

WOMEN'S STUDIES, MINOR

Requirements for a minor may be completed at any campus location offering the specified courses for the minor. Students may not change from a campus that offers their major to a campus that does not offer their major for the purpose of completing a minor.

Program Description

This interdisciplinary minor is designed to develop a broad understanding of the study of women and women's perspectives in all areas of academic scholarship. The primary focus is on feminist analyses of women's lives, women's social, cultural, and scientific contributions, and the structure of sex/gender systems. The interdisciplinary and inclusive nature of the field is reflected in a curriculum that includes courses cross-listed with a wide variety of departments, courses that deal with aspects of women's lives throughout history, and courses that recognize the diversities of culture, race, religion, ethnicity, age, disability, and sexual orientation. The Women's Studies minor emphasizes the development of critical and analytical skills, creative approaches to problem solving, and the ability to articulate productive alternatives.

Women's Studies minors have a definite career advantage, and can be successful in a wide variety of career paths. Some of these include:

- legal advocacy
- counseling
- journalism
- public relations
- management
- nonprofit administration
- teaching
- medicine
- politics
- art

In addition, many alumnae/i are currently studying in professional, law, or graduate schools.

What is Women's Studies?

Women's Studies explores the intersection of identity, social power, and privilege. Concerned with how societies "construct" inequality and social bias, Women's Studies analyzes every aspect of our lives through a critical lens, without filtering out impacts of socio-political inequalities, and lived experiences of women and their families. With cross-listed courses in Anthropology, Communications, Government, History, Psychology, Sociology, Women's Health and more fields, students can approach Women's Studies from almost any direction. Alongside the U.S. history of women and feminist movement, "transnational" feminism offers a wider comparative study of: constructions of gender across cultures; the legal and political standing of women and marginalized populations; the nature and impacts of gender-based violence, mass migration, militarization, climate change, food insecurity and other contemporary challenges on the physical, social and political wellbeing of women around the globe.

You Might Like This Program If...

- You want to translate your curiosities, experiences, passions and interests into actionable and meaningful work.

- You seek out inclusive environments, with persons of different backgrounds, cultures, and races to understand their points of view.
- You are passionate about gender equity, human rights, and social justice.
- You want to explore how gender and sexuality play a role in culture, the arts, literature, health, politics, the sciences, law, and education.
- You see yourself as a change agent in this world!