

Women's and Gender Studies Program

**Women's and Gender
Studies Program**
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Alison Bailey, Director
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www.WGS.IllinoisState.edu



A strong and viable Women's and Gender Studies Program is essential to Illinois State University's mission to provide a high-quality liberal arts education. The graduate certificate program enhances any major by integrating with the student's field(s) of study a working analysis of gender as it intersects with class, sexuality, race, ethnicity, ability, age, nationality, and transnationality.

The Women's and Gender Studies Program is a multidisciplinary community of scholars engaged in innovative and collaborative scholarship, teaching, and service that promote new knowledge and socially responsible activism.

The graduate certificate in women's and gender studies is an option for students whose interest in women's and gender issues leads them toward particular courses and thesis topics in their department/school, and to seek further work in interdisciplinary feminist theory and methods.

This graduate certificate requires a 12-hour course of study. Students must complete WGS 400, either WGS 490 or ENG 460, and six hours selected from among the electives listed. With the approval of the academic advisor, the director, and the Graduate School, additional courses may be approved for the certificate. To qualify, other courses should devote at least 50 percent of content to women's and gender issues.

Affiliated Faculty

Anthropology

Gina Hunter
Liv Stone

Art

Elisabeth Friedman
Melissa Johnson
Jin Lee
Melissa Oresky
Vanessa Schulman

Arts Technology

Shari Zeck

Biological Sciences

Christopher Horvath

Communication

K. Megan Hopper

Criminal Justice Sciences

Dawn Beichner
Sesha Kethineni
Jessie Krienert
Cara Rabe-Hemp

Economics

Sherrilyn Billger

Educational Administration and Foundations

Diane Dean
Venus Evans-Winters

English

Lee Brasseur
Chris Breu
Kass Fleisher
Angela Haas
Kirstin Hotelling-Zona
Cynthia Huff
Julie Jung
Krishna Kumari-Manavalli
Rhonda Nicol
Paula Ressler
Rebecca Saunders
Roberta Seelinger-Trites
Torri Thompson

Geography/Geology

Reecia Orzeck

History

Kyle Ciani
Linda Clemmons
Louis G. Perez
Sudipa Topdar

History (continued)

Georgia Tsouvala
Christine Varga-Harris
Amy Wood

Languages, Literatures, and Cultures

Jennifer Howell
Juliet Lynd
James Pancrazio
Mary Trouille

Milner Library

Vanette Schwartz

Music

A. Oforiwa Aduonum

Philosophy

Alison Bailey
Christopher Horvath

Politics and Government

Osaore Aideyan
Ali Riaz
Jakeet Singh
Julie Webber

Psychology

Eros DeSouza
Matthew Hesson-McInnis
Karen Pfost
John B. Pryor
Marla Reese-Weber
Rocio Rivadeneyra
Kim Schneider

Social Work

Cynthia Edmonds-Cady

Sociology

Tom Gerschick
Maria Schmeekle
Susan Sprecher
Richard Sullivan
Maura Toro-Morn
Chris Wellin

Theatre

Ann Haugo
John R. Poole
Janet Wilson

Women's and Gender Studies

Alison Bailey
Dawn Rae Davis

Admission requirements

Students who seek the WGS certificate in conjunction with their graduate degree program must meet admission requirements for that degree, and also be admitted for the certificate. Nondegree seeking graduate students must meet the University graduate admission requirements and be admitted for the certificate. They should contact the Women's and Gender Studies Program academic advisor. Degree seeking graduate students should consult with their graduate program coordinator/advisor, as well as the Women's and Gender Studies Program academic advisor. Admission for all certificate students is made upon the approval of the Women's and Gender Studies Program director.

How to apply:

Your plan of study must be arranged with either the WGS program director or the advisor. With approval of the director, courses other than those listed for the graduate certificate may be counted toward the certificate. To make an advising appointment, contact the WGS advisor at WGSAdvisor@IllinoisState.edu, or call the program office at (309) 438-2947. Application procedures and paperwork are online at IllinoisState.edu/Academics/Graduate.

Course Guide – WGS Graduate Certificate

The graduate certificate in women's and gender studies requires 12 hours of coursework. Required courses include WGS 400, WGS 490 or ENG 460.

Six hours of additional coursework must be chosen from among: ANT 376; CJS 307, 339, 342; ENG 360, 460; HIS 330, 350; POL 337, 338; PSY 305; SOC 311, 341, 342, 366, 469.03; and WGS 391, 392, 498.

With the approval of the academic advisor, the director and the Graduate School, additional courses may be approved for the certificate. To qualify, other courses should devote at least 50 percent of content to women's and gender issues.

Required Courses

WGS 400: Independent Study

Research paper or supervised readings on a topic relevant to women's and gender studies. Proposal signed by a faculty advisor and the director or assistant director of Women's and Gender Studies required prior to registration. For more information, see "General Courses" in the graduate catalog. *May be repeated for credit if topic is different.*

WGS 490: Feminist Theories and Methodological Issues

An interdisciplinary study of methods, theories, analyses, and critiques by feminist scholars to study feminist issues within and across a range of traditional disciplines.

or

ENG 460: Feminist Literary Theories

Advanced overview of interdisciplinary feminist paradigms emphasizing English studies and literature, theory, and social discourse.

Electives

ANT 376: Archaeology of Gender

Exploration of various archaeological approaches to the interpretation of gender in past societies. *Prerequisites: See ISU catalog.*

CJS 307: Family Violence: Cross-Cultural Perspectives

Analysis of family violence in the U.S. and other countries. Emphasis on police and judiciary response, solutions, and treatments. *Prerequisites: See ISU catalog.*

CJS 339: Women in Criminal Justice

Historical and theoretical perspectives and contemporary trends concerning women and crime, and processing of women by the criminal justice system. *Prerequisites: See ISU catalog.*

CJS 342: Victimology

An examination of the victim's role in the criminal event, the process of victimization, patterns, trends, theories and victim offender relationships. *Prerequisites: See ISU catalog.*

ENG 360: Studies in Women and Literature

Studies in and theories of women's writing. *Prerequisites: See ISU catalog.*

ENG 460: Feminist Literary Theories

Advanced overview of interdisciplinary feminist paradigms, emphasizing English studies and literature, theory, and social discourse. *An option only if not chosen to complete requirement certificate.*

HIS 330: The Family in History

History of the family in Europe and America, viewing the changes from idealist, economic determinist, family systems, and psychoanalytic perspectives. *Prerequisites: See ISU catalog.*

HIS 350: Goddesses, Whores, Wives, and Slaves: Women and Sexuality in Ancient Greece and Rome

An exploration of sources, methodologies, and debates concerning women, gender and sexuality in ancient Greece and Rome. *Prerequisites: See ISU catalog.*

POL 337: Lesbian and Gay Politics

Explores LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender) political movements in historical context and with reference to claims for citizenship. *Prerequisites: See ISU catalog.*

POL 338: Gender and Political Theory

Examination of how gender shapes and is shaped by public policy formulation and implementation in different political and state contexts. *Prerequisites: See ISU catalog.*

PSY 305: Psychology of Women

Psychological research to place in scientific perspective the etiology and behavioral consequences of female and male oriented attitudes. *Prerequisites: See ISU catalog.*

SOC 311: Issues in Gerontology*

Advanced treatment of selected subjects in gerontology. *Prerequisites: See ISU catalog.*

SOC 341: Sociology of Gender

Explores the concepts, theories, and methods sociologists utilize to explain differences in the social relations between and among women and men. Individual, interactional, institutional, and social change processes are examined. *Prerequisites: See ISU catalog.*

SOC 342: Sociology of the Body

Explores the concepts, theories, and methods sociologists utilize to study the body in social life. Special emphasis on non-normative bodies. *Prerequisites: See ISU catalog.*

SOC 366: Contemporary Social Movements

Theories, methods, and research on social movements in the U.S. and on transnational social movements, including women's movements. *Prerequisites: See ISU catalog.*

SOC 469.03: Seminar in Sociology: Minorities/Stratifications*

Advanced graduate study in sociological topics. *Prerequisites: See ISU catalog.*

WGS 391: Women's and Gender Studies Seminar

A critical examination of selected topics in women's and gender studies. May be repeated if topic is different.

WGS 392: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender/Queer Studies and Theory

Research in the interdisciplinary field of LGBT/Queer Studies, emphasizing how queer theory informs a variety of academic disciplines and discourses. *Prerequisites: WGS 120 or permission of instructor.*

WGS 498: Professional Practice

Supervised work experience in local, state, national, or international businesses, agencies, institutions, or organizations—including teaching internships—focusing on women's and gender issues. *Prerequisites: WGS 490 and consent of director of Women's and Gender Studies.*

** Course counts for credit toward certificate only when taught by WGS faculty.*

Resource Center and Library

The Women's and Gender Studies Program is committed to helping our students succeed. Our resource center and library house an extensive collection of books, periodicals and media resources. The center has internet access and offers students a comfortable place to study and work on group projects.