BA in Interdisciplinary with Emphasis in Women’s and Gender Studies

Degree Program Description

Women’s and Gender Studies is an interdisciplinary field that establishes
gender, sexuality, race, class, and dis/ability as fundamental categories
for understanding social structures, cultural norms, and power dynamics.
Combining research methods from the humanities and social sciences,
the WGST major strengthens critical thinking, writing and research skills;
highlights multiple forms of knowledge; and encourages students to
think of themselves and others as citizens of a diverse world. WGST
scholars produce a wide-variety of analytical, creative, and activist works,
investigating intersecting forms of inequalities and oppressions in local
and global contexts.

When students graduate with a emphasis in Women’s and Gender
Studies, they should be able to:

• Apply cross-cultural and global awareness to 'big questions' about
  women and gender
• Have a comprehensive grasp of intersectionality and matrices of
  power
• Think critically: i.e. consider an issue from multiple perspectives;
  locate, evaluate and interpret diverse sources; engage in critical self-
  reflection
• Construct arguments with evidence obtained from research
• Work collaboratively
• Recognize sexist/racist writing and thinking
• Connect knowledge and experience, theory and activism, Women's
  and Gender Studies materials with other courses
• Communicate effectively in writing and speech
• Apply knowledge for social transformation, citizenship
• Use gender (and other identity categories) as a category/ies for
  analysis

This major can be combined with other programs to create a double
major or a dual degree. The flexibility and expansiveness of the degree
enables our graduates to work in a wide variety of fields, including
education, law, public policy, health sciences, human resources,
business management, social work, arts, non-profit organizations, NGO’s,
advertising and market research, communication, and journalism.

Major Program Requirements

This major can be combined with other programs to create a double
major or a dual degree. Within the College of Arts and Science, students
can pair it with a major like BA in English, Sociology, Psychology or
History, for example, without taking courses beyond the required 120
credits. Students seeking a Bachelor Degree in Journalism or a Public
Health degree can earn a second degree, a BA in Interdisciplinary
with Emphasis in Women’s and Gender Studies. Required WGST courses
for many dual degrees also fit within the 120 credit graduation plan, although
132 total credits are generally required for a dual degree.

The curriculum includes Women’s and Gender Studies core courses as
well as cross-listed courses from several departments throughout the
University.

Thirty hours are required in Women’s and Gender Studies. In
addition to degree requirements, college and university requirements
(http://catalog.missouri.edu/academicdegerequirements/
universityrequirements/), including university general education
requirements (http://catalog.missouri.edu/academicdegerequirements/
generaleducationrequirements/), must be met.

Required Core Courses

- WGST 2020 Feminist Theory 3
- WGST 4990 Research Seminar in Women's and Gender Studies 3
- WGST 3450W Feminist Methodologies - Writing Intensive 3

4940 Internship can be substituted for 4990 Seminar

Additional courses

An additional 21 credits (WGST or cross-listed courses) are required.
A minimum of 12 credits must come from WGST core courses
(courses taught by WGST faculty and instructors), in addition, 9 credits
must be 3000 level or higher. See the WGST website for current
course offerings.

Semester Plan

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Total Credits: 120

Contact
Women's and Gender Studies, Department in the College of Arts and Science
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Julie Elman, Director of Undergraduate Studies
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