WOMEN'S STUDIES (WMNST)

WMNST 1: Introduction to Women's Studies
3 Credits
Interdisciplinary consideration of the scholarly theories and research pertaining to women's experiences and women's status in contemporary American society.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences
International Cultures (IL)
United States Cultures (US)
First-Year Seminar
General Education: Social and Behavioral Scien (GS)

WMNST 8: Gender Matters
3 Credits
Feminism is one approach to addressing systematic oppressions of both women and men. This course examines various feminist philosophical approaches to issues such as the construction of gender, sex, and sexuality, the nature of gender injustice, and the intersectionality of oppressions. It also addresses contemporary issues, including sexual harassment and assault, abortion, explicit and implicit bias, and discrimination and exclusion.

Cross-listed with: PHIL 8
Bachelor of Arts: Humanities
General Education: Humanities (GH)
GenEd Learning Objective: Crit and Analytical Think
GenEd Learning Objective: Soc Resp and Ethic Reason

WMNST 83N: First-Year Seminar in Women's Studies
3 Credits
WMNST 83N First-Year Seminar in Women's Studies (3) This course introduces first-year students to the complex and interdisciplinary field of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. Students develop an understanding of a feminist approach to understanding stratifications of power and privilege in society not only impact but co-constitute constructions of gender and sexual identity that are sometimes at odds with an individual's lived experience. Students learn that social variables such as gender, age, social class, religion, ethnicity, race, sexual orientation and place of residence affect the way people view the world, behave and communicate. Students will develop the ability to locate, organize, and evaluate information about these identity intersections from a variety of sources, and use them to synthesize and analyze their own lived experience as a gendered being. Through the reading of texts, discussions, debates, and individual and collaborative projects, students are introduced to: feminist analysis of current topics and issues in women's gender studies; to using women's gender studies as a discipline and form of critical engagement; to the concepts of interdisciplinary vs. multidisciplinary research and scholarship; to intersectional analysis of identity, power, and oppression; to scholarly conduct and responsibilities. Students will be expected to develop an understanding of current issues and debates within and beyond the field of women's and gender studies as they relate to contemporary fiction and nonfiction writing as well as feminist thought through social media. Students will recognize that social variables such as gender, age, social class, religion, ethnicity, race, sexual orientation, and place of residence affect the way people view the world, behave, and communicate. Students will develop the ability to locate, organize, and evaluate information about these identity intersections from a variety of sources and use them to synthesize and analyze their own ideas as well as come to an understanding regarding the stratification of power and privilege in society.

Bachelor of Arts: Humanities
Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences
United States Cultures (US)
First-Year Seminar
General Education: Humanities (GH)
General Education: Social and Behavioral Scien (GS)
General Education - Integrative: Interdomain
GenEd Learning Objective: Effective Communication
GenEd Learning Objective: Crit and Analytical Think
GenEd Learning Objective: Key Literacies
GenEd Learning Objective: Soc Resp and Ethic Reason

WMNST 100: Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies
3 Credits
This introductory survey course fulfills requirements for General Education in Social Sciences, the Bachelor of Arts degree in Social and Behavioral Sciences, and US and International Cultures competence. It is also a prerequisite for upper-level courses in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. This class focuses on women's shared and unshared experiences, issues of gender roles and stereotyping, questions related to sex/gender systems, and the different disciplinary approaches to the study of women and gender. The course asks how women's behavior, activities, accomplishments, roles, sexuality and status have been shaped by biological, psychological, sociological, cultural, historical and political determinants, as well as by women's experiences based on their racial, class and sexual identities. Topics include the history of women's liberation movements, women's experiences in home, work and educational settings, gender roles and stereotyping as influenced by media, culture, education, and other social institutions, health and body image issues, and multiple forms of oppression. The course will focus equally on feminist issues in both the US and on a global scale and is both interdisciplinary (drawing information and readings from history, psychology, political science, and sociology) and broadly inclusive (addressing at all times the relationship between gender, race, class, ethnicity and sexual orientation).

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences
International Cultures (IL)
United States Cultures (US)
General Education: Social and Behavioral Scien (GS)
GenEd Learning Objective: Effective Communication
GenEd Learning Objective: Crit and Analytical Think
GenEd Learning Objective: Integrative Thinking
GenEd Learning Objective: Soc Resp and Ethic Reason

WMNST 100U: Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies
3 Credits
This introductory survey course fulfills requirements for General Education in Social Sciences, the Bachelor of Arts degree in Social and
Behavioral Sciences, and US and International Cultures competence. It is also a prerequisite for upper-level courses in Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. This class focuses on women’s shared and unshared experiences, issues of gender roles and stereotyping, questions related to sex/gender systems, and the different disciplinary approaches to the study of women and gender. The course asks how women’s behavior, activities, accomplishments, roles, sexuality and status have been shaped by biological, psychological, sociological, cultural, historical and political determinants, as well as by women’s experiences based on their racial, class and sexual identities. Topics include the history of women’s liberation movements, women’s experiences in home, work and educational settings, gender roles and stereotyping as influenced by media, culture, education, and other social institutions, health and body image issues, and multiple forms of oppression. The course will focus equally on feminist issues in both the US and on a global scale and is both interdisciplinary (drawing information and readings from history, psychology, political science, and sociology) and broadly inclusive (addressing at all times the relationship between gender, race, class, ethnicity and sexual orientation).

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences
United States Cultures (US)
General Education: Social and Behavioral Scien (GS)
Honors
GenEd Learning Objective: Effective Communication
GenEd Learning Objective: Crit and Analytical Think
GenEd Learning Objective: Integrative Thinking
GenEd Learning Objective: Soc Resp and Ethic Reason

WMNST 101: The African American Woman
3 Credits
The sociological, historical, and political experiences of African American women, their roles and contributions to society.

Bachelor of Arts: Humanities
United States Cultures (US)
General Education: Humanities (GH)

WMNST 101H: The African American Woman
3 Credits
The sociological, historical and political experiences of African American women, their roles and contributions to society.

Cross-Listed
General Education: Humanities (GH)
Honors

WMNST 102: Women of Color: Cross-Cultural Perspective
3 Credits
Global examination of value systems of women of color; attention to minority ethnic groups in the United States and developing countries.

Cross-listed with: AFAM 102
International Cultures (IL)
General Education: Humanities (GH)

WMNST 103: Racism and Sexism
3 Credits
Critical analysis of the structure of race and gender in the contemporary United States.

Cross-listed with: AFAM 103, SOC 103
Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences
United States Cultures (US)

WMNST 104: Women and the American Experience
3 Credits
Selected aspects of the role of women in United States history and culture from colonial to modern times. AMST 104 / WMNST 104 Women and the American Experience (3) (GH; US)(BA) This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. AMST 104 / WMNST 104 is a broad-ranging introduction to women in American culture. While specific topics may vary from class to class, the course examines the history and literature of American women, paying particular attention to issues of race and diversity. Students will be evaluated on essay tests, papers, journal entries, and attendance. The course offers students valuable experience in critical thinking, analysis, and writing. The course offers students a broad introduction to American women’s issues, and so serves as preparation for more advanced courses in American studies, American literature, American women’s history, and Women’s studies. AMST 104 / WMNST 104 counts towards the American Studies major and minor and the Women’s Studies major and minor. Non-American Studies majors and minors may use this course to fulfill a general education humanities (GH) or Bachelor of Arts humanities credit requirements.

Cross-listed with: AMST 104
Bachelor of Arts: Humanities
United States Cultures (US)
General Education: Humanities (GH)

WMNST 105N: Living in a Diverse World
3 Credits
This introductory survey course fulfills General Education Integrative Studies requirements in humanities and social sciences, and also meets the requirements for the United States Cultures Designation and Bachelor of Arts in Humanities and Social and Behavioral Sciences. This course uses literature, film and scholarly texts to inspire students to explore how conceptions of social difference, such as those linked to categories of gender, race, sexuality, class, ethnicity, and disability, shape society and everyday interactions historically and today. The course takes an intersectional perspective to explore how and why these categories vary over time and space, the effects of such variations for individuals and communities, and the connections between identity and the exercise of power. Geographically, the course emphasizes the relationship between social difference and power in the U.S. history and society, but takes a transnational perspective when possible by making comparisons to contexts beyond the United States. Furthermore, the class examines how individuals and communities most directly marginalized by these processes contest and re-imagine dominant categories and assumptions. Materials and discussions in the class trace broad social and historical trends as well as dive into the facets of everyday life. The class is designed to encourage reflection on the ethical challenges that arise when we become aware of how privilege, power and difference are
intertwined in our world and daily lives. Students who successfully navigate this course will be able to: 1. Apply basic theories of identity, difference, social power and privilege to a wide range of textual and visual materials, and to their own interactions in the context of day-to-day life. 2. Critically engage at an introductory level histories of how race, gender, sexuality, class and disability have been constructed in the U.S. context. 3. Consider transnational dimensions of similar dynamics and contrast these with the U.S. context. 4. Identify and analyze the multiple ways individuals, communities and social movements have resisted and remade categories of identity and changed relations of power over time and space. 5. Recognize and explore the ethical dimensions of social, political and/or economic marginalization rooted in constructions of social identity.

Bachelor of Arts: Humanities
Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences
United States Cultures (US)
General Education: Humanities (GH)
General Education: Social and Behavioral Sciences (GS)
General Education - Integrative: Interdomain
GenEd Learning Objective: Crit and Analytical Think
GenEd Learning Objective: Global Learning
GenEd Learning Objective: Soc Resp and Ethic Reason

WMNST 106N: Representing Women and Gender in Literature, Art and Popular Cultures
3 Credits

Interdisciplinary consideration of primary works and scholarship pertaining to women in the humanities and the arts. WMNST 106N Representing Women and Gender in Literature, Art and Popular Cultures (3) (GA;GH;US;IL)(BA) This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. This is an introductory survey course that fulfills General Education Integrative Studies requirements in humanities and arts, and also fulfills United States and International Cultures requirements. The course is a prerequisite for upper level women's studies courses. WMNST 106N is an introduction to the interdisciplinary field of Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, with an emphasis on the experiences, achievements, and status of women in the arts and humanities in the U.S. and global context. While providing a broad overview of scholarly research and theory pertaining to women and gender, students will also see many examples of contemporary women’s creative practice through the visual arts, media, and popular culture. Students will learn about the challenges women artists have faced in making their way in a male-dominated arts and media industry; they will learn how these artists sought and continue to seek new languages and forms, whether in paint, words, film, music, crafts, to reassess and re-imagine notions of sex and sexuality, gender, race and ethnicity that underlie many forms of social injustice. Class meetings will be a mixture of lectures, group discussions, individual and group exercises, films, and guest speakers. Assigned readings and class meetings are designed to help students reassess predominant modes of thought and to give students tools to appreciate the creative work of highly diverse women. Given that this is an honors section, assignments will be geared towards taking advantage of small class sizes and fully engaged learners to generate dynamic classroom discussions and creative innovation.

Bachelor of Arts: Arts
Bachelor of Arts: Humanities
International Cultures (IL)
United States Cultures (US)
General Education: Arts (GA)
General Education: Humanities (GH)
General Education - Integrative: Interdomain
GenEd Learning Objective: Effective Communication
GenEd Learning Objective: Crit and Analytical Think
GenEd Learning Objective: Global Learning

WMNST 110: Sociology of Gender
3 Credits

Changing sex role expectations and behavior for men and women in contemporary society. SOC (WMNST) 110 Sociology of Gender (3) (GS;US) (BA) This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. This course provides an introduction to the analysis and understanding of how men's and women's lives are different and how they intersect with each other. The course focuses on the social
construction of gender and the impact of gender on experiences in a variety of social contexts and institutions throughout the life course, including cross-cultural comparisons of gender expectations. An overriding objective is to help students better assess and analyze the effects of gender throughout history and in their everyday lives. Class sessions are a mixture of lectures, discussions, group exercises, guest speakers, and films designed to engage the students in the learning process. Each session helps students to critically evaluate the effects of gender discussed in their readings and experienced in their everyday lives. The evaluation tools used for this course extend this critical evaluation. Although the specific evaluation methods vary by sections, all sections use some form of reaction papers, book reviews, and/or journals. These writing assignments require students to demonstrate an understanding of the class readings, lectures, and activities, and to offer an evaluation and assessment of these readings and presentations. Because the social construction of gender is intertwined with family, work, religion, education, government, and all interpersonal interaction, the course overlaps with courses in each of these areas. This course meets a General Education requirement in Social and Behavioral Sciences. It can be used as a lower-level sociology course in the Sociology BA major and the Sociology minor. It can also be used as a supporting course in the Women's Studies major and minor.

Cross-listed with: SOC 110
Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences
United States Cultures (US)
General Education: Social and Behavioral Scien (GS)

WMNST 116: Family and Sex Roles in Modern History
3 Credits

Historical perspectives on the Western family since 1500: gender roles, marriage, sexuality, child rearing, and old age; emphasis on United States.

Cross-listed with: HIST 116
Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences
International Cultures (IL)
United States Cultures (US)
General Education: Social and Behavioral Scien (GS)

WMNST 117: Women in Modern History
3 Credits

Modernization and women: changing images and roles since mid-eighteenth century in the family, workshop, politics, society. Cross-cultural comparisons.

Cross-Listed
General Education: Humanities (GH)
Honors

WMNST 117H: Women in Modern History
3 Credits

Modernization and women: changing images and roles since mid-eighteenth century in the family, workshop, politics, society. Cross-cultural comparisons. HIST 117H (WMNST) 117 Women in Modern History (3) (GH;US;IL)(BA) This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. History/Women's Studies 117 is an introductory survey of women in the United States and possibly elsewhere, from the seventeenth to the late twentieth century. The course examines women's history from several different perspectives. First, it introduces students to the methods, sources, and questions of the past thirty years of women's history-writing, and asks students how studying women transforms our understanding of history more generally. Second, it offers a survey of the narrative of modern women's history, stressing women's interactions with the larger processes of economic and political change, their relationship to changing ideologies of gender and feminism, and their complex identities not only as women but as members of a particular race, class, ethnic, and religious group. Throughout, students will ask when gender, and when some other aspect of women's lives and identities, is most salient in identifying the restrictions and opportunities they faced. Third, students will assume the perspective of historians themselves, as they examine primary sources and attempt to make analytic and historical judgments about what they say and why they matter to the larger narrative. Through significant essay-writing assignments, students will develop analytical and writing skills in learning to think historically about women. Questions about race, class, ethnicity, and sexual orientation, as well as gender, are intrinsic to this course. Students will be evaluated based on their class participation, papers, and final exam. This course is cross-listed in History and Women's Studies and fulfills requirements for both programs' majors and minors. History/Women's Studies 117 will be accepted, but not required, for the History Major, the Women's Studies Major, and the Women's Studies Minor. This course will be offered once a year with up to 70 seats per offering.

Cross-listed with: HIST 117
Bachelor of Arts: Humanities
International Cultures (IL)
United States Cultures (US)
General Education: Humanities (GH)

WMNST 117H: Women in Modern History
3 Credits

Modernization and women: changing images and roles since mid-eighteenth century in the family, workshop, politics, society. Cross-cultural comparisons.

Cross-Listed
General Education: Humanities (GH)
Honors

WMNST 120: Sex, Gender, and the Body
3 Credits

This introductory course considers core topics in the field of feminist sexuality studies to both unsettle popular mainstream discourses on sexuality and to aid students in developing a more comprehensive, inclusive, and ethical lens through which to view intersections of gender, sexuality, and the body. Over the course of the semester, students will engage critical conversations in the field of feminist sexuality studies, from debates on pornography and sex work to subcultural and queer sexual practices to the emergence "hook-up culture" and new technologies transforming the landscape of sexual knowledge and practice. The course also substantively engages the ethics of sexual consent, sexual pleasure, and sexual communication. Utilizing an intersectional approach, the course examines how sexual identities and experiences are informed by differences of race, ethnicity, gender, class, and dis/ability status. The course is interdisciplinary and grounded in the behavioral and social sciences, drawing from feminist sociological, psychological, historical, ethnographic, and public health literatures in order to provide students with a comprehensive and multi-faceted introduction to recent, contemporary, and emergent scholarship on sexual health and diverse forms of sexual practice. Geographically, the course emphasizes the relationship between social difference, power, and sexuality in U.S. history and society, but takes a transnational perspective when possible by making comparisons to contexts beyond the United States. Furthermore, the class examines how individuals and communities most directly marginalized by these processes of sexual stigmatization contest and re-imagine dominant categories and
assumptions. Materials and discussions in the class trace broad social and historical trends as well as dive into the facets of everyday life. The class is designed to encourage reflection on the ethical challenges that arise when we become aware of how privilege, power and difference impact sexual knowledge and practice.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences
United States Cultures (US)
General Education: Social and Behavioral Scien (GS)
GenEd Learning Objective: Key Literacies
GenEd Learning Objective: Soc Resp and Ethic Reason

WMNST 136: Race, Gender, and Employment
3 Credits

Employment relations and legislative and policy responses to labor force issues of racial and gender inequality. Untitled Document LER (WMNST) 136 Race, Gender, and Employment (3) (US)(BA) This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. To accomplish the goals of the course, students will participate in a variety of in-class and out-of-class exercises designed to expose them to issues of inequality generally, and more specifically, to inequalities relating to employment. Activities are designed to connect real world experiences to class readings and discussion. For example, students may be asked to conduct their own job evaluation in conjunction with a reading on gender bias in job evaluation systems. The course also relies heavily on student participation via the reporting of the results of their activities, and in discussion of assigned readings. A semester-long group project will enable students to focus their interests and become experts in one sub-area. Group projects include a collaboratively written paper as well as a class presentation designed to inform the class about a topic previously not covered through class readings, discussions, or lectures.

Cross-listed with: LER 136
Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences
United States Cultures (US)

WMNST 136W: Race, Gender, and Employment
3 Credits

This course will ask how race and gender affect work in the contemporary United States. We will consider how race and gender shape people's work opportunities, their wages at work, and whether they participate in paid or unpaid labor (or both). We will begin with an overview of work and the changes in the workforce over time; we will move to investigate how workplace structures reproduce gender and race inequalities; will ask how race and gender inequalities are informally maintained through education systems and social networks; will consider differing dimensions of inequality across poverty, immigration, and sexuality; and will consider how studying unpaid labor helps us better understand the formal paid economy. The course emphasizes writing in the form of short assignments and longer papers as a means to develop comprehension of these ideas. This course is a writing intensive course designed to develop formal writing appropriate for a business context. We will use an active and engaged writing process using the course topics of diversity and employment inequality to strengthen writing skills.

Cross-listed with: AFAM 136W, LER 136W
Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences
International Cultures (IL)
General Education: Social and Behavioral Scien (GS)
GenEd Learning Objective: Effective Communication
GenEd Learning Objective: Crit and Analytical Think
GenEd Learning Objective: Soc Resp and Ethic Reason
Writing Across the Curriculum

WMNST 137: Women and Religion
3 Credits

Jewish and Christian religious views on womanhood; thought and lives of important religious women; and feminist understandings of these. RLST 137 / JST 137 / WMNST 137 Women and Religion (3) (GH;US;IL) Women and Religion examines the historical and contemporary role of women in society and in religion, how those roles are shaped by religious doctrines around leadership, ritual, language, and the valuation of women's experience and history, and the diversity of women's voices speaking to these issues. An historical inquiry begins with a review of early goddess-based religion and an examination of gender roles promoted in selected creation narratives, including those from Genesis. Additional biblical and non-canonical texts are studied for their various characterizations of woman, the influence of marital status, and her place in the public and private spheres. Historical debates about women consider what roles women played in leadership structures, in religious ceremonies and in the creation of a theological tradition as well as the places women created for themselves outside "official" institutional churches or the formalities of worship. We study prominent women in biblical history, the early church, the medieval past, and in modern American history. What are their stories and what noteworthy contributions did they make in the history of religion? What do we know of their lives and thought? Furthermore, the course addresses contemporary issues of importance to women and how those issues are resolved from the multiple perspectives within Judaism and Christianity. Such issues may include dating, marriage, family and divorce; spousal and gender relations; reproductive rights; homosexuality; sexual violence toward women; work outside the home; and religious leadership and inclusion. Finally, the course examines women's diverse understandings of the ways of being religious. Women are not a homogeneous group and are responding in a multitude of ways to the decisions they face about staying within or working outside established institutions. We consider their choices, from redefining and recreating new traditions and rituals, both within and outside formal worship settings, to returning to goddess worship and other innovations inspired by the most recent feminist movement. All topics are discussed in light of the different beliefs and understandings across the movements within Judaism as well as within Roman Catholicism and the many Protestant denominations. In addition, the diversity of scholarly interpretation is emphasized, including that offered by feminist theologians and the breadth of women's experience arising from factors of race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, and class and educational background.

Prerequisite: third-semester standing
Cross-listed with: JST 137, RLST 137
Bachelor of Arts: Humanities
International Cultures (IL)
United States Cultures (US)
General Education: Humanities (GH)

WMNST 157: Science, Technology, and Gender
3 Credits

The role of women and gender in science, technology, and engineering. S T S (WMNST) 157 Science, Technology, and Gender (3) (GS;US)(BA) This
course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. S T S/WMST 157 examines the role of gender in science, engineering, and technology. The course offers a broad interdisciplinary overview of scholarly research and theory pertaining to women and issues of gender in science, engineering, and technology. The course is interdisciplinary (drawing materials from the natural and social sciences) and cross-cultural (taking a comparative approach to western and non-western sciences and technologies), and it examines the ways that different beliefs and practices related to gender have shaped the practice of science in different times and places. Students study great women scientists and also barriers institutional and ideological - that women have had to overcome in order to participate in science, asking how the presence and absence of women have affected those studies. Students will be graded by several quizzes and two short exams during the semester. To evaluate progress in developing critical thinking skills, the students will be required to write a response journal and/or response papers to major topic areas during the semester. Also, one individual or group presentation will be required. These instruments enable the instructor to assess students' acquisition of knowledge relevant to the general objectives of General Education.

Cross-listed with: STS 157
Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences
United States Cultures (US)

WMNST 166: History of Sexuality
3 Credits

Discusses the ideas, practices, and identities surrounding sexuality over several centuries in a variety of contexts, focusing primarily on the US. HIST (WMNST) 166 History of Sexuality (3) (GH;US)This is a 100-level course on the history of sexuality, spanning several centuries and a wide range of contexts. The study of sexuality offers a particularly good lens for developing students' analytical ability to think historically about something that is often considered both "natural" and exclusively "modern." Topics will include the role of religion, medicine, law, and politics in controlling and shaping sexuality; change and controversy over birth control, abortion, and gender roles; the connections between prescriptive literature and lived experience; the origins and meanings and racial violence in the context of ideas about sexuality; the role of marriage in defining sex, race, and respectability; and the experiences and conflicts that have shaped the emergence of modern lesbian and gay identities. By closely and critically examining one aspect of human thought and experience, the course will teach students to evaluate large questions about sources, methods, and analysis that historians face, including: How do we recover stories of private life? How do we interpret women's experiences from societies and eras different from our own? How does our own understanding of what sexuality complicate our historical exploration? What are the connections between gender identity and sexual practices? What can we learn about gender and sexuality, repression and resistance, deviation and acceptance, identity and community from studying the lesbian and gay past? How has racism been employed to justify particular reproductive and sexual practices, as well as to limit claims to sexual respectability? To what extent is the study of sexuality inherently a study of gender, sex roles, and feminism? While focused primarily on the United States, the course will offer students opportunities to examine these questions in other contexts, including India, the Middle East, and Latin America. It will be especially attentive throughout to the varieties of sexual practices and identities across different races, classes, ethnicities, and religious groups.

Prerequisite: one introductory level course in History or Women's Studies

Cross-listed with: HIST 166
United States Cultures (US)
General Education: Humanities (GH)

WMNST 175N: Fashion, Gender, and Identity
3 Credits

Do clothes really "make" the woman? In this course, we explore how the living art and practice of fashion intersects with gender, and shapes our multiple identities. This is an integrative learning course, which means we bring together the methods, theories and skills taught in general education arts courses (GA) with those practiced in general education humanities courses (GH). Our course is grounded in visual literacy, and we learn how to read clothing through the study of formal elements including material, color, form, line, texture and mood. Our inquiries place women's fashion into cultural, political and social contexts. We concentrate on three areas of study: the construction of particular kinds of femininity through fashion, challenges and subversions, and the contributions of women at all levels of the fashion industry, from factory labor to haute couture. Along the way, we will be encountering diverse individuals who have shaped women's fashion, from Michelle Obama to the pop star Selena to Vera Wang. Finally, in this class we connect theory to practice by situating ourselves as creators of fashion. During interactive laboratories, we empower ourselves by acquiring skills including basic sewing, cutting, sketching, draping, and embellishing garments; we also digitally design a collection using specialized software.

General Education: Arts (GA)
General Education: Humanities (GH)
General Education - Integrative: Interdomain
GenEd Learning Objective: Crit and Analytical Think
GenEd Learning Objective: Integrative Thinking

WMNST 194: Women Writers
3 Credits

Short stories, novels, poetry, drama, and essays by English, American, and other English-speaking women writers. ENGL (WMNST) 194 Women Writers (3) (GH;US;IL)(BA) This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. English 194 will constitute a wide ranging study of works by American, British, and other English-speaking women writers, including novels, short stories, poems, plays, and prose. The class will approach this literature from a variety of thematic, historical, and/or generic vantages. Authors under consideration will vary from class to class, but may include writers such as Bradstreet, Wollstonecraft, C. Rosefelt, M. Shelley, Austen, C. Bronte, E. Bronte, G. Eliot, D. Wordsworth, Dickinson, Wharton, Stowe, Freeman, Jewett, Fuller, H.D., Moore, Sitwell, Bishop, Brooks, Plath, Cather, Woolf, Stein, Lessing, Bowen, O'Connor, Welty, Porter, Oates, Olsen, Sarton, Gordimer, Atwood, Morrison, Kinkaid, McCarthy, and Churchill. The course seeks to make students aware of the extensive body of literature written by women through the analysis, evaluation, and appreciation of specific works by women writers. The course also seeks to help students understand the female perspectives–the varying values and interests of women–reflected in the texts at hand and to position these perspectives within wider social, historical, and political contexts. The course also seeks to make students aware of the special problems faced by both women writers and the female inhabitants of the societies they describe in their work. As a course in women's literature, ENGL/WMNST 194 concerns itself with questions of
gender. In so far as some of these women writers are black or women of color, it concerns itself with questions of race and ethnicity. In so far as the course looks at women's literature in the context of men's literature, it is concerned with the inter-relationship between dominant (male) and non-dominant (female) culture in the United States as well as in Britain. In so far as the course covers lesbian writers, it is concerned with sexual orientation. Topics under consideration will vary from class to class, but may include a chronological introduction to the development of women's literature, a consideration of a principle theme or themes common to women's literature through a number of works from across a number of historical periods, a consideration of a number of women's works in the context of historical events central to their creation, a consideration of a number of women's works in the context of formal or aesthetic elements common to those works and their various effects. Time allotted for the study of the works under consideration will vary. This class will prepare students for advanced courses in women's literature as well as other academic courses that engage in the verbal and written analysis of complex written texts. Students will be evaluated by means of essays written in and out of class, essay exams, term-long reading journals, and class participation. Students should expect to complete a minimum of three written assignments in the course of the term. The course may be used as English Major elective credit or as credit towards the English Minor and will be offered once a year with 60 seats per offering.

Cross-listed with: ENGL 194
Bachelor of Arts: Humanities
International Cultures (IL)
United States Cultures (US)
General Education: Humanities (GH)
WMNST 197: Special Topics
1-9 Credits/Maximum of 9

Formal courses given infrequently to explore, in depth, a comparatively narrow subject which may be topical or of special interest.

WMNST 199: Foreign Studies
1-12 Credits/Maximum of 12
Courses offered in foreign countries by individual or group instruction.
International Cultures (IL)

WMNST 200: Global Feminisms
3 Credits

This course examines the diverse contents and forms of “feminism” worldwide, emphasizing women's engagement with unequal, unjust, impacts of globalization. WMNST 200 Global Feminisms (3) (GS;IL)

This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. This course introduces students to the complexity of feminisms in the context of contemporary globalization. Much of the course focuses on the variety of feminist movement transnationally, particularly as those movements respond to not only local culture and politics, but also to global politics, and as such it touches again and again on the history of power. Explorations of the interanimating systems of power in a given area or region includes attention to ideologies of gender, race, sexuality, colonialism, imperialism, health and welfare, any or all of which are either supported or disrupted by globalism. The course holds a feminist lens to issues such as: gender and sexualities; the politics of the body; ongoing effects of colonialism and theory and practice; and women worldwide; health, women and the environment; women's labor; political economy; transnational migrations; global class relations; women and/in the media; violence against women; women and war; the global sex/human trafficking trades; silence and marginalization; citizenship politics; women in politics and activism around the globe. The course examines contemporary feminist theory the so-called First World and or so-called Third World, highlighting the ways in which the term “feminism” continues to be contested. Given that we no longer talk about “feminism”; in the singular in the United States, lack of agreement on the priorities of feminists worldwide is even more acute, given diverse cultural, political and economic positions of women around the globe. Thus the course also asks students to resist the kinds of generalizations that have led to inadequate feminist response to urgent challenges faced by women around the world. At the same time, the course will ask what kinds of connections can be made between local feminisms, and transnational feminist movement.

Bachelor of Arts: Other Cultures
Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences
International Cultures (IL)
General Education: Social and Behavioral Scien (GS)

WMNST 202N: Women, Gender, and Feminisms in Africa
3 Credits

This introductory course provides students with a broad interdisciplinary overview of scholarly research and theory related to women and gender studies in Africa, using both historical and contemporary examples from across the continent. We will explore the complex, and oftentimes contradictory, meanings attached to gender and sexuality in various African contexts. For example, what does it mean to be a "good" woman in Uganda today? How does this definition change (or not) if she comes out as a lesbian? What if s/he identifies as a transgender man or rejects gender binaries altogether? What if gender did not matter, or even, did not exist? In addition to exploring these types of questions, we will also examine African feminist thought, paying close attention to the ways in which African feminisms are similar to and/or different from other forms of feminism worldwide. We will also consider what these movements looked like in practice. What strategies did African feminists utilize to promote social change? What challenges did they face? What victories resulted from their efforts? Although topics may vary from semester to semester, key themes include environmental activism, anti-war/peace activism, political activism, sex worker rights activism, activism to support peoples living with HIV/AIDS, and activism against harmful traditional practices. Finally, we will examine the ways in which African feminists have contributed to global debates and initiatives on women’s rights and gender equity. Students in this course can expect to engage with diverse texts from the humanities (esp. history, literature, film studies, and philosophy), as well as from the social and behavioral sciences (esp. anthropology, geography, sociology, and political science).

Cross-listed with: AFR 202N
Bachelor of Arts: Humanities
Bachelor of Arts: Other Cultures
Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences
International Cultures (IL)
General Education: Humanities (GH)
General Education: Social and Behavioral Scien (GS)
General Education - Integrative: Interdomain
GenEd Learning Objective: Crit and Analytical Think
WMNST 205: Gender, Diversity and the Media
3 Credits

COMM (WMNST) 205 Women, Minorities, and the Media (3) (GS;US)(BA)
This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. This course is aimed at consumers of media in any form. It explores the relationship between the media and society through critical analysis of media and its role in education about and creation of social reality. Students research literature on human diversity issues in media representation. Students explore economic, political and social implications of media practice. Course content is designed to help build deeper understanding of gender, race, ethnicity, ability, sexual orientation and class diversity in media. Students explore the role of media and media literacy within the pluralistic democratic US society in the context of a diverse global society. Communication theory helps explain how media representations impact human construction of meaning in social relationships.

Cross-listed with: COMM 205
Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences
United States Cultures (US)
General Education: Social and Behavioral Scien (GS)

WMNST 213: African American Women's History
3 Credits

This course examines the social, political, and economic history of African American women in the United States from slavery to the present.

Cross-listed with: AFAM 213, HIST 213
United States Cultures (US)
General Education: Humanities (GH)
Writing Across the Curriculum

WMNST 225N: Sexuality and Modern Visual Culture
3 Credits

ENGL 225N / ARTH 225N / WMNST 225N Sexuality and Modern Visual Culture (3) (GA;GH) An examination of the visual expression of gender and sexual identities in English-speaking cultures since the late nineteenth century. The terms "feminist" and "homosexual" were invented by the Victorians and reflect profound shifts in conceptions of identity. Another invention of the nineteenth century was the idea of the literary and artistic "avant-garde" as a minority contingent with politically and/or aesthetically advanced views. These ideas of minority culture were deeply enmeshed with one another, and have exerted profound influence ever since. This course explores that history with the objectives of expanding students’ knowledge of modern art and literature, and of fostering more sophisticated understandings of how evolving socio-political ideas affect our sense of who we are and how we relate to texts and images. The course is relevant to students of American and English studies, art, art history, and women's, gender and sexuality studies.

Cross-listed with: ARTH 225N, ENGL 225N
General Education: Arts (GA)
General Education: Humanities (GH)
General Education - Integrative: Interdomain
GenEd Learning Objective: Effective Communication
GenEd Learning Objective: Crit and Analytical Think

WMNST 227: Introduction to Queer Theory
3 Credits

ENGL 227 Introduction to Sexuality Studies (3) (GH;US) This course focuses on the body of critical writings known as queer theory in order to analyze issues of sexuality and gender since 1969. The course interrogates sexual norms and their deviations, with a particular focus on the relationships between sexuality, imagination, and ethics in the making of sexual communities and fostering activism around sexuality and gender. We will study how class, race, and gender have been shaped, and themselves shape, the production of and resistance to sexual norms. Queer Theory engages issues "queer space" and "queer time," related concepts that relate bodies and environments to history and memory, and to fantasy, imagination, and utopianism. We will also explore the ways marginalization, shame, and criminalization have been transformed into visionary acts of "world-making" that have changed contemporary understandings of bodies, identities, social formations, literature and visual culture. Throughout, our focus will be on the relationships between sexuality and ethics, and how both shape the history of queer culture and activism.

Prerequisites: ENGL 015; ENGL 030; ENGL 137H
Cross-listed with: ENGL 227
United States Cultures (US)
General Education: Humanities (GH)
GenEd Learning Objective: Effective Communication
GenEd Learning Objective: Crit and Analytical Think
GenEd Learning Objective: Soc Resp and Ethic Reason

WMNST 235: Gender and the Global Information Technology Sector
3 Credits

Integrates information technology and gender studies. Overview issues and socio-cultural shaping of gender in the IT field.

Cross-listed with: IST 235
United States Cultures (US)

WMNST 240Q: Artistic Patronage in Europe
3 Credits

This course surveys the institutions and social networks in which European fine arts were created, consumed and critiqued. Beginning with the medieval period and ranging to the early 20th century, the course will examine the variety of communities where public and private often intersected and which sponsored innovations in the arts. Often indexing social movements and political change, such communities include convents and cathedrals, royal academies and courts, coffee houses, salons, and theaters. Artists, performers, patrons, politicians, journalists, and others collaborated and competed in these spaces. Such communities could embody political and economic power, or foster resistance to it. This approach to the history of the arts in western culture puts the focus less on the individual creative genius of great composers, writers, painters, and sculptors, and more on the social exchanges and institutions that sponsored and received their work. Such an approach brings to light particularly the ways in which women played significant roles in the production and reception of culture: as salon hostesses,
patronesses, and divas, women often enabled and enacted cultural production. Some examples of particular units of study might include: the German convent of Hildegard of Bingen (1098-1179), where monophonic chant and allegorical morality plays developed; the Mantuan (Italy) court of Isabella d’Este, the first lady of the world (1474-1539) where the roots of the madrigal began and where notable painters found support and sponsorship; the French salons of Mme. Geoffrin (1699-1777) and Mme. de Staël (1766-1817); and the student residences in Madrid where avant-garde writers and artists interacted. Each unit will also consider the relationships between the aesthetic norms and values of a period and the economic and political realities of sponsorship. The course will require that students attend at least one musical performance or concert held on campus during the semester and complete a brief writing project based on that experience. This requirement will encourage students to think about their own university as a contemporary space of cultural sponsorship.

Cross-listed with: CMLIT 240Q, HIST 240Q, IT 240Q
International Cultures (IL)
General Education: Arts (GA)
General Education: Humanities (GH)
General Education - Integrative: Interdomain
Honors
GenEd Learning Objective: Crit and Analytical Think
GenEd Learning Objective: Global Learning
GenEd Learning Objective: Key Literacies

WMNST 245: Introduction to LGBTQ Studies

3 Credits

An introduction to the dominant themes in Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Studies, with an emphasis on both literary & cultural studies. This course explores the history of modern, western ideas about sexual identity as manifested in literature, theater, film, and other narrative forms of popular culture. Drawing on the substantial body of “queer theory” generated by scholars in the humanities since the 1990s, this class examines sexuality not as a “natural” or consistent phenomenon, but as a set of beliefs that have changed over time and manifest themselves differently in different cultural and historical contexts. Starting in the late nineteenth century, scientific and medical authorities began categorizing individuals into sexual types based on their manifestations of gendered characteristics and their erotic attractions and practices. This medical typology corresponded with the development of subcultures associated with deviance from sexual norms; these subcultures produced a rich variety of texts, images, performances, and social forms, many of which became central to both popular and high culture. This course explores this rich archive, moving among media. It investigates constructions of sexual conformity and how sexual nonconformists positioned themselves in relation to cultural and medical group identities. It examines how distinctions between gendered, raced, and classed bodies were historically produced and culturally contested. It considers what commonalities gay identities may – or may not – share with lesbian identities and how transgender and other identities have altered perceptions of sexual identity. The course also explores the relationship of the avant-garde to the mass media and how sexual subcultures have shaped literary and other cultural forms of expression. Comparative study of issues of sexual mobility and between and beyond the borders of the United States expands the course’s critical scope beyond dominant forms of western culture. This course does not propose definitive answers to the questions of identity it addresses. Instead it negotiates the ways sexualities have enabled individuals to articulate -- and disarticulate -- themselves within social bodies past and present. This course, therefore, has wide relevance for students interested in how group identities come into being and transform over time in dynamic relation to other historical forces. Exploring a wide variety of cultural forms associated with the history of sexual identity as well as a variety of interpretations of that history, this course opens students to an archive of literature, theater, film, and other narrative arts with the potential to inform and enrich their understandings of many kinds of challenges to regimes of normativity today.

Cross-listed with: ENGL 245
United States Cultures (US)
General Education: Humanities (GH)
GenEd Learning Objective: Effective Communication
GenEd Learning Objective: Crit and Analytical Think
GenEd Learning Objective: Integrative Thinking
GenEd Learning Objective: Soc Resp and Ethic Reason

WMNST 250: Sexual Identity over the Life Span

3 Credits

Concepts of affectional and sexual orientation over life span, with emphasis on lesbian and gay male personal, family, and community adaptation. HD FS (WMNST) 250 Sexual Identity over the Life Span (3) (US) This course reviews concepts of sexual identity as informed by a human development perspective. Concepts of sexual orientation are discussed in the context of a review of lesbian, gay male, and bisexual lives. Developmental processes of lesbian and gay life are detailed: personal change from the teenage years through adulthood, changes in family and relationship patterns, and impact of communities, laws, and culture. These processes are contrasted to the developmental processes of women and men who identify themselves as heterosexual.

The complex effect of gender, race, ethnicity, class status, and historical time on sexual orientation and its expression has generated ongoing controversies in scholarship as well as in public discourse. The course will be an introduction to these controversies as informed by human development research.

Prerequisite: 3 credits in HD FS or 3 credits in social or behavioral sciences
Cross-listed with: HDFS 250
United States Cultures (US)

WMNST 266Y: Sex and Violence in Nineteenth-Century America

3 Credits

Historical Overview of Sex and Violence in the Nineteenth-Century United States. HIST (WMNST) 266Y Sex and Violence in Nineteenth-Century America (3) (GH;US)(BA) This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. "Sex and Violence in Nineteenth-Century America" is an introductory course in the social and cultural history of the United States designed to reveal the importance of the past to the present by showing how two basic human activities have changed over time in both ideology and practice. Both sex and violence are incredibly broad topics; this class will not provide a comprehensive overview. Rather we will focus on a few intriguing topics, including courtship, prostitution, the early popular culture of sports, slavery, military violence including the Civil War, exploitative journalism, and sex and violence as metaphor. We will also examine the &ldquo;creation&rdquo; of homosexuality in the nineteenth century, and manner in which masculinity has been historically constructed. The main purposes of the course are to
WMNST 299: Independent Studies
1-18 Credits/Maximum of 18
Creative projects, including research and design, which are supervised on an individual basis and which fall outside the scope of formal courses.

WMNST 297: Special Topics
1-9 Credits/Maximum of 9
Formal courses given infrequently to explore, in depth, a comparatively narrow subject which may be topical or of special interest.

WMNST 297B: Special Topics - InterDomain
3 Credits/Maximum of 9
Formal course given on a topical or special interest subject offered infrequently; several different topics may be taught in one year or semester. This Special Topics is an Inter-Domain GA/GH GenEd course.

General Education: Arts (GA)
General Education: Humanities (GH)
General Education - Integrative: Interdomain

WMNST 300: Latinas in the US: Gender Culture and Society
3 Credits
This course examines the historical development, theoretical premises, and political, social, and artistic contributions of Latina feminisms in the United States. WMNST (LTNST) 300 Latina Feminisms (3) (US) This course examines the historical development, theoretical premises, and political, social, and artistic contributions of Latina feminisms in the United States. It shows the connections to as well as the divergences from Latin American feminism by beginning with an analysis of how the Spanish conquest, the imposition of Catholicism, and subsequent years of colonialism shaped gender and sexual identities. It examines the contemporary effects of these historical issues and inquires into the common concerns of Latin American feminists and Latina feminists. It asks how theories and practices have diverged given different geographies, both between the U.S. and Latin America and within the U.S. The course then moves to the 1960s and 1970s in the U.S., when Chicano and Puerto Rican nationalist movements also gave rise to a feminist consciousness amongst Latinas; the conjuncture of race, ethnicity, gender, and sexuality is considered, with attention to how Latinas critiqued Anglo feminism’s narrow focus on gender. The next unit focuses on family formations, considering social science and feminist discourse on the issues of patriarchy. How have Latina feminists valued yet also rearticulated the traditional family? What critiques have made been against heterosexism? How have lesbians and gays formulated new kinds of families? How does migration shape family relations? The final section of the course explores how Latina artists in different genres have responded to and resisted traditional gendered and sexual roles. Literature, film, performance art, and hip hop are all examined for their diverse representations of sexual desire.
Prerequisite: LTNST100 or WMNST100
Cross-listed with: LTNST 300
United States Cultures (US)

WMNST 301: Sexualities, Gender and Power: Feminist Thought and Politics

3 Credits

WMNST 301N Sexualities, Gender and Power: Feminist Thought and Politics (3) (GH;GS;US;) This course is an interdisciplinary survey of historical and contemporary feminist theories in both the United States and international contexts. While attention is given to key historical moments in feminist thought, the course stresses theoretical trends and debates in feminism today. Course themes will include:
(1) feminist epistemology and standpoint theory, epistemic privilege and epistemologies of ignorance; (2) postcolonial critiques of western feminism, and contemporary efforts to define a transnational and anti-racist feminism, (3) gender identity and the very viability of the category; (4) the concept of freedom, liberation, and of women's agency in feminist narratives of liberation, (5) theoretical implications for defining productive labor for women that is not exclusively the labor of childbirth, and the subsequent care of children and family; (6) the ongoing search for new paradigms of embodiment and interdependency (such as feminist disability and care studies) that counter patriarchal epistemologic constructions.

Prerequisites: WMNST 105; or WMNST 100; or WMNST 106
International Cultures (IL)
United States Cultures (US)
General Education: Humanities (GH)
General Education: Social and Behavioral Scien (GS)
General Education - Integrative: Interdomain
GenEd Learning Objective: Effective Communication
GenEd Learning Objective: Crit and Analytical Think
GenEd Learning Objective: Integrative Thinking
GenEd Learning Objective: Key Literacies

WMNST 301N: Sexualities, Gender and Power: Feminist Thought and Politics

3 Credits

WMNST 301N Sexualities, Gender and Power: Feminist Thought and Politics (3) (GH;GS;US;) This course is an interdisciplinary survey of historical and contemporary feminist theories in both the United States and international contexts. While attention is given to key historical moments in feminist thought, the course stresses theoretical trends and debates in feminism today. Course themes will include:
(1) feminist epistemology and standpoint theory, epistemic privilege and epistemologies of ignorance; (2) postcolonial critiques of western feminism, and contemporary efforts to define a transnational and anti-racist feminism, (3) gender identity and the very viability of the category; (4) the concept of freedom, liberation, and of women's agency in feminist narratives of liberation, (5) theoretical implications for defining productive labor for women that is not exclusively the labor of childbirth, and the subsequent care of children and family; (6) the ongoing search for new paradigms of embodiment and interdependency (such as feminist disability and care studies) that counter patriarchal epistemologic constructions.

Prerequisites: WMNST 105; or WMNST 100; or WMNST 106
International Cultures (IL)
United States Cultures (US)
General Education: Humanities (GH)
General Education: Social and Behavioral Scien (GS)
General Education - Integrative: Interdomain
GenEd Learning Objective: Effective Communication
GenEd Learning Objective: Crit and Analytical Think
GenEd Learning Objective: Integrative Thinking
GenEd Learning Objective: Key Literacies

WMNST 303: Race and Gender in the Americas: Latin American and Caribbean Cultures

3 Credits

Utilizing a theoretical framework of intersectionality, this course examines historical and cultural constructions of race and gender in Latin America and the Caribbean. AFAM 303 / ANTH 303 / WMNST 303 Race and Gender in the Americas: Latin American and Caribbean Cultures (3) (GS;IL) Utilizing a theoretical framework of intersectionality this course examines how racial, gender, sexual, and class identities are constructed in Latin American/Caribbean societies. The course applies an anthropological perspective to a wide range of countries in the region to reflect on how historical events such as the conquest, colonization, slavery, and independence movements are relevant to understanding the region today, as well as how race, gender, and sexuality inform contemporary themes of empire, nation-building, imperialism, neo-colonialism, revolution, violence, militarization, social movements, religion, neoliberalism, U.S. involvement/relations, and popular culture. The course addresses issues of power, culture, racial formation, and citizenship by incorporating interdisciplinary material beyond ethnography such as newspapers, grassroots media, biographies, films, music, novels, personal testimonies, etc. Rooted in feminist anthropological scholarship, this course emphasizes how power (from above and below) and culture mediate relationships between individual/community agency and institutions/structures. As an effort to encourage students to think about Anthropology and culture beyond superficial or romanticizing celebrations of multiculturalism, food, and music, the course stresses the theoretical importance of situating power and privilege amidst difference. We conceptualize culture not only as socially transmitted patterns of behavior and ideas/meanings, but as a complex and dynamic process/medium grounded in unequal relations in which power is constituted and resisted. The ethnographic emphasis of the course centers on the complex lived realities and voices of people, encouraging students to learn, understand, and respect cultural difference. The course offers students a broad sense of how power is central in the production of knowledge (particularly within the disciplines of Anthropology and History). Students will critically engage an array of topical issues in Latin America beyond dichotomous thinking. Discussion of course material includes contemplating issues of ethics, subjectivity, bias, and privilege. Conversations regarding processes of "Othering" and traditional "us vs. them" debates that often occur when discussing developing countries will prompt students to situate their own power/privilege and challenge our assumptions and preconceived notions of Latin America. Moreover, this course teaches Latin American Cultures within a global context of racialization. As such it also stresses the historical and contemporary social, economic, cultural and political significance of the U.S. in Latin America, to demonstrate how we are connected and responsible to what happens "over there." In order to promote service learning, a core tenant of feminist pedagogy, this course also offers students the opportunity to participate in an optional embedded program entitled "Cuba: Identity, Diversity and Popular
Culture”. This two week course in Havana, Cuba promotes interactive learning in and outside the classroom with international study. This course component successfully combines academic classes, hands-on activities, and service learning.

Cross-listed with: AFAM 303, ANTH 303
International Cultures (IL)
General Education: Social and Behavioral Scien (GS)
WMNST 350: Gender, War, and Militarism

3 Credits

This interdisciplinary seminar uses feminist theory to critically examine the ways in which war and militarism are deeply gendered. We will look at women's experiences of armed conflict across the world, but also the militarization of everyday life and the politics of gender within various military structures, both in the US and abroad. We will also examine the differential ways that men and women are affected by the war system and will consider the role of women and gender norms in peace and anti-militarism movements. This course focuses on women who actively participate in and/or support war, as well as those who actively oppose war and mobilize for peace. It also considers the experiences of those who become victims of the war system. Given that men and militarized understandings of masculinity play such a prominent role in warfare, the course will also explore the ways that masculine gender norms have been used to perpetuate cultures of war. Students can expect to engage with a variety of different types of texts: documentaries, feature films, memoirs, novels, newspapers, scholarly books and articles.

International Cultures (IL)
United States Cultures (US)

WMNST 364: Black & White Sexuality

3 Credits

This course explains how narrow ways of thinking limit our understanding of the diverse expressions of human sexuality.

Cross-listed with: AFAM 364
United States Cultures (US)
General Education: Social and Behavioral Scien (GS)
WMNST 395: Internship

1-18 Credits/Maximum of 18

Supervised off-campus, nongroup instruction including field experiences, practica, or internships. Written and oral critique of activity required.

WMNST 399: Foreign Studies

1-12 Credits/Maximum of 12

Courses offered in foreign countries by individual or group instruction.

International Cultures (IL)

WMNST 400N: Debates in Contemporary Feminism

3 Credits

This course is an advanced seminar in feminist and gender theory. The primary focus is critical engagement with social, political, and cultural theories of the social construction of gender and gender difference, and of the sources, causes, and effects of gender inequality and strategies for reducing or eradicating inequality. While emphasis will be placed on gender difference and inequality, substantial time will be spent on theories of how gender is implicated in and supported by other forms of inequality such as sexuality, race, ethnicity, and class. Standpoint and intersectional approaches will ground much of the course, and provide one dominant framework for thinking about identity, oppression and social power inequalities. Students will also take on more advanced readings addressing feminist epistemology and ontology, methodology and praxis. While topics change from instructor to instructor (for example: reproductive rights; women's health; labor; politics and voting; creative arts and representation; individual and social identities; gender and militarism) students can expect a balance between US and transnational contexts. This balance reflects contemporary feminism's acknowledgement of US global hegemony, and thus the impacts of US policies on the welfare of other nations and regions, while also emphasizing both oppositional and coalitional movements in those same nations and regions. Case studies of effective activist intervention at both local and global levels will support the bi-focal emphasis of the course.

Prerequisites: WMNST 083; WMNST 100; WMNST 105; WMST 106; WMNST 301, Bachelor of Arts: Humanities
Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences
United States Cultures (US)
General Education: Humanities (GH)
General Education: Social and Behavioral Scien (GS)
General Education - Integrative: Interdomain
GenEd Learning Objective: Effective Communication
GenEd Learning Objective: Crit and Analytical Think
GenEd Learning Objective: Global Learning

WMNST 401: Doing Feminism: Theory and Practice

3 Credits

Advanced analysis of feminist theory and the nature of its integration (sometimes uneasily) within feminist movements and practices.

WMNST 401 Feminist Perspectives on Research and Teaching (3)The course explores current themes organizing debates and discussions within feminist discussions of teaching and research. Students will become familiar with various research perspectives that feminist researchers use including interviews, ethnography, and action research. The course will examine debates within feminist research and teaching including power, difference, and race. Key themes will include questions around the politics of representation, the relationship of research to colonialism, the authority of the researcher, researcher-researched relations, and power/knowledge relations in research, classrooms, and knowledge production broadly defined. The aim is not to identify a feminist orthodoxy but rather: 1) to identify and understand the varieties of feminism existing today; 2) to become knowledgeable about a range of themes currently emerging in feminist debates on teaching and research; and 3) to arrive at an appreciation of the transformative effect upon teaching and research these new paradigms, debates, and themes have meant across a range of disciplinary boundaries.

Prerequisite: WMNST100 , or WMNST106 , or WMNST005 and WMNST301
WMNST 407W: Women and Theatre

3 Credits

A study of theatre practice and dramatic literature as informed by issues of gender, race, and ethnic background. THEA (WMNST) 407 Women and Theatre (3) (US)(BA) This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. Theatre 407 approaches the study of theatre/performance as a valuable site for the exploration of race, class, and gender as social constructs. The focus will be on 20th century developments of women and theater. Feminist theory and theatrical practice will be a focus of the course and will reflect conflicts and differences present within feminism.

Prerequisite: THEA 100 or THEA 105
Cross-listed with: THEA 407W
Bachelor of Arts: Arts
United States Cultures (US)
Writing Across the Curriculum

WMNST 412: Education and the Status of Women

3 Credits

An examination of the relationship of education to the status of women in American society.

Cross-listed with: EDTHP 412

WMNST 420: Women in Developing Countries

3 Credits

Analysis of women's work, experiences, and development policies and practices in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. CED (WMNST) 420 Women in Developing Countries (3) (US;IL) The purpose of this course is to increase understanding of women's lives in third world countries at the time when women's movements, grassroots activism, and feminism are on the rise in the third world. The course examines third world women's challenges to Western definitions of feminism and traces the theoretical shifts and practical changes related to women's issues in African, Asia, and Latin America. Students participate in studying specific community and agricultural development projects. Topics include feminist critiques of development and post-colonialism, ecofeminism and environment, sexuality and reproduction, global restructuring, and grassroots community activism. This course will add diversity to both the rural sociology, community and economic development, and women's studies curricula. International, gender, ethnic, and racial issues are core components of the course. The course will be an elective for Women's Studies majors and minors and will serve graduate students in rural sociology, women's studies, and other fields.

Prerequisite: 5th semester standing or above
Cross-listed with: CED 420
International Cultures (IL)
United States Cultures (US)

WMNST 423: Sexual and Domestic Violence

3 Credits

Legal, sociological, and psychological perspectives on sexual and domestic violence. CRIMJ 423 / CRIM 423 / WMNST 423 Sexual and Domestic Violence (3) (US) This course investigates violence against women, specifically domestic, sexual, and relationship violence. Students will examine some of the legal, sociological, and psychological perspectives about sexual, domestic, and relationship violence as well as the social and cultural roots of violence against women. Students will also gain an understanding of the experiences of victims of domestic and sexual violence as well as the issues presented by perpetrators. Students will be evaluated based on performance on exams, and two research papers. CRIM J 423 / CRIM 423 / WMNST 423 is a supporting course in both the WMNST major and minor as well as a supporting course in the CLJ major. It may also be used to satisfy a GL requirement. This course is offered fall and spring semester with an enrollment of 60 students each semester.

Prerequisite: CRIMJ100
Cross-listed with: CRIM 423, CRIMJ 423
United States Cultures (US)

WMNST 424: Women and Sport

3 Credits

An interdisciplinary approach to contemporary issues related to women and sport from historical, physiological, psychological, and sociological perspectives.

Prerequisite: PSYCH100, PSYCH231, PSYCH479, SOC 001, or WMNST100
Cross-listed with: KINES 424
United States Cultures (US)

WMNST 426Y: Gender Geographies

3 Credits/Maximum of 3

Description and explanation of the links between gender relations and spatial structures: gender and work, social services, and neighborhood activism. WMNST (GEOG) 426Y Gender and Geography (3) (US;IL)(BA) This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. Until the 1970s women remained invisible in the analyses of social space: human geography was indeed just that—(hu)man. Recently, feminist geography began to challenge the implicit masculinity of the subject of geography; this course will examine the evolution of the feminist challenge. The course addresses gendered geographies across multiple scales, such as the body, home, public space, community, nation and globe. Students explore each of these through readings and will produce a series of essays throughout the semester. As a point of entry to discussion of place, space and gender, this course explores the diverse ways in which feminists have seen space as central both to masculine power and to feminist resistance. In particular we will explore arguments from interdisciplinary paradigms, stemming from cultural, post colonial, subaltern, sexuality,gender studies and critical race theory, all of which have influenced current debates across the field of geography.

Prerequisite: GEOG 020 or GEOG 126 or GEOG 120 or WMNST100
Cross-listed with: GEOG 426Y
Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences
International Cultures (IL)
United States Cultures (US)
Writing Across the Curriculum

WMNST 428: Gender and Politics

3 Credits

Gender in politics in the United States and around the world; major areas of women and politics research. PL SC (WMNST) 428 Gender and Politics (3) (US;IL)(BA) This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. This course is designed as an overview to the
field of women and politics. It examines the role that women play in politics in the United States and around the world. Students will begin by examining how women are socialized differently from men and how that socialization affects women's political attitudes and participation. Then students will focus on women in different political offices and how their behavior compares to that of their male counterparts. Students will then analyze the women's movement in the United States. Finally, students will turn to different theories of the ideal position of women and men in politics and use those theories to explore the issue of pornography. Students will be evaluated on a final exam, short essays (4-3-5 page essays), class participation, and a research paper (15 pages). This is an advanced course with 6 credits prerequisite in Women's Studies or Political Science. This course fulfills the American Politics and Comparative Politics distribution as well as the advanced course requirement for the Political Science major. It is an elective for a Women's Studies major. It also fulfills an International/Intercultural competency requirement. This course will be offered once a year with 35 seats per offering.

**Prerequisite:** 3 credits in political science or women's studies
Cross-listed with: PLSC 428
Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences
International Cultures (IL)
United States Cultures (US)

WMNST 430: Women in American Society

3 Credits

A historical study of women's roles and experiences in the United States.

**Prerequisite:** 6 credits of American Studies, Sociology, or Women's Studies
Cross-listed with: AMST 430
United States Cultures (US)

WMNST 438: Feminist Philosophy

3 Credits

Examines the central currents of feminist philosophy, selected problems and concepts regarding difference, gender and sex, identity, and political culture.

**Prerequisite:** 9 credits of philosophy, including 6 credits of philosophy at the 200-level or 5th semester standing
Cross-listed with: PHIL 438
Bachelor of Arts: Humanities

WMNST 439: Women and the Holocaust

3 Credits

Analysis of women's experience in the Holocaust and exploration of the role of gender in Holocaust Studies. J ST (HIST/WMNST) 439 Women and the Holocaust (3) Most of the early study of the Holocaust focused almost exclusively on the experiences of Jewish men. It was men who wrote the first and most widely read Holocaust memoirs and men who produced the first studies of the Holocaust. The first question motivating this class is thus what we can learn from examining women's experience. Is it possible that the ghetto, the camp, and the forest look different from women's perspectives? Are there factors we miss when we read primary documents written by only half of the participants in these historical events? Beyond this, however, our exploration will also lead us to look more broadly at gender as a category of analysis.

What do we gain by bringing questions of gender to bear on our study of the Holocaust? Are there any ethical concerns that should inform our approach?

**Prerequisite:** J ST 010 or J ST 121 or HIST 121 or consent of program
Cross-listed with: HIST 439, JST 439

WMNST 450: Gender and Sexuality in Ancient Greece and Rome

3 Credits/Maximum of 3

An examination of gender, sexuality, and sexual desire in ancient Greece and Rome. This course examines issues of gender and sexuality in Greece and Rome. Through close analysis of ancient texts and artifacts, we will explore representations of gender in literature and art, medical theories of the male and female body, sexual norms and codes, and views on marriage, rape, adultery, and prostitution. In addition, we will consider how eroticism and gender both support and subvert political and social ideologies. The objective of this course is to enable students to analyze gender identities and conventions surrounding sexuality in the context of the Greek and Roman worlds. This course will also invite students to consider the influence of ancient conceptions of gender and sexuality on modern discussions and debates. Authors and texts may include Homer, Hesiod, Sappho, Sophocles, Aristophanes, Plato, Aristotle, the Hippocratic corpus, Catullus, Virgil, Ovid, and Augustine. These ancient readings will be supplemented with selections from modern feminist theorists and gender studies.

**Prerequisite:** 3 credits in CAMS
Cross-listed with: CAMS 450
International Cultures (IL)
Writing Across the Curriculum

WMNST 452: Women's Health Issues

3 Credits

Recommended Preparations: BIOL 141; PSYCH 100; WMNST 100
N452 examines major health issues concerning women today. The topics covered include, but are not limited to: developing a healthy lifestyle—nutrition and exercise; family planning—birth control methods; violence against women—relationship rights and signs of a batterer; eating disorders—anorexia, bulimia, and binge eating; sexual wellness; substance abuse—alcohol, prescription drugs; menopause signs and symptoms, treatments; and medical conditions affecting women today such as cancer, arthritis, multiple sclerosis and heart disease. The course emphasizes that women's lives are influenced by social, economic, political, and cultural conditions.

**Recommended Preparation:** BIOL 141 or PSYCH 100 or WMNST 100
Cross-listed with: BBH 452, NURS 452
United States Cultures (US)

WMNST 453: Women and the Criminal Justice System

3 Credits

This course focuses on the experiences of women as offenders, victims, and professionals in the criminal justice system. CRIMJ 453 / CRIM 453 / WMNST 453 Women and the Criminal Justice System (3) (US) The course will examine the role of women in the criminal justice system and look at the issues related to women as offenders, victims of crime, and as professionals in the system. Students will gain an understanding of the issues concerning women in the criminal justice system, examine how societal arrangements affect women as offenders, victims, and
WMNST 455: Gender Roles in Communication

3 Credits

Explores the literature on gender research in the discipline of human communication. CAS (WMNST) 455 Gender Roles in Communication (3) (US) This 400-level course is a theory and application course which also satisfies an intercultural requirement. CAS/WMNST 455 strives to ensure that students understand female and male differences and similarities in communication patterns, perceptions of the opposite sex, and expectations and stereotypes regarding the opposite sex. Many researchers find that gender communication is "cross-cultural," i.e., that women and men come from two different cultures, and therefore misunderstanding of each others’ intent and expectations may frequently occur. This course examines how distinctions in meaning and interpersonal dynamics may create these two differing cultures, and promotes understanding and possibilities for adaptation. It also investigates when and if changing communication styles is desirable, and in which settings. A goal of the course is to help students to solve puzzles toward understanding those we work with and relate to, as well as to apply their knowledge to their own lives and contexts. The course content and format reflects these goals. CAS/ WMNST 455 begins with theoretical information, later applying it to situations of interest to most – relationships, language use differences (verbal and nonverbal), media messages, and workplace issues. Lecture incorporates considerable discussion and exploration of gender issues, and most topics are followed by activities, which illustrate how theories work in real life. This course is useful for any students seeking an intercultural course. It is recommended to Communications Arts and Sciences and Women’s Studies majors and minors due to emphasis on communication theory and gender issues. Business, counseling, psychology, sociology, education and any social science majors may fulfill a US requirement through 455.

Prerequisite: CAS 202
Cross-listed with: CAS 455
United States Cultures (US)

WMNST 456: Gender, Occupations, and Professions

3 Credits

The role of gender in shaping contemporary North American patterns of employment, occupational roles, and statuses.

Prerequisite: WMNST100 or 3 credits in Sociology
Cross-listed with: SOC 456
Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

WMNST 458: Critical Issues in Reproduction

3 Credits

Examination and analysis of the new reproductive technologies from the standpoint of medical ethics, feminism, and sociocultural influences.

Prerequisite: BIOL 141 or PSYCH100 or WMNST100
Cross-listed with: BBH 458
General Education: Social and Behavioral Scien (GS)

WMNST 462: Reading Black, Reading Feminist

3 Credits

Female identity and its construction in textual representations of gender, class, color, and cultural difference in English-language literatures. ENGL (WMNST) 462 Reading Black, Reading Feminist (3) (US)(BA) This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. ENGL/WMNST 462 provides two important learning opportunities for undergraduate students. The first is to examine the construction of female identity in the textual representations of gender, class, color, and cultural differences by black American women. The second is to identify, explore, and analyze the major issues concerning the discovery and development of a black feminist literary tradition. Authors under consideration will vary from class to class, but may include writers such as Hortense Spillers, Harriet Jacobs, Harriet Wilson, E. Genovese, Hazel Carby, Francis Harper, J. Fauset, Nella Larsen, Zora Neale Hurston, Gwendolyn Brooks, Margaret Walker, Nikki Giovanni, Sonia Sanchez, Maya Angelou, Lorraine Hansberry, Adrienne Kennedy, E. Brown-Guilfoy, Toni Morrison, S. A. Williams, Alice Walker, Paula Marshall, and Octavia Butler. The course will focus on the complex relationship of slavery and post-slavery black experience to the literary imagination of African American women, and of issues of gender in black identity in America. Topics covered will vary, but will include issues of the legacy of slavery, the development of black feminist thought, nineteenth-century conceptions of black womanhood, women’s roles in the Harlem Renaissance, representations of black womanhood by male writers, and self-representation by female writers, women &quot;Black Power&quot; poets, black female playwrights, neo-slave narratives, the aesthetics of contemporary black feminism, and postmodernism and the challenge to understandings of canonicity posed by black women’s writing, and the like. This class will prepare students for advanced courses in African American and feminist literature, as well as other academic courses that engage in the verbal and written analysis of complex written forms. Students will be evaluated by class participation, a group oral presentation, small group problem solving exercises, three out-of-class essays (of 5-8 pages each), and an in-class final examination consisting of essays and short answers. In addition to satisfying requirements for students emphasizing in African American literature within the English major, this course will be important in the offerings of African/African American Studies, American Studies, Women’s Studies, and History. The course may be used as English Major elective credit or as credit towards the English minor, and will be offered once every other year, with 40 seats per offering. The course can be used to complete the major and minor in Women’s Studies Arts and Humanities area and it also satisfies the Women of Color (WOC) sub-requirement.

Prerequisite: ENGL 015 or ENGL 030
Cross-listed with: ENGL 462
Bachelor of Arts: Humanities
United States Cultures (US)
WMNST 464: Feminine/Masculine
3 Credits

Study of sex role learning; investigating feminine/masculine labeling; implications for contemporary society. BE SC 464 BE SC (WMNST) 464 Feminine and Masculine (3) (US) This course provides a critical examination of the concepts of masculinity and femininity through a consideration of how these have shifted and changed historically and cross-culturally. It considers a variety of theories of gender difference. It investigates how gender is socially constructed and practiced. Thus, it examines how gender is enacted in interpersonal relationships and defined, reinforced, and challenged through processes of socialization as well as through the various institutional spheres of social life. The course addresses the diversity of masculinities and femininities within a single society. Thus, attention is given to race and class-based differences as well as to trans-genderism and homosexuality.

**Prerequisite:** general psychology or general sociology
Cross-listed with: BESC 464
United States Cultures (US)

WMNST 466: Lesbian and Gay History
3 Credits

Critical exploration of the history of sexuality, focusing especially on the emergence of modern lesbian and gay identities. WMNST (HIST) 466 Lesbian and Gay History (3) (US;IL) This course will explore the relationships in different cultures and historical periods between the dominant culture and homosexuals, whom the culture deemed, at different times, sinful, deviant, criminal or, more recently, a minority community. Students will confront the very nature of difference, and how it has been played out in European and American history. The course will challenge students to deal with how societies define difference itself, how they isolate or punish deviants; and how the creation of the "homosexual"; helped establish not simply difference but normalcy and, in a highly sexualized modern culture. Finally, the course will explore notions of identity itself, focusing on the creation of a modern gay and lesbian identity and its impact on broader questions of gender, community, civil rights, and political discourse in the United States. An example of evaluation methods would be: course presented in a seminar format with grades based on class participation, brief analytical papers, and a longer research or historiographic paper.

**Prerequisite:** WMNST100, WMNST117
Cross-listed with: HIST 466
International Cultures (IL)
United States Cultures (US)

WMNST 471: The Psychology of Gender
3 Credits

Theories and research on gender differences and gender roles. Emphasis on women's and men's current positions in society.

**Prerequisite:** PSYCH100, PSYCH221
Cross-listed with: PSYCH 479
United States Cultures (US)

WMNST 472: Work-Life Practices and Policies
3 Credits

Explore the causes and consequences of conflicts between work, family, and other life commitments, and how these may be resolved. LER 472 Work-Life Practices and Policies (3)(BA) This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. The interdisciplinary field of work-family and work-life developed as a result of middle-class women’s entry into the labor force, a movement that generated conflict between family and paid work commitments. Overall, the course addresses the reasons the field developed, relevant theoretical perspectives regarding the issues, and related problems as well as proposed solutions at both the public and private sector levels. The overarching objectives of the course are to expand students' understanding of conflicts between work and family commitments, and how these might be resolved through private and public sector initiatives. Specifically, the course concerns how individuals, families, and organizations interact to help hinder the achievement of balance between work and life commitments, and relevant effects on those involved. The changing demographics of the family, laws and trends around working time, father and mother time with children, the expanded need for elder care, work-life programs such as flextime, concierge services, paid parental leave, part-time careers, paid time-off banks, and the role of unions, corporations and government legislation are covered. The course attempts to link the likely future needs of students to broader trends in society and how balance could be achieved at the level of individuals, families, other stakeholders in the community, and for society as well. Fields of research relevant to the course include labor studies, women’s studies, Industrial/Organizational psychology, the sociology of work and of family, and child development. Students will be evaluated on the basis of class participation, through two in-class examinations, and through a final written or oral project providing a chronology and analysis of an adult’s work-family history. The course is offered most fall and spring semesters, and typically 30 students are enrolled.

**Prerequisite:** 3 credits of LER
Cross-listed with: LER 472
Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

WMNST 476: Anthropology of Gender
3 Credits

Cross-cultural construction of gender and sex roles; theories of gender construction; case studies and practical effects. ANTH 476 / WMNST 476 Anthropology of Gender (3) Students will learn the current theoretical approaches in anthropology to the cultural construction of gender and sex roles. The first 2-3 weeks of the course will concentrate on exploring and understanding these theoretical approaches. The remaining weeks will focus on case studies of non-western gender systems, and on the practical effects of those systems, but students will also be encouraged to relate these systems to their own experience. Each meeting will be based on discussion of the readings assigned for that meeting and students will be expected to participate. During the period devoted to theoretical approaches, discussion will focus on the assumptions, advantages, and disadvantages of each approach. For the part of the course devoted to readings on individual societies, one reading each week will be the basis for a critical essay of approximately five pages. These essays will be expected to include: 1) an identification of the theoretical approach that informs the work, 2) a statement of the author’s arguments or questions, 3) a discussion of the methods used to provide data in support of the arguments or to answer questions, 4) a critique of
the adequacy of data, and 5) a statement suggesting which additional elements might make for a better study. These essays will be graded for both content and form and students will have the option of rewriting essays (and improving their grade) after they receive comments. These essays will provide 60% of the course grade, while participation in discussions will provide another 15%. A short research paper will also be required. The paper must focus on a question or hypothesis concerning gender, and a preliminary proposal that includes the focus of the paper, its relevance to the course, and a beginning bibliography is required. A first draft of the paper will be required two weeks before the end of the semester. The research paper will provide 25% of the course grade. The course complements other courses in Anthropology that deal with sex differences, but will provide a perspective on gender that is not available elsewhere in the curriculum. The course can be used to fulfill a Behavioral Anthropology requirement in both the major and minor in Anthropology and a writing across the curriculum requirement. It will also provide students in other departments with the opportunity to study aspects of diverse, non-western cultures. The course is currently identified as one that may be taken to fulfill the requirements of the Women’s Studies minor.

**Prerequisite:** 3 credits in women's studies or anthropology
Cross-listed with: ANTH 476
Writing Across the Curriculum

WMNST 477: Sociology of Sexuality

3 Credits

An analysis of the demographic, social, and cultural factors affecting the developments and experience of sexuality in contemporary society.

**Prerequisite:** 3 credits in Sociology
Cross-listed with: SOC 477

WMNST 480: Italian Women Writers Through the Centuries

3 Credits

Analysis of the works of women authors in their historical and literary contexts. IT 480 Italian Women Writers Through the Centuries (3) Italian women have been stereotyped as the "mamma," or grandmother who cooks, prays, and idolizes her sons. Such an image does not accommodate the wide variety of experiences, perspectives, and contributions of Italian women throughout history. This seminar will explore the writings of female authors from delimited historical periods (alternating among Renaissance, 19th and 20th Centuries). Depending on time period, genres will include autobiography, poetry, historical novel, drama, film, nonfiction. Throughout the course we will consider the political and social developments in Italy with an emphasis on issues of special relevance to women. As we approach each text, we will examine such questions as: the significance of its form; the author's use of language; the ways in which masculinity and femininity are constructed; intersections with the text's historical moment; the political, philosophical and/or theological questions posed by the text; the ways in which the text inserts or distances itself from the Italian literary canon; and the text's depictions, re-evaluations and uses of history. Through their journal assignments in class discussion, students will be encouraged to reflect upon the implications of course concepts in their own culture and historical moment. Evaluation methods include participation in class discussion, journal entries, short analysis papers, and a longer (8-10 page) research paper. In Italian. Prerequisite: any 300-level Italian course. This course is conducted in Italian and counts for the Italian major and minor. The ability to screen VHS and DVD videos is necessary. Enrollment is limited to 20, and the course will be offered at least once every four semesters.

**Prerequisite:** junior standing or permission of program
Cross-listed with: IT 480

WMNST 489: British Women Writers

3 Credits

A study of selected British women writers. ENGL (WMNST) 489 British Women Writers (3) This course provides the opportunity to study writing by British Women from a historical perspective and to explore the views these women have of themselves as artists. The course will concentrate on a careful reading of works by a variety of authors. It will address the question of the role gender plays in the selection of literary forms and the development of character, theme, symbols, and rhetorical strategies. It will also explore what particular dimensions British women writers have brought to the British literary tradition. Students will be active learners through keeping reading journals, presenting background reports on the history of women in England, participating in small-group discussions about the texts, and writing 2 shorter essays and one longer research essay for the class. This course focuses on an area of British literature, which more traditionally structured courses tend to obscure. The course will be attractive to students from a variety of programs, including English majors, Women's Studies minors, and Interdisciplinary Humanities students. The course will be offered once every two years. Estimated class size 20.

**Prerequisite:** 6 credits of ENGL
Cross-listed with: ENGL 489
Bachelor of Arts: Humanities

WMNST 490: Women Writers and Their Worlds

3 Credits

American and British literature written from the perspective of women. ENGL (WMNST) 490 Women Writers and Their Worlds (3) (US;IL)(BA) This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. ENGL/ WMNST 490 covers particular aspects of American and British literature written from the perspective of women. The courses stress the diversity of women's authorial worlds, both through time and/or space. The readings and specific focus vary from semester to semester. ENGL/ WMNST 490 seeks to make students aware of the extensive body of literature written by women, but, unlike ENGL 194, which is a survey course of women's literature, ENGL/WMNST 490 can be a more intensive course, focusing on selected themes and topics of particular concern to women as reflected in the poetry and fiction of twentieth-century American and British women writers. The class can also be taught in relationship to earlier periods, dealing, for instance, with English women novelists from 1775-1865. In such a class, readings would include fiction by Fanny Burney, Mary Wollstonecraft, Ann Radcliffe, Jane Austen, Mary Shelly, Emily Bronte, Elizabeth Gaskell, and George Eliot. The course would then place each novel in its historical, social, intellectual, and literary context, and explore the various ways in which some of England's best writers transformed their female experience of the world into fiction that extended the range and influenced the development of the novel. Regardless of the particular focus, all sections of the course pose the following questions throughout: Do women use the same myths, archetypes, and literary conventions as male writers? Or do they sometimes have to modify the myths, archetypes, and literary conventions originated by their male precursors in order to adapt them to female experience? Is there such a thing as a distinctively female
imagination, with a symbolic language of its own? Is there such a thing as a chain of literary influence linking women writers to each other? What are the strategies for coping with the anxieties of authorship? What is the interaction between gender and genre? In what ways are creativity and procreativity modes of defying prevailing ideologies? Does a woman’s psychological development have an effect on the plots a woman novelist conceives? How does women’s literature reflect the realities of women’s lives? As a course in women’s literature, ENGL/WMNST 490 concerns itself with questions of gender. In so far as some of these women writers are black or women of color, it concerns itself with questions of race and ethnicity. In as far as the course looks at women’s literature in the context of men’s literature, it is concerned with the inter-relationship between dominant (male) and non-dominant (female) culture in the United States as well as in Britain. In so far as the course covers lesbian writers, it is concerned with sexual orientation. Students should expect to complete a minimum of three written assignments in the course, two course papers, and an essay final exam in class. The papers each will ask students to choose a text to analyze in relationship to one of the thematic modules the course has chosen, for instance, to discuss how Virginia Woolf’s Mrs. Dalloway analyzes the position of upper-middle class women in a particular moment in history when women had achieved the vote, but were still largely constrained by patriarchal social norms. In addition to written assignments, students will be evaluated on class discussion and general participation. The course not only prepares students for taking up literary and cultural analysis in English classes, but also in any other class that engages in the verbal and written analysis of complex written texts, and in other classes in Women’s Studies or in other Penn State departments that address the social, cultural, or ethical issues of gender.

The course may be used as English Major elective credit or as credit towards the English Minor; it may also be used in the Women’s Studies major and minor. It will be offered once a year with 40 seats per offering.

**Prerequisite:** ENGL 015 or ENGL 030

Cross-listed with: ENGL 490

Bachelor of Arts: Humanities

International Cultures (IL)

United States Cultures (US)

WMNST 491: American Women Writers

3 Credits

A study of selected American women writers. ENGL 492 / AMST 476 / WMNST 491 American Women Writers (3) A study of selected women writers, this course provides the opportunity to study writing by American women from an historical perspective and to explore the views these women have of themselves as artists. The course will concentrate on a careful reading of works by a variety of authors. It will raise the question of the role that gender—as well as other differences such as race, class, and ethnicity—play in the selection of literary forms and the development of character, theme, symbol, and rhetorical strategy. It will also explore the dimensions American women have brought to the American literary tradition. The course satisfies the area requirement in culture for American Studies majors and is open to all majors meeting the prerequisite requirements. The course will be offered once every two years and enrollment is 25.

**Prerequisite:** 6 credits of ENGL

Cross-listed with: AMST 476, ENGL 492

Bachelor of Arts: Humanities

WMNST 492: Contemporary Feminist Analysis: The Capstone Senior Seminar

3 Credits

Applied critical analysis of any aspect of society and/or culture from a contemporary feminist perspective. WMNST 492W Current Feminist Issues This course is the capstone course for the Women’s Studies major. We keep the course small (15-20 students) and offer it every spring. It is constructed to provide you the opportunity to apply the knowledge and skills you have developed in Women’s Studies to some of the major topics being addressed in current academic feminist discourse. The first goal of the course is for each student to become familiar with the major arguments and evidence regarding some of the current major topics in feminism. The second goal is for each student to learn more about the multidisciplinary perspectives of women’s studies. The third goal of the course is for each student to develop and demonstrate her skill at carrying out feminist scholarship. There are two core elements of the course. The first is class discussion of readings addressing some of the major current feminist issues. Each year a new set of these topics is put together by the instructor, drawing upon the suggestions of other Women’s Studies faculty and majors. The second core element of the course is each individual student doing a term paper. Work on these papers will take place both publicly and privately, so that everyone in the course will learn something about how feminist projects are constructed in the various disciplines represented by the students’ choices of topics for their papers. Because this is a W course, 2/3 of your grade will be based on writing assignments. Throughout the course, you will write short (2 page) papers on the readings that we will be discussing in our seminars. You will also write a term paper and some preliminary assignments related to it, including a topic justification paper, an annotated bibliography accompanied by a text description of the major themes identified in the bibliography, a class presentation on your paper topic, and the final 10-15 page paper. The other third of your grade will be based on your participation in seminar discussions.

**Prerequisite:** WMNST001, WMNST301, WMNST400

Writing Across the Curriculum

WMNST 494: Research Project

1-12 Credits/Maximum of 12

Supervised student activities on research projects identified on an individual or small-group basis.

WMNST 494H: Research Project

1-12 Credits/Maximum of 12

Supervised student activities on research projects identified on an individual or small-group basis.

Honors

WMNST 495: Internship

1-18 Credits/Maximum of 18

Supervised off-campus, nongroup instruction including field experiences, practica, or internships. Written and oral critique of activity required.

**Prerequisite:** prior approval of proposed assignment by instructor
WMNST 496: Independent Studies
1-18 Credits/Maximum of 18
Creative projects, including research and design, which are supervised on an individual basis and which fall outside scope of formal courses.

WMNST 497: Special Topics
1-9 Credits/Maximum of 9
Formal courses given infrequently to explore, in depth, a comparatively narrow subject which may be topical or of special interest.

WMNST 499: Foreign Studies
1-12 Credits/Maximum of 12
Courses offered in foreign countries by individual or group instruction.

International Cultures (IL)