

## Women's and Gender Studies Overview

The Women's and Gender Studies course and related coursework emphasizes collaborative learning across academic disciplines with a focus on women and gender relationships. Several courses in the Liberal Arts and Sciences include an emphasis on gender analysis that links the content. Students are encouraged to contact the Pathway Advisor for information on four-year colleges and universities that offer a major or minor in Women's and Gender Studies. Students enroll in Women's and Gender Studies and related courses to fulfill Minnesota Transfer Curriculum requirements as well as graduation requirements.

Course			Cr
WGST	1785	Foundations in Women's Studies	3
WGST	1790	Special Topics in Women's and Gender Studies	1-6
Related courses across the disciplines:			
ANTH	1730	Gender and Culture in Global Perspective	3
BIOL	1785	Biology of Women	3
ENGL	2776	Women Writers	3
HIST	1770	History of Women in the United States	3
PHIL	1770	Feminist Philosophy	3
SOCI	1730	Sociology of Families and Relationships	3
COMM	1780	Gender Communication	3

### Department Faculty

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#### WGST 1785 Foundations in Women's Studies

This course serves as an introduction to the field of women's and gender studies. Using an interdisciplinary approach, the course examines the conditions and circumstances affecting the lives of (primarily) women in the United States. The course explores the roles that women play in society, with careful attention to the ideas and factors that shape those roles. Students will examine how ideas about gender (as well as race, ethnicity, social class, sexual orientation, physical ability and age) are informed by institutions, cultural beliefs, and social practices. Throughout the course, emphasis is placed on the diversity of women's experience in contemporary United States and connections to women worldwide. (Prerequisite(s): READ 0721 with a grade of "C" or better or appropriate assessment score) (MnTC: Goals 5 & 9) 3C/3/0/0

#### WGST 1790 Special Topics in Women's and Gender Studies

This course is designed to present additional or unique material and learning experiences within a specified discipline. The course will be based on student need, flexibility, and may be designed to meet various transfer and pre-major course requirements. Please see a current Course Schedule for complete course details. (MnTC: Goals 5 & 9) Variable credits 1-6

#### ANTH 1730 Gender and Culture in Global Perspective

This course examines how sex, gender, and sexuality are culturally constructed through social structures, and how these influence the biological distinctions of male, female, and intersex individuals. Through a comparative approach, we will survey gender roles, values, and relative rank in various socioeconomic levels, including hunter-gatherer, horticultural, pastoral, agricultural, and industrial. Other material to explore will include the intersection between gender, race, class, and sexuality; the origins and consequences of patriarchy; the impact of the global economy on gender identities and self-perceptions; gender, politics, and social change; and the status of women and men in different kinship systems and families, and the power that accrues to them. (Prerequisite(s): READ 0721 with a grade of "C" or better or appropriate assessment score) (MnTC: Goals 5 & 8) 3C/3/0/0

#### BIOL 1785 Biology of Men and Women

This course is designed to allow students to explore significant facets of woman from many different angles across her life span from conception, through puberty, pregnancy, birthing and aging including specific health concerns ranging from osteoporosis, breast cancer, heart disease mental disorders and other chronic illnesses. Topics that will be covered include reproductive anatomy and physiology of sexes, sexual development and response, genetics, pregnancy, childbirth, reproductive issues & advances in assisted reproductive technologies which include contraceptive methods, infertility, impotency and sexually-transmitted diseases. Open to both male and female students, meant for non-science majors. (Prerequisite(s): READ 0721 with a grade of "C" or better or appropriate assessment score) (MnTC: Goals 3 & 9) 3C/3/0/0

#### ENGL 2776 Women Writers

This college literature course, intended for all students, will explore literature written in English by women. We will analyze course readings with a special focus on the distinct concerns, perspectives, and challenges of women writers. In addition, we will examine the social and cultural contexts in which these works were written, developing our understanding that literature can reflect, critique, and even shape its cultural moment. (Prerequisite(s): ENGL 1711 Composition 1 with a grade of "C" or better) (MnTC: Goals 6 & 7) 3C/3/0/0

#### HIST 1770 History of Women in the United States

This course explores the history of women in the United States from the colonial period to the present. Within this chronological framework, the course examines how women understood their lives as individuals and as members of families and communities. The course also explores strategies through which women of diverse races, classes, and ethnicities struggled to control their own lives and identities. Special focus is given to how ideologies of gender, race, class and sexuality framed American society and culture. (Prerequisite(s): READ 0721 with a grade of "C" or better or concurrent enrollment or appropriate assessment score.) (MnTC: Goals 5 & 9) 3C/3/0/0

#### SOCI 1730 Sociology of Families and Relationships

This course introduces students to the central ideas, challenges, theoretical perspectives and the diversity of human relationships, marriages and families. Global perspectives regarding families and the diversity of intimate relationships in contemporary societies will be discussed. Topics in this course could include the origins of marriage and diverse patterns of love, conflict, sexuality, parenting, single-hood, interpersonal violence, divorce, extended families and gender roles. Reading and examples will be drawn from societies around the world. Common myths and challenges related to stereotypes of the "typical" family and "functional" relationships will be explored. Critical thinking skills will be developed through class discussions, debates and course assignments. (Prerequisite(s): READ 0721 with a grade of "C" or better or appropriate assessment score.) (MnTC: Goals 5 & 7) 3C/3/0/0

#### COMM 1780 Gender Communication

This course explores the many interconnected aspects of gender communication, enabling students to experience how gender, within communication and culture, creates, maintains, and changes interpersonal relationships. Communication contexts covered in the course will include family, friendships, education, the media, the workplace, and other markers of identity. (MnTC: Goals 1 & 7) 3C/3/0/0

Information is subject to change.  
This course information is not a contract.