Major and Minor in Women’s Studies

Program in Women’s Studies, College of Arts and Sciences

CHAIR: Adrienne Munich DIRECTOR OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES: Sarah Hall Sternglanz
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Majors and other minors of particular interest to students majoring or minoring in Women’s Studies: English (EGL), Health and Wellness (LHW), Gender and Sexual Development (LHD), History (HIS), Philosophy (PHI), Psychology (PSY), Sociology (SOC)

Faculty

Himika Bhattacharya, Visiting Professor, Ph.D., University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign: Feminist theory; transnational and postcolonial feminisms; women and health; feminist methods; violence against women; sex, gender, and the media; race, gender, and class in health; international women’s health issues; global feminist activism.

Ritchie Calvin, Lecturer, Ph.D., Stony Brook University: Latina and Chicana literature and culture; feminist science fiction; reproductive technologies.

Francoise B. Cromer, Visiting Professor, Ph.D., University of California, Santa Barbara: Feminist theory; global (transnational) feminism; race, class, and gender in health; African-American History; Caribbean History; American politics and policy.

Lisa Diedrich, Associate Professor, Ph.D., Emory University: Feminist bioethics; disability studies; feminist theory; psychoanalysis.

Kelliann Schrage Flores, Adjunct Lecturer, M.A., Stony Brook University: Contemporary Latin American literature, Latin American Jewish women.

Victoria Hesford, Assistant Professor, Ph.D., Emory University: American studies; feminist histories; feminist cultural memory; queer history and cultural studies.

Connie Koppelman, Lecturer, part-time, Ph.D., Stony Brook University: Women in Long Island history; Long Island women artists.

Adrienne Munich, Professor, Ph.D., City University of New York: Joint appointment with English; Victorian studies; feminist theory.

Sarah Hall Sternglanz, Lecturer, Ph.D., Stanford University: Psychology of women; sex role development.

Affiliated Faculty

William Arens, Anthropology
Jean Bacon, School of Social Welfare
Diane Barthel, Sociology
Beverly Birns, (Emerita) Child and Family Studies
Michele Helene Bogart, Art
Mary Jo Bona, European Languages, Literatures, and Cultures

Ruth S. Bottigheimer, Comparative Literary and Cultural Studies
Barbara Brand, Library
Ruth Brandwein, Social Welfare
Floris Barnett Cash, Africana Studies
Lou Charnon-Deutsch, Hispanic Languages and Literature
Helen Cooper, English
Stephanie Dinkins, Art
Christa Erickson, Art
Norman Goodman, Sociology
Young-Sun Hong, History
Leonie Huddy, Political Science
Heidi Huttner, English
Don Ihde, Philosophy
E. Ann Kaplan, English, Humanities Institute
Michael Kimmel, Sociology
Eva Feder Kittay, Philosophy
Joan Kuchner, Child and Family Studies, Psychology
Bonita London, Psychology
Brooke Larson, History
Helen Lemay, (Emerita) History
Shirley Lim, History
Sara Lipton, History
Ira Livingston, English
Marci Lobel, Psychology
Judith Lochhead, Music
Iona Man-Cheong, History
Celia J. Marshik, English
Rita Nolan, Philosophy
Oyeronke Oyewumi, Sociology
Ilona Rashkow, Comparative Studies
Mary Rawlinson, Philosophy
Carol Rosen, English
Joel Rosenthal, (Emerita) History
Jane Sugarman, Music
Nancy Tomes, History
Kathleen Vernon, Hispanic Languages and Literature
Kathleen Wilson, History
Judith Wishnia, (Emerita) History

Teaching Assistants

Estimated number: 2

Advising Faculty

Estimated number: 10

Spring 2009: updates since Spring 2007 are in red

Women’s studies is an interdisciplinary area of scholarship and research that focuses on the significance of gender as a variable in experience, history, and culture. Women’s studies raises questions that often have been ignored or marginalized, and it makes the experience and history of women central to the study of any human concern. Scholarship in women’s studies demonstrates the need to recognize new models of knowledge, as well as the need to be critical of theories and approaches that do not take into account the difference of gender. In so doing, women’s studies serves as a site for “reflective critique,” and it has often challenged the traditional disciplines to reflect on their concepts and methods in ways that have enriched those disciplines.

At Stony Brook, the Women’s Studies program introduces students to the history of feminism, as well as its contemporary theories and methods. Feminist theory in a global context provides the background for a critique of the social construction of gender and its relation to other systems of privilege.

The major and minor in Women’s Studies are designed for students interested in the interdisciplinary study of gender and women. The programs emphasize the development of skills in critical thinking, argumentation, and writing. The program consists of a set of core courses offered in women’s studies as well as related courses in other disciplines. Students wishing to complete the major or minor should consult the Department and establish an advising folder by the beginning of the junior year.

Because it emphasizes transposable skills of reading, writing, analysis, and
expression, women's studies provides an excellent preparation for graduate school, professional school, or employment. Graduates have gone on to careers in law, medicine, social work, psychology, teaching, and business, among other fields, and graduate work in women's studies. Double majors, combining Women's Studies with another field, are not uncommon.

Courses Offered in Women’s Studies

See the Course Descriptions listing in this Bulletin for complete information.

A. Core Courses
1. WST 102 F Introduction to Women’s Studies in the Social Sciences
2. WST 103 G Women, Culture, and Difference
3. WST 301 G Histories of Feminism
4. WST 305 G Feminist Theories in Context
5. WST 390 G, 391 G Topics in Women Studies in the Humanities

B. Focused Studies
One course in each of the following categories (See Note 1):
1. WST 102 Introduction to Women's Studies
2. WST 103 Women, Culture, and Difference
3. WST 301 Histories of Feminism
4. WST 305 Feminist Theories in Context
5. WST 408 Senior Research Seminar for Women’s Studies Majors

C. Electives
Twelve credits from WST courses. The following courses offered by other departments may also be used to satisfy this requirement (also see Note 2):

AFS 345 Culture and Gender: Women in Africa and the Caribbean
AFS 370 The African-American Family
ANT 295 Sex and Human Nature
ANT 367 Male and Female
CFS 308 Violence in the Family
EGL 371 Topics in Gender Studies
HIS 394 Topics in History of Medicine and Reproduction (approved topic only, including History of Human Reproduction in Western Civilization)
HUM 122 Images of Women in Literature

Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory. All other courses for the major must be passed with a letter grade of C or higher. No transferred course with a grade lower than C may be applied toward major requirements. No more than three 100-level courses may be applied toward major requirements. At least 18 credits must be in courses numbered 300 or higher.

Completion of the major requires 36 credits.
HUM 123 Sin and Sexuality in Literature
HWC 349 Overview of Gay and Lesbian Issues
PSY 240 Social Psychology
RLS 426 Feminine Spirituality

D. Upper-Division Writing Requirement
Students must present to the director of undergraduate studies a minimum of ten typewritten pages of formal writing, prepared for an upper-division course listed above as acceptable for the major requirements. This written work must have been judged by the course instructor to be satisfactory for the upper-division writing requirement in the field of Women's Studies. Normally this requirement is met through the work in WST 408.

Notes:
1. A list of approved courses which satisfy requirement B can be found on the WST community blackboard Web site at http://blackboard.stonybrook.edu.
2. Related special topics courses given in various departments are acceptable for the Women's Studies major and minor with the approval of the undergraduate director. A list will be available in the Women's Studies Office at preregistration each semester. The list will also be available on the WST community blackboard Web site.
3. At least two WST topics courses must be used in satisfying Requirement B.
4. No more than six credits from WST 447 and 487 may be applied toward the major.

Specialization in Gender, Sexuality, and Public Health
Students choosing to pursue this specialization receive additional preparation for a career in public health. Depending on the student’s choice of courses, this specialization can be useful for students planning careers in midwifery, medicine, nursing, or counseling and education related to sexuality and/or reproduction.

Requirements for the Specialization in Gender, Sexuality, and Public Health
1. 18 credits of course work (See Notes)
   See the list of elective courses below; a current list of courses approved for this specialization can be found on the WST community blackboard Web site at http://blackboard.stonybrook.edu.
2. Internship
   Three of the 18 credits for the specialization must be in an approved internship or other related applied experience.

Notes:
1. No more than 3 of the 18 credits required for the specialization may be lower-division.
2. All A-F graded courses must be passed with a grade of C or better.
3. The specialization courses may overlap with major requirements, but not replace any.

Elective courses for the Specialization in Gender, Sexuality, and Public Health
WST 111 Introduction to Queer Studies in the Humanities
WST 112 Introduction to Queer Studies in the Social Sciences
WST 391 Music and Sexuality
WST 392 Plague Narratives: Images of Illness and Identity
WST 392 Feminist Bioethics
WST 394 Women and Health in a Global Context
WST 394 Women, Science, Fiction and Reproduction
WST 394 Social Issues in Human Reproduction
WST 394 Reproductive Technologies
WST 399 Sexual Citizens
WST 399 Queer Theory
WST 401 Women and Medicine

Sample Course Sequence for the Major in Women's Studies

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Specialization in Gender and Social Change

Students choosing to pursue this specialization receive additional preparation for a career in social change creating professions, such as law, social work, public policy, or the media. Depending on the student's choice of courses, this specialization can be useful for students planning careers in civil rights work, community organizing, work with abused women and children, politics, or visual media, to give only a few examples.

Requirements for the Specialization in Gender and Social Change
1. 18 credits of coursework (See Notes)
   See the list of elective courses below; a current list of courses approved for this specialization can be found on the WST community blackboard Web site at http://blackboard.stonybrook.edu.
2. Internship
   Three of the 18 credits for the specialization must be in an approved internship or other related applied experience.

Notes:
1. No more than 3 of the 18 credits required for the specialization may be lower-division.
2. All A-F graded courses must be passed with a grade of C or better.
3. The specialization courses may overlap with major requirements, but not replace any.

Elective courses for the Specialization in Gender and Social Change
- WST 310 Contemporary Feminist Issues
- WST 377/PSY 347 Psychology of Women
- WST 391 Music and Sexuality
- WST 392 Cultures of Disability
- WST 394 Social Issues in Human Reproduction
- WST 395 Feminist Theory in a Global Context
- WST 395 Issues in Transnational Feminism
- WST 395 Global Activism
- WST 395 Global Feminism: Maids, Nannies & Sex Workers & Today's Feminism
- WST 396/HIS 396 Women, Utopia & Dystopia
- WST 396/HIS 396 Women and Social Welfare
- WST 397 Applied Developmental Psychology Of Gender
- WST 398 Gender & Social Movements
- WST/SOC 247 Sociology of Gender
- LHD 301 Men in American Society
- LHD 301 Gender & Technology
- LHD 401 Gender and Contemporary Media
- LHD 401 Gender & Body Image
- WST/SOC 247 Sociology of Gender
- WST/POL 330 Gender & Law
- WST/SOC 340 Sociology of Reproduction
- WST/SOC 347 Gender & Politics
- WST/AFS 350 Black Women & Social Change
- WST/SOC 371 Gender & Work
- AAS 392 Gender & Caste in Hindu Law
- AFS 345 Women in Africa & the Caribbean
- CCS 401 Masculinity & Popular Culture
- CFS 308 Violence in the Family
- HIS 300 Race, Gender & Rights/US Legal.
- PSY 240 Social Psychology
- SOC 390 Sex and Society
- SOC 390 Sociology of Masculinity

Requirements for the Minor in Women's Studies (WST)

Only one course (no more than three credits) offered for the minor may be taken for Pass/No Credit, and no more than 6 credits may be taken for S/U. At least 15 credits must be graded with a letter grade (A through F).

Completion of the minor requires 21 credits.

1. WST 102 Introduction to Women's Studies in the Social Sciences
2. WST 301 Histories of Feminism
3. WST 407 Senior Research Seminar for Women's Studies Minors
4. Twelve credits chosen from among WST courses (or their crosslisted equivalents) and the list in WST major requirement C above. At least six of these credits must be numbered 300 or above. It is strongly recommended that these courses be chosen from among the following options: WST 390-G, 391-G, 392-H, 393-I, 394-H, 395-J, 396-K&4, 397-F, 398-K, or 399-G.