WOMEN’S STUDIES, B.A.

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus
End Campus: University Park

Degree Requirements
For the Bachelor of Arts degree in Women’s Studies, a minimum of 123 credits is required:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Education</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Arts Degree Requirements</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requirements for the Major</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3 of the 24 credits for Bachelor of Arts Degree Requirements are included in the Requirements for the Major, General Education, or Electives and 0-12 credits are included in Electives if foreign language proficiency is demonstrated by examination.

Per Senate Policy 83-80.5, the college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of course work in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned. For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.

Requirements for the Major
A grade of C or better is required for all courses in the major. To graduate, a student enrolled in the major must earn at least a C grade in each course designated by the major as a C-required course, as specified by their academic adviser, including:

- 3 credits of arts and humanities courses
- 6 credits of natural or social sciences courses
- 3 credits that focus on non-Western women
- 3 credits that focus on women of color in the United States

General Education
Connecting career and curiosity, the General Education curriculum provides the opportunity for students to acquire transferable skills necessary to be successful in the future and to thrive while living in interconnected contexts. General Education aids students in developing intellectual curiosity, a strengthened ability to think, and a deeper sense of aesthetic appreciation. These are requirements for all baccalaureate students and are often partially incorporated into the requirements of a program. For additional information, see the General Education Requirements (https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/baccalaureate-degree-general-education-program/) section of the Bulletin and consult your academic adviser.

The keystone symbol appears next to the title of any course that is designated as a General Education course. Program requirements may also satisfy General Education requirements and vary for each program.

Foundations (grade of C or better is required and Inter-Domain courses do not meet this requirement.)
- Quantification (GQ): 6 credits
- Writing and Speaking (GWS): 9 credits

Breadth in the Knowledge Domains (Inter-Domain courses do not meet this requirement.)
- Arts (GA): 3 credits
- Health and Wellness (GHW): 3 credits
- Humanities (GH): 3 credits
- Social and Behavioral Sciences (GS): 3 credits
- Natural Sciences (GN): 3 credits

Integrative Studies
- Inter-Domain Courses (Inter-Domain): 6 credits

Exploration
- GN, may be completed with Inter-Domain courses: 3 credits
- GA, GH, GN, GS, Inter-Domain courses. This may include 3 credits of World Language course work beyond the 12th credit level or the requirements for the student’s degree program, whichever is higher: 6 credits

University Degree Requirements
First Year Engagement
All students enrolled in a college or the Division of Undergraduate Studies at University Park, and the World Campus are required to take 1 to 3 credits of the First-Year Seminar, as specified by their college First-Year Engagement Plan.

Other Penn State colleges and campuses may require the First-Year Seminar; colleges and campuses that do not require a First-Year Seminar provide students with a first-year engagement experience.

First-year baccalaureate students entering Penn State should consult their academic adviser for these requirements.

Select 15 credits (at least 3 credits at the 400 level) in Women’s Studies from the program-approved list and in consultation with an adviser, including:

- 3 credits of arts and humanities courses
- 6 credits of natural or social sciences courses
- 3 credits that focus on non-Western women
- 3 credits that focus on women of color in the United States

Prescribed Courses
Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better
- WMNST 301 3 credits
- WMNST 400N 3 credits
- WMNST 492W 3 credits

Additional Courses
Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better
- Select one of the following: 3 credits
  - WMNST 83N First-Year Seminar in Women's Studies
  - WMNST 100 Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies
  - WMNST 106N Representing Women and Gender in Literature, Art and Popular Cultures
- Select one of the following: 3 credits
  - WMNST 494 Research Project
  - WMNST 495 Internship
  - WMNST 496 Independent Studies

Supporting Courses and Related Areas
Supporting Courses and Related Areas: Require a grade of C or better
- Select 6 credits from the program-approved list at the 100-200 level

Code | Title | Credits
--- | --- | ---
WMNST 301 | First-Year Seminar in Women's Studies | 3
WMNST 400N | Debates in Contemporary Feminism | 3
WMNST 492W | Contemporary Feminist Analysis: The Capstone Senior Seminar | 3
WMNST 83N | First-Year Seminar in Women's Studies | 3
WMNST 100 | Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies | 3
WMNST 106N | Representing Women and Gender in Literature, Art and Popular Cultures | 3
WMNST 494 | Research Project | 3
WMNST 495 | Internship | 3
WMNST 496 | Independent Studies | 3

Credits
- 15
- 15
- 15
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Cultures Requirement
6 credits are required and may satisfy other requirements
- United States Cultures: 3 credits
- International Cultures: 3 credits

Writing Across the Curriculum
3 credits required from the college of graduation and likely prescribed as part of major requirements.

Total Minimum Credits
A minimum of 120 degree credits must be earned for a baccalaureate degree. The requirements for some programs may exceed 120 credits. Students should consult with their college or department adviser for information on specific credit requirements.

Quality of Work
Candidates must complete the degree requirements for their major and earn at least a 2.00 grade-point average for all courses completed within their degree program.

Limitations on Source and Time for Credit Acquisition
The college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of course work in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned. Credit used toward degree programs may need to be earned from a particular source or within time constraints (see Senate Policy 83-80 ([https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#83-80])). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.

B.A. Degree Requirements
Foreign Language (0-12 credits): Student must attain 12th credit level of proficiency in one foreign language. See the Placement Policy for Penn State Foreign Language Courses ([https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/academic-information/advising-planning-degree-program/course-placements/placement-policy-world-language-courses/]).

B.A. Fields (9 credits): Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences, Arts, Foreign Languages, Natural Sciences, Quantification (may not be taken in the area of the student’s primary major; foreign language credits in this category must be in a second foreign language or beyond the 12th credit level of proficiency in the first language)

Other Cultures (0-3 credits): Select 3 credits from approved list. Students may count courses in this category in order to meet other major, minor, elective, or General Education requirements, except for the General Education US/IL requirement.