courses by the Women’s and Gender Studies Curriculum Committee. The certificate offers students interdisciplinary perspectives on gender and its intersection with race, class, ethnicity, and sexuality. The breadth of the curriculum provides dynamic courses in theory and methods that help students understand the complex social, cultural, economic, political, and historical dimensions of men’s and women’s lives.

In pursuing a Graduate Certificate in Women’s and Gender Studies, students make connections between their primary field of study and issues surrounding gender, race, class, culture, and sexuality. By applying multifaceted problem solving and critical thinking skills learned in women’s and gender studies courses to their primary field of study, students bring a broader base of experience and perspectives to their future careers.

Financial Aid is Available

Women’s & Gender Studies students are eligible to apply for graduate teaching assistantships (GTAs) in Women’s & Gender Studies. The Center for Women’s & Gender Studies has five GTA positions available each year. GTAs work with the lead instructor and teach two sections of the course or assist with other courses. Students can apply for GTA positions each winter, usually in early February. Salaries include tuition waivers for the academic year and subsequent summer. GTAs must be enrolled as full-time students (at least nine hours).

For further information about GTA positions, please contact the Center for Women’s & Gender Studies. Students may be eligible for GTA positions in the Academic Advising Center and should contact that center directly for more information.

FACULTY

CHAIR
• Sharon R. Bird - Ph.D. (Washington State University)

PROFESSORS
• Lupe Davidson - Ph.D. (Duquesne University)
• Jennifer Kasi Jackson - Ph.D. (University of Kentucky)
• Cris Mayo - Ph.D. (University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign)

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
• Cynthia Gorman - Ph.D. (Rutgers University)

TEACHING INSTRUCTOR
• Kristiina Riivald - M.A. Liberal Studies (West Virginia University), M.S. Ed. (City University of New York)

ADJUNCT ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
• Ellen Belchior Rodrigues - Ph.D. (West Virginia University)
• Charlotte Hoelke - Ph.D. (Carleton University)

LECTURERS
• Lynda Bowers - M.S. Ed. (Southern Illinois University Edwardsville)
• Matt Carter - M.A. & M.S.W. (West Virginia University)
• Megan Mcgee - Ph.D. (West Virginia University)
• Allyson Perry - M.A. (West Virginia University)

CERTIFICATE CODE - CG30

CORE COURSES *

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WGST 530</td>
<td>Feminist Theory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGST 696</td>
<td>Graduate Seminar</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ELECTIVES **

Select from the following:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WGST 448</td>
<td>Sexuality in American Culture</td>
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</table>
WGST 450  Sex and Science at the Movies
WGST 460  Men and Masculinities
WGST 484  Seminar:Capstone
WGST 595  Independent Study
WGST 696  Graduate Seminar
WGST 790  Teaching Practicum
WGST 795  Independent Study

Additional WGST courses at the 400 level or above
ACE 671  Women in Sport
ARHS 548  Women in Art
COMM 611  Intergroup Communication
COMM 622  Gender and Communication
C&I 689  Cultural Diversity in the Classroom
DISB 682  Disability and the Community
DISB 585  Disability and Society
DISB 580  Disability and the Family
ENGL 634  Studies in Drama
ENGL 648  American Literature, 1915-Present
ENGL 666  Restoration and Eighteenth-Century Literature
ENGL 671  Twentieth-Century British Literature
ENGL 682  Recent Literary Criticism
ENGL 741  Seminar in American Studies
GEOG 603  Qualitative Research in Geography
GEOG 612  Gender, Society and Space
GERO 512  Public Policy of Aging
GERO 628  Aging Women & Cultural Issues
GEOG 640  Geopolitical Perspectives
HIED 750  Diversity Issues in Higher Education
HIED 754  Women and Gender Issues in HIED
HN&F 610  Nutrition and Fitness
SPAN 630  Latin American Culture
SPAN 651  Medieval and Golden Age
SPAN 654  Spanish Literature 1898-1936
SPAN 656  Spanish Literature after 1975
SPAN 672  Spanish Women Writers
SPAN 674  Afrohispanic Literature

Total Hours 15

* Students may repeat WGST 696. Additional attempts may count toward the electives.
** Students may petition to have other courses count toward electives. Email the Graduate Certificate Advisor (listed on the Faculty tab) for information. Nine credit hours must be unique to the Certificate. Normally, the following restrictions also apply: no more than one 400 level course; no more than 3 credits of any combination of independent study, internship, research credits, or teaching practica. Thus, electives may use a maximum of 3 hours total and a maximum of one attempt each of 590/690/790; 495/595/695/795; 697/797; or internship courses.

Degree Progress
Students should meet at least once a semester with their Women’s and Gender Studies advisor to update their progress toward competition of the certificate.

Certificate Learning Outcomes
WOMEN’S AND GENDER STUDIES
In completing a graduate certificate in Women’s and Gender Studies, students will be able to:
• Use the lens of feminist and gender theory to analyze manifestations of human endeavor
• Integrate key terms and concepts related to women’s and gender studies in an interdisciplinary approach to their primary discipline
• Engage in discourse addressing how gender, class, race, ethnicity, age, sexualities and sexual identities shape experience and reflect societal constructs
• Analyze, dissect, and criticize arguments to demonstrate an understanding of the scholarship and theoretical underpinning of the field of women’s and gender studies

COURSES

WGST 530. Feminist Theory. 3 Hours.
Explores feminist theory through works of diverse scholars, focusing on questions of essentialism, difference, sexuality, bodies, language, power, economic and ecological justice; intersections of race, class, and gender, as well as global social justice struggles.

WGST 592. Directed Study. 1-6 Hours.
Directed study, reading, and/or research.

WGST 593. Special Topics. 1-6 Hours.
PR: Consent. A study of contemporary topics selected from recent developments in the field.

WGST 595. Independent Study. 1-9 Hours.
Faculty supervised study of topics not available through regular course offerings.

WGST 693. Special Topics. 1-6 Hours.
A study of contemporary topics selected from recent developments in the field.

WGST 694. Seminar. 1-6 Hours.
Seminars arranged for advanced graduate students.

WGST 790. Teaching Practicum. 1-3 Hours.
PR: Consent. Supervised practice in college teaching of women's studies. Note: This course is intended to insure that graduate assistants are adequately prepared and supervised when they are given college teaching responsibility. It will also present a mechanism for students not on assistantships to gain teaching experience. (Grading will be S/U.).

WGST 791. Advanced Topics. 1-6 Hours.
PR: Consent. Investigation of advanced topics not covered in regularly scheduled courses.

WGST 792. Directed Study. 1-6 Hours.
Directed study, reading, and/or research.

WGST 793. Special Topics. 1-6 Hours.
A study of contemporary topics selected from recent developments in the field.

WGST 795. Independent Study. 1-9 Hours.
Faculty supervised study of topics not available through regular course offerings.

WGST 796. Graduate Seminar. 1-3 Hours.
PR: Consent. Each graduate student will present at least one seminar to the assembled faculty and graduate student body of his or her program.

WGST 797. Research. 1-9 Hours.
PR: Consent. Research activities leading to thesis, problem report, research paper or equivalent scholarly project, or a dissertation. (Grading may be S/U.).