

# Gender Studies (BA, Minor) Course Descriptions

**Note:** This program includes course requirements from more than one discipline. For complete course descriptions for this major, refer to each discipline within this *Catalog*.

## ***WGS 2000 Principles of Gender Studies (3 units)***

A general introduction to the study of women and gender across disciplines. Core debates and theories concerning women, men, gender roles, and sexuality are explored and engaged with and between such diverse disciplines that include but are not limited to history, psychology, literature/English, feminist studies, and film studies.

## ***WGS 2222/3222 Gender Relations (3 units)***

Interdisciplinary and global approach to the development of biology and behavior of ancient humans, also incorporating evolutionary theory, socio-cultural anthropology, and psychology. Examines the fundamentals of the changes made from early hominid to Homo sapiens and life patterns specific to those changes and the gender concepts which developed. From these, the cultures of the ancient worlds developed various institutions and perspectives on gender, power, rights, and equality.

## ***WGS 3800 Toxic Bodies (3 units)***

According to recent studies, our bodies have become repositories for numerous toxic compounds such as DDT, PCBs, and phthalates. Our study begins by setting a historical context to understand where we are, emphasizing the role of science, of commerce and of regulatory agencies. We examine the effect our lifestyle choices have on our bodies and on our environment and look critically at how gender, race and class foreground questions of environmental justice.

## ***WGS 3801 The Masculinity Matrix (3 units)***

Who are these guys? This course aims to answer that question through an interdisciplinary study of the male gender and American masculinities: the sciences, the theories, and the (sub)cultures – with all their cultural products: film, music, literature, sports, and the like – that construct contemporary masculinities in United States. From hetero to WeHo, metro to retro students observe and analyze the intersections between masculine identity and race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, age, gender performance and other social/cultural issues. No hugging or talking about feelings.

## ***WGS 3910 Junior Seminar (1-3 units)***

Interdisciplinary course with readings and discussions in feminist thought and gender theory. Students will place this theory in the context of its multinational and multicultural development. The global intersectionality of theories of oppression will be explored. Course may be taken for 1-3 units.

## ***WGS 4000 Principles of Gender Studies (3 units)***

A general introduction to the study of women and gender across disciplines. Core debates and theories concerning women, men, gender roles, and sexuality are explored and engaged with and between such diverse disciplines that include but are not limited to history, psychology, literature/English, feminist studies, and film studies.

## ***WGS 4910 Senior Project (3 units)***

This requires specific work on a project in WGS.

## ***WGS 4920 Senior Project Workshop (1 units)***

Practical guide; with Humanities Department. Students meet with other Humanities students. The workshop orients students to thesis or project options.

## ***WGS 4994 Teaching Assistant (1-3 units)***

The privilege of serving as a teaching assistant is available to students who are interested with the approval of the Department Chair, the instructor concerned, and the Dean of the School. A contract between the student and the instructor to determine goals, specifics on project contents/materials, and evaluation process will be required at time of request. Course may be taken for 1-3 units.

## ***WGS 4996 Internship: Gender Studies (1-3 units)***

Students gain practical, hands-on training in their particular area of career or volunteer interest by working with an organization of their choosing, in consultation with their academic advisor and the Career and Internship office. After meeting with the academic advisor, students meet with the Career and Internship office to fill out the necessary paperwork and, then, after securing all necessary signatures, submit an add/drop form along with the internship paperwork to the Registrar. This course cannot be accessed via the self-service registration cart. 1-3 units.

***WGS 4999 Independent Study (1-3 units)***

The privilege of independent study is possible for students who are prepared to undertake it based on student need or interest with approval of the Chair of the department, the instructor concerned, and the Dean of the School. The study must be in an area not covered by a regularly scheduled course. Course may be taken for 1-3 units. The maximum number of units that can be earned in one semester by independent study is 3; a total of up to six units of independent study may be applied to the degree.