Women's and Gender Studies (WST)

Majors and Minor in Women's and Gender Studies

Department of Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, College of Arts and Sciences

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Majors and other minors of particular interest to students majoring or minoring in Women's and Gender Studies: English (EGL), Health and Wellness (LHW), Gender and Sexual Development (LHD), History (HIS), Philosophy (PHI), Psychology (PSY), Sociology (SOC)

Women's and Gender Studies (WST)

Women's and gender 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 and gender 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 and gender 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 and Gender 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 and Gender 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 and gender 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 and Gender Studies with another field, are not uncommon.

Students may choose to pursue a combined Women's and Gender Studies B.A. and Master of Public Health.

Requirements for the Major and Minor in Women’s and Gender Studies (WST)

Requirements for the Major in Women's and Gender Studies (WST)

The major in Women's and Gender Studies leads to the Bachelor of Arts degree. No more than three credits offered for the major may be taken Pass/No Credit or 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 two 100-level courses may be applied toward major requirements. At least 18 credits must be in courses numbered 300 or higher. Students may choose to pursue an accelerated Women's and Gender Studies B.A. and Master of Public Health. For further information on the accelerated degree, please see the program Director.

Completion of the major requires 36 credits.

A. Core Courses

1. WST 102 Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies in the Social Sciences OR WST 103 Women, Culture, and Difference
2. WST 291 Introduction to Feminist Theory
3. WST 301 Histories of Feminism
4. WST 305 Feminist Theories in Context
5. WST 408 Senior Research Seminar for Women's and Gender Studies Majors and Minors

B. Focused Studies

One course in each of the following categories (See Note 1)

- Women's and Gender Studies in a Global Context: WST 395 Topics in Global Feminism (or approved other course)
- Gender, Race, and Ethnicity: WST 398 Topics in Gender, Race, and Ethnicity (or approved other course)
- Gender and Sexuality: WST 399 Topics in Gender and Sexuality (or approved other course)

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

- AAS 331 Japanese Literature in the Feminine Domain
- AAS 372 Family, Marriage, & Kinship in China
- AAS 392 Soc Sci Topics in Asian & Asian American Studies (approved topic: "Caste & Gender in Hindu Law")
- AFH 382 Black Women's Literature of Diaspora
- AFS 345 Culture & Gender
- AFS 350 Black Women & Social Change
- AFS 370 African-American Family
- AFS 381 AIDS, Race, & Gender in the Black Community
- ANT 367 Male & Female
- ARH 391 Topics in Global Art (approved topic: "Images of Women in Visual Culture")
- BIO 358 Biology of Human Social & Sexual Behavior
- CCL 315 Gender & Sexuality in Ancient Greek Literature
- CCS 311 Gender & Genre in Film
- CCS 327 Topics in Histories of Culture (approved topics: "Queer Fictions of History; "Hormones & Behavior," other topics when appropriate)
- CLT 122 Images of Women in Literature
- CLT 123 Sin & Sexuality in Literature
- CLT 301 Theory of Literature (approved topic: "Queer Modernities")
- EGL 276 Feminism: Literature and Cultural Contexts
- EGL 310 Neoclassical Literature in English (approved topic: "Gender in the 18th Century")
- EGL 350 Major Writers of American Literature, Colonial Period to 1900 (approved topic: "James, Stein, & Woolf")
- EGL 352 Major Writers of 20th Century Literature in English (approved topic: "Virginia Woolf")
- EGL 362 Drama in English (approved topic: "Women in Modern US Drama")
- EGL 367 Contemporary Afro-American Literature (when topic appropriate)
- EGL 371 Topics in Gender Studies in Literature
- EGL 372 Topics in Women & Literature (approved topics: "Ecofeminism," "Mothering, Race, & Gender," "Women Writers")
- EUR 390 Special Topics in European Studies (approved topic: "European Women Writers")
- HIS 336 Women, Work, & Family in Modern European History
- HIS 360 Women in Premodern Europe
- HIS 340 Topics in Asian History (approved topic: "Women in 20th Century China;" other topics when appropriate)
- HIS 392 Topics in European History (approved topic: "The Age of Jane Austen")
- HIS 393 Topics in Modern European History (approved topic: "Sexual Politics in Modern Europe;" "The World of Jane Austen;" other topics when appropriate)
- HIS 394 Topics in History of Human Reproduction
- HIS 396 Topics in US History (approved topic: "Women & Work in 20th Century US")
- HIS 401 Colloquium in European History (approved topic: "Heresy & Witchcraft in Middle Ages")
- HIS 402 Colloquium in European History (approved topic: "Women, Militants, & the Vote")
- HIS 414 Colloquium in American History (approved topic: "Sex & Death in American Murders")
- HUI 231 Sex & Politics in Italian Cinema
- HUI 235 Sex, Love, Tragedy: Early Italian Cinema
- HUI 237 Images of Italian-American Women
- LHD 302 Colloquium in Human & Gender Development (approved topics: "Gender & Sex] & Contemporary Media," "Pornography, Media, & AIDS")
- LHD 401 Advanced Seminar in Human Sexual & Gender Development (approved topic: "Fetishes, Freaks, & Addictions")
- MUS 314 Women Making Music
- PHI 284 Intro to Feminist Theory (III)
- PHI 384 Advanced Topics in Feminist Philosophy (III)
- POL 330 Gender Issues & the Law
- POL 347 Women & Politics
- PSY 347 Psychology of Women
- PSY 349 Special Topics in Social Psychology (approved topic: "Women's Health Issues")
- RLS 366 Feminine Spirituality
- SOC 247 Sociology of Gender
- SOC 304 Sociology of the Family
- SOC 340 Sociology of Human Reproduction
- SOC 371 Gender & Work
- SOC 390 Special Topics (approved topic: "Gender in Africa")
• SOC 391 Special Topics (approved topics: "Bodies: A Social Primer," "Sociology of Masculinity," "Gender in Africa;" other topics when appropriate)
• SOC 394 Special Topics (approved topic: "Globalization, Gender, Migration;" "Gender & International Development;" other topics when appropriate)
• SOC 395 Topics in Sci, Tech, & Society (approved topic: "Perverts, Pimps, & Pills;" other topics when appropriate)
• SPN 410 Theory in Contexts (approved topic: "Money, Sex, & Power")
• WSE 187 Women in the Laboratory
• WSE 242 Society & Gender in Science & Engineering

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 and Gender Studies. Normally this requirement is met through the work in WST 408.

Students should consult with the department advisor to ensure that their plan for completing the Upper Division Writing Requirement is consistent with university graduation requirements for General Education. Students completing the Stony Brook Curriculum (SBC) must complete a course that satisfies the "Write Effectively within One's Discipline" (WRTD) learning objective to graduate. The Upper Division Writing Requirement is consistent in most cases with the SBC learning outcomes for WRTD.

Notes:
1. A list of approved courses which satisfy requirement B may be found on the WST community blackboard Web site at http://blackboard.stonybrook.edu.

The following courses are approved to replace WST 395, 398, or 399)

Approved Replacements for WST 399

• ANT 295 Sex & Human Nature
• CCS 325 Making Bodies Fit
• EGL 390 Queer Studies: Race, Gender, & Sexuality in Literature
• HIS 394 AIDS & Social History
• POL 391 Sexualities & Politics
• SOC 391 Sociology of Sexuality
• WST 111 Intro to Queer Studies in the Humanities
• WST 112 Intro to Queer Studies in the Social Sciences
• WST 394 Special Topic: "Psychology of Reproduction"
• WST 394 Special Topic: "Women, Science, Fiction, & Reproduction"
• WST/AFS 381 AIDS, Race, Gender in the Black Community
• WST/EGL 390 Queer Studies: Theorizing Race, Gender, & Sexuality
• WST/HIS 374 Historical Perspectives on Gender Orientation
• WST/SOC 340 Sociology of Human Reproduction

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 and Gender 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 WST 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 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, 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 Special Topics in Women and Science (see department for approved topics)
- WST 394 Special Topics in Medicine, Reproduction, and Gender (see department for approved topics)
- WST 399 Topics in Gender and Sexuality (see department for approved topics)
- WST 401 Seminar in Women's and Gender Studies (see department for approved topics)
- WST/SOC 340 Sociology of Reproduction
- WST/AFS 381 AIDS, Race and Gender in the Black Community
- HIS/WST 374 Historical Perspectives on Gender Orientation
- HIS 394 AIDS and Social History
- PSY 349 Women's Health Issues

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 Special Topics in Women's and Gender Studies in the Humanities (see department for approved topics)
- WST 392 Special Topics in Women and Science (see department for approved topics)
- WST 394 Special Topics in Medicine, Reproduction, and Gender (see department for approved topics)
- WST 395 Topics in Global Feminism (see department for approved topics)
- WST 396 Special Topics in the History of American Women (see department for approved topics)
- WST 397 Social Sciences Topics in Women's and Gender Studies
- WST 398 Topics in Gender, Race, and Ethnicity
- WST/SOC 247 Sociology of Gender
- LHD 301 Human Sexual and Gender Development Issues
- LHD 401 Advanced Seminar in Human Sexual and Gender Development
- WST/SOC 247 Sociology of Gender
- WST/POL 330 Gender and Law
- WST/POL 347 Gender and Politics
- WST/SOC 340 Sociology of Reproduction
- WST/AFS 350 Black Women and Social Change
- WST/SOC 371 Gender and Work
- AAS 392 Gender and Caste in Hindu Law
- AFS 345 Women in Africa and the Caribbean
- CCS 401 Masculinity and Popular Culture
- CFS 308 Violence in the Family
- HIS 300 Race, Gender and Rights/US Legal
- PSY 240 Social Psychology
- SOC 390 Special Topics (see department for approved topics)
Honors Program in Women’s and Gender Studies

Any Women’s and Gender Studies major who has maintained a grade point average (GPA) of 3.50 in the WaGS major and a 3.00 GPA overall are eligible to enroll in the Women’s and Gender Studies with honors program. The student must maintain these respective GPAs throughout the duration of the honors program. The student must enroll in the honors program before the end of the junior year. The student must identify a potential faculty member within the department to serve as a mentor, and, with the written approval of the mentor, submit the honors program application, which will describe the honors thesis project.

In the senior year, the student must enroll in WST 495 in the first semester and WST 496 in the second semester, for a total of six credits. This year long sequence of WST 495/496 is in lieu of the general Senior Seminar, WST 408. Since there are two semesters of required coursework, students in the program will complete 39 credits for the major, as opposed to 36 for students not enrolled in the program. The student’s honors thesis must be completed no later than four weeks prior to the end of the second semester, to allow for review by the honors committee and to allow for revisions. The honors thesis will be read by the student’s mentor and two other CAT faculty members or CAT affiliates.

If the honors program is completed with distinction and the student has achieved a 3.50 GPA in all WaGS courses taken in the senior year, honors are conferred.

Requirements for the Minor in Women's and Gender 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.

Completion of the minor requires 21 credits.

1. WST 102 Introduction to Women’s and Gender Studies in the Social Sciences OR WST 103 Women, Culture, and Difference
2. WST 291 Introduction to Feminist Theory OR WST 301 Histories of Feminism
3. WST 407 Senior Research Seminar for Women’s and Gender 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, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, or 399.

Sample Course Sequence for the Major in Women’s and Gender Studies

A course planning guide for this major may be found here. The major course planning guides are not part of the official Undergraduate Bulletin, and are only updated periodically for use as an advising tool. The Undergraduate Bulletin supersedes any errors or omissions in the major course planning guides.

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WST

Women's Studies

WST 102: Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies in the Social Sciences
An introductory social sciences survey examining the continuities and changes women have made in marriage systems, child-rearing practices, and work patterns inside and outside the home. Within this context, the course considers how women have balanced labor force participation and changing child-care responsibilities in a variety of countries. Using the experimental design and case study methods of anthropology, sociology, economics, psychology, and history, and employing texts drawn from these disciplines, the course shows the changes women's lives have undergone over the past 150 years.
DEC: F
SBC: CER, SBS
3 credits

WST 103: Women, Culture, and Difference
An introductory humanities survey focusing on women's traditional association with the home and men's association with public life and how writers, artists, philosophers, and religious thinkers have reflected upon those relationships over the past 150 years. Through lectures and critical analyses of novels, poetry, art, philosophy, and religious texts, the course explores how changing intellectual, artistic, and religious precepts have affected gender identity and different genres in the humanities.
DEC: G
SBC: CER, HUM
3 credits

WST 111: Introduction to Queer Studies in the Humanities
A survey of historical representations of queer difference from the late 19th century to the present. Through the examination of works of visual art, literary representations and philosophy, students develop an understanding of the moral and ethical issues surrounding lesbian/gay/bisexual/transgendered/queer identity. Themes include the construction of sexual and political difference, heterosexism and the nature of oppression, race/class/gender and sexuality, psychological theories of sexuality, and historical roots of these issues.
DEC: G
SBC: CER, HUM
3 credits

WST 112: Introduction to Queer Studies in the Social Sciences
An introduction to the field of queer studies from the perspectives of the social and behavioral sciences. Through the examination of sociology, anthropology, psychology (and others), students develop an understanding of the moral and ethical issues surrounding lesbian/gay/bisexual/transgendered/queer identity. Themes include the construction of sexual and political difference, heterosexism and the nature of oppression, race/class/gender and sexuality, psychological theories of sexuality, and historical roots of these issues.
DEC: K
SBC: SBS
3 credits

WST 210: Contemporary Issues in Women's and Gender Studies
A survey of contemporary issues in the field of Women's and Gender Studies. Potential topics for the course are timely and topical. Topics will consider legal, ethical, social, and political issues of the day, and will address the moral and ethical issues raised by them. Topics examples include Gender and Political Activism, Gender and Music Culture, Gender and Reality TV, Gender, Race, and Sports, Gender and Education, Sexual Medicine, and Gender and Social Media. May not be repeated for credit.
DEC: F
SBC: CER, SBS+
3 credits

WST 216: Gender and Social Media. May not be repeated for further studies in Women's and Gender Studies. Potential topics for the course are timely and topical. Topics examples include Gender and Political Activism, Gender and Music Culture, Gender and Reality TV, Gender, Race, and Sports, Gender and Education, Sexual Medicine, and Gender and Social Media. May not be repeated for credit.
DEC: F
SBC: CER, SBS+
3 credits

WST 237: Images of Italian-American Women
Examination of the role of Italian-American women through literature, film, politics, and music. The specific ways they have contributed artistically and socially to the American cultural scene from the first wave of Italian-American immigration to the present is considered. This course is offered as both HUI 237 and WST 237.
Advisory Prerequisite: one D.E.C. B or HUM course
DEC: K
SBC: HUM, USA
3 credits

WST 247: Sociology of Gender
The historical and contemporary roles of women and men in American society; changing relations between the sexes; women's liberation and related movements. Themes are situated within the context of historical developments in the U.S. This course is offered as both SOC 247 and WST 247.
DEC: G
SBC: CER, HUM
3 credits

WST 276: Feminism: Literature and Cultural Contexts
An examination of works written by or about women reflecting conceptions of women in drama, poetry, and fiction. The course focuses on literature seen in relation to women's sociocultural and historical position. This course is offered as both EGL 276 and WST 276.
Prerequisite: WRT 102 or equivalent
DEC: B
SBC: HUM
3 credits

WST 284: Introduction to Feminist Theory (III)
The social construction of gender and how this construction affects philosophical thought and practice. The course provides an introductory survey of current feminist issues and analyses. It also examines the meaning of feminism for philosophy by examining the effect of introducing a political analysis of gender into a discipline that is supposedly universal and neutral. This course is offered as both PHI 284 and WST 284.
Advisory Prerequisite: U2 standing or one PHI or WST course
DEC: G
SBC: CER, HUM
3 credits

WST 287: Research in Women's and Gender Studies
Supervised research under the sponsorship of a women's studies faculty member. Students assist faculty in various aspects of ongoing research. Assignments depend on the nature of the project. May be repeated up to a limit of six credits, but only three credits may count toward the minor or major.
Prerequisite: Permission of the program research coordinator
0-6 credits, S/U grading

WST 291: Introduction to Feminist Theory
An introductory survey of historical and contemporary interdisciplinary theories used in Women's and Gender Studies. Theoretical debates on sex, gender, sexuality, race, class, knowledge, discourse, representation are among the topics to be considered. The course will provide a strong theoretical foundation for further studies in Women's and Gender Studies.
Prerequisite: WST 102 or WST 103
DEC: G
SBC: ESL, HFA+
3 credits
WST 301: Histories of Feminism
An historical study of the theoretical and practical developments that form contemporary feminism. Beginning with the 18th century critiques of women's rights, the course traces the expansion of feminist concerns to include a global perspective, as well as attention to race and class. Representative texts include Mary Wollstonecraft's A Vindication of the Rights of Women, poems by Phyllis Wheatley and Sojourner Truth, Charlotte Perkins Gilman's The Yellow Wallpaper, Virginia Woolf's Three Guineas, and Simone de Beauvoir's The Second Sex.
Advisory prerequisite: WST major or minor or WST 102 or WST 103
DEC: K
SBC: SBS+
3 credits
WST 305: Feminist Theories in Context
A study of major texts of the feminist tradition in social sciences and humanities, focusing on theories of subjectivity from a feminist point of view. Theoretical debates on gender, feminism, psychoanalysis, discourse, ideology, and representational systems are included.
Prerequisite: WST 102 or WST 103; WST major/minor or permission of instructor
DEC: G
SBC: HFA+
3 credits
WST 310: Contemporary Feminist Issues
An analysis of major issues affecting women in today's society. Reproductive rights, women's employment, and political power are among the topics discussed.
Prerequisite: WST 102 or WST 103; WST major/minor or permission of instructor
DEC: F
SBC: SBS+
3 credits
WST 314: Music, Gender, and Sexuality
A study of music from the perspectives of gender and sexuality in a global context. Topics may include women as composers, performers, and listeners; genres understood as gay or queer; music as an expression of identity within various gender or sexuality social groups, and depictions of gender and sexuality in musical drama. All types of music may be considered, including classical, rock, pop, hip-hop, electronic styles, folk, and jazz. This course is offered as both MUS 314 and WST 314.
Prerequisite: MUS 101 or 119 or 130
SBC: SBS+
3 credits
WST 315: Gender and Sexuality in Ancient Greek Literature
This course offers a comparative overview of the ways in which the roles of men and women were depicted in the literature and thought of ancient Greece. Major issues will include: the shift from matriarchal to patriarchal pantheons, sanctioned and unsanctioned homoeroticism, the sorceress and the hysteric as dominant tropes in the mythology of the period, and the role of women in the polis, among others. This course is offered as both CLL 315 and WST 315.
Prerequisite: one D.E.C. G or HUM course
DEC: I
SBC: HFA+
3 credits
WST 320: Women in Judaism
A survey of women in Judaism and in Jewish life from the Biblical period to the present, focusing on such topics as the representation of women in the Bible, Jewish law concerning women, the role of women in the Enlightenment in Germany and America, immigrant women in America, women in the Holocaust, and women in Israel.
Prerequisite: One JDS or WST course
DEC: F
SBC: SBS+
3 credits
WST 323: Women of Color in the U.S.
In what ways is the history of race in America a gendered history? This course will focus on the creation of the modern color line in American history by analyzing the 20th century cultural productions of African American, Asian American, Native American, and Latina/Chicana women. Our central concern will be the ways in which race has been historically constructed as a gendered category. This course is offered as both HIS 323 and WST 323. This course is offered as both HIS 323 and WST 323.
Prerequisite: U3 or U4 status and one of the following: HIS 104, HIS 116, WST 102, WST 103
DEC: K
SBC: SBS+
3 credits
WST 330: Gender Issues in the Law
A critical exploration of American law that specifically addresses the issues of (in)equity of women and men in the United States. The course surveys and analyzes cases from the pre-Civil War era to the end of the 20th century dealing with various manifestations of sex discrimination, decided in the federal court system, typically by the Supreme Court, and the state court system. The course also considers how the political nature of the adjudicative process has ramifications for the decisions rendered by a court. This course is offered as both POL 330 and WST 330.
Prerequisite: U3 or U4 standing
Advisory Prerequisite: POL 102 or WST 102
DEC: K
SBC: SBS+
3 credits
WST 331: Japanese Literature in the Feminine Domain
This course examines both writings of Japanese women and writings about Japanese women. It will challenge the application of current Western feminist standards to Japanese culture through the analysis of Japanese literary works. We will begin with Japanese mythology focusing on the stories of the creator goddess and Amaterasu, the sun goddess, from whom the imperial line was descended. We will consider the great Heian Era women writers and their culture, examining the difference between men's and women's writing. From the Heian era we will move to the Meiji Era, when Japan's isolationist period had ended and centuries' worth of Western literature was introduced to Japan. We will concentrate on the writings of Higuchi Ichiyo, noting how the position of women had changed by her day and how it affected her literary style. The course will close with a focus how literature treats Japanese women in our own time. This course is offered as AAS 331 and WST 331.
DEC: I
SBC: HFA+
3 credits
WST 333: Suburbanism in International Perspective
An exploration of the rise of suburbanism and sprawl internationally from the nineteenth century onward, with a twentieth-century focus. Though the greatest emphasis will fall on the American experience of suburbanism and sprawl, with Long Island itself as our main suburbanizing laboratory, topics considered will also include contrasting histories of urban...
edges elsewhere, from the older cities of Continental Europe to the mega-cities of the late twenty-first-century developing world. Prerequisite one of the following: HIS 103, HIS 104, WST 102, or WST 103 DEC:  K & 4 SBC:  SBS+ 3 credits WST 334: Women and Gender in Modern European History This course will examine modern European history from a gender perspective. In other words, we will examine the ways in which the constantly challenged and changing social division of humans into the categories of women and men structured the political, economic, and cultural history of Europe during its period of global dominance. The period covered is roughly from the 18th century through the Second World War, with background provided at one end and a brief review of post-national Europe at the other. This course is offered as both HIS 336 and WST 334. Prerequisite: HIS 102 or WST 102 (formerly SSD/WST 102) or WST 103 DEC:  I SBC:  SBS+ 3 credits WST 335: Social History of American Advertising Traces the evolution of American advertising from the late 19th to the late 20th century. It looks at the many and varied ways that advertising has shaped business, culture, and politics in the United States with special attention to gender, class, and race issues. Prerequisite: HIS 103 or 104 DEC:  K & 4 SBC:  SBS+ 3 credits WST 340: Sociology of Human Reproduction A study of the links between biological reproduction and the socioeconomic and cultural processes that affect and are affected by it. The history of the transition from high levels of fertility and mortality to low levels of both; different kinship, gender, and family systems around the world and their links to human reproduction; the value of children in different social contexts; and the social implications of new reproductive technologies. This course is offered as both SOC 340 and WST 340. Prerequisites: SOC 105; one D.E.C. E or SNW course in biology DEC:  H SBC:  STAS 3 credits WST 345: Women and Gender in Chinese History Exploration of traditional cultural practices and values, and the 20th-century changes in Western and Asian relations in China brought about by nationalism, interaction with Western influences, and socialist rule. This course is offered as HIS 345 and WST 345. Prerequisite: One of the following: HIS 219, HIS 220, CNS 249, CNS 250, or any WST course DEC:  J SBC:  SBS+ 3 credits WST 347: Women and Politics Analysis of the role of women in current American politics -- their electoral participation, office seeking, and political beliefs -- and policy issues that have special relevance to women. The course traces the history of American women's political involvement and the historical trajectory of gender-related policy from the mid-19th century to today. This course is offered as both POL 347 and WST 347. Prerequisite: U3 or U4 standing Advisory Prerequisite: POL 102 DEC:  K SBC:  SBS+ 3 credits WST 350: Black Women and Social Change: A Cross-Cultural Perspective A cross-cultural survey of the history of black women in the context of the struggles for social justice in the Caribbean (English- and Spanish-speaking), Africa, and the United States. Several major topics are covered: the slave resistance and the anti-slavery movement; the anti-colonial struggle in Africa and the Caribbean; the trade union movement in the United States and Africa; the struggle against underdevelopment in Cuba, Puerto Rico, and Jamaica; and the anti-apartheid movement in South Africa. This course is offered as both AFS 350 and WST 350. Prerequisite: U3 or U4 standing DEC:  J SBC:  SBS+ 3 credits WST 360: Women and Gender in Pre-Modern European History An examination of the position of women in European society from ancient Greece through the Italian Renaissance. The course examines women's roles in the family and political life; women's economic activities; women and the Christian church; cultural attitudes concerning women; and women's own writing and creativity. This course is offered as both HIS 334 and WST 360. Formerly offered as HIS 360. Prerequisite: One HIS course or any WST course DEC:  I SBC:  SBS+ 3 credits WST 361: Women in the Biblical World Consideration of how we define, on the basis of biblical and other contemporaneous literature, women's position in the socio-political sphere, including women in professions and institutions, such as goddesses, leaders of the community, queens, 'wise women', writers, prophetesses, magicians, and prostitutes; and examination of literary types such as the Wife (and concubine), the Mother, the Daughter, the Temptress, and the Ancestress. This course is offered as both JDH 361 and WST 361. Prerequisite: One JDH or JDS or WST or literature course at the 200 level or higher DEC:  G SBC:  HFA+ 3 credits WST 371: Gender and Work Gender differences in workforce participation and occupational attainment as they have changed throughout U.S. history. Covers such topics as historical changes in workforce participation; economic, legal, and social factors affecting employment; career options; and pay equity. Readings and lectures focus on the historical and contemporary experience of American men and women, including differences by ethnicity and class. This course is offered as both SOC 371 and WST 371. Prerequisite: one D.E.C. F or SBS course or U3/U4 status DEC:  K SBC:  SBS+ 3 credits WST 372: Topics in Women and Literature The study of texts written by and about women and of issues they raise relating to gender and literature. May be repeated as the topic changes. This course is offered as both EGL 372 and WST 372. Prerequisite: U3 or U4 standing
WOMEN’S AND GENDER STUDIES (WST) - COURSES

Stony Brook University: www.stonybrook.edu/ugbulletin

Advisory Prerequisite: One literature course at the 200 level or higher

DEC: G
SBC: HFA+
3 credits

WST 374: Historical Perspectives on Gender Orientation
An examination of contemporary American
gender orientation from an historical
perspective. Topics include gay marriage,
gay clergy, medical definitions of gender
orientation and gays in the military.
Prerequisite: U3 or U4 standing
Advisory Prerequisite: One of the following:
WST 102, WST 103, WST 111, or WST 112
DEC: F
SBC: SBS+
3 credits

WST 377: Psychology of Women
The psychological impact of important
physiological and sociological events and
epochs in the lives of women; menstruation,
female sexuality, marriage, childbirth, and
menopause; women and mental health, mental
illness and psychotherapy; the role of women
in the field of psychology. This course is
offered as both PSY 347 and WST 377.
Prerequisite: WST major or minor; or one of
the following: WST 102, WST 103, PSY 103,
WST/SOC 247
DEC: F
SBC: SBS+
3 credits

WST 381: AIDS, Race, and Gender in the Black Community
Review of current biological and
epidemiological knowledge about the HIV
virus and examination of the virus’ social
impact on the Black community. This course is
offered as both APS 381 and WST 381.
Prerequisite: U3 or U4 standing; one D.E.C. E
or SNW course
DEC: H
SBC: SBS+
3 credits

WST 382: Black Women’s Literature of the African Diaspora
Black women’s literature presents students
with the opportunity to examine through
texts, the political, social, and historical
experiences of Black women from the African
Diaspora. The course is structured around five
major themes commonly addressed in Black
women’s writing: Black female oppression, sexual politics of Black womanhood,
Black female sexuality, Black male/female
relationships, and Black women and defining
self. This course is offered as AFH 382, EGL
382, and WST 382.
Prerequisite: U3 or U4 standing
DEC: G
SBC: HFA+
3 credits

WST 383: Philosophical Issues of Race and Gender (III)
Issues of race and gender and how the
notion that racism and sexism are analogous
forms of oppression aids and detracts from
consideration of these issues. Examination of
the dynamics of race and gender in various
cultures, such as activism, art, law, literature,
the media, medicine, and philosophy. This
course is offered as both PHI 383 and WST
383.
Prerequisite: one PHI course
Advisory Prerequisite: one Women’s Studies
course
DEC: G
SBC: CER, HFA+
3 credits

WST 384: Advanced Topics in Feminist Philosophy (II)
An intensive philosophical study of selected
topics of feminist concern. Topics are selected
to further the understanding of what effect
feminism has upon traditional areas of
philosophy as well as providing a detailed
understanding of particular feminist theories.
Semester supplements to this Bulletin contain
specific current topics in women's and gender
studies within humanities disciplines such as
literature, art, music, religion, and philosophy.
Past topics include World Women Writers,
Music and Sexuality, Contemporary Memoirs,
and Alice Walker. May be repeated as the
topic changes.
Prerequisite: WST 102 or WST 103; WST
major/minor or permission of instructor
DEC: G
SBC: HFA+
3 credits

WST 391: Special Topics in Women's and Gender Studies in the Humanities
Designed for upper-division students,
this course provides an in-depth study of
specific current topics in women's and gender
studies within humanities disciplines such as
literature, art, music, religion, and philosophy.
Past topics include World Women Writers,
Music and Sexuality, Contemporary Memoirs,
and Alice Walker. May be repeated as the
topic changes.
Prerequisite: WST 102 or WST 103; WST
major/minor or permission of instructor
DEC: G
SBC: HFA+
3 credits

WST 392: Special Topics in Women and Science
Current topics in women's studies such as
social issues in science or women in science.
May be repeated as the topic changes.
Prerequisite: WST 102 or WST 103; WST
major/minor or permission of instructor
DEC: H
SBC: STAS
3 credits

WST 394: Special Topics in Medicine, Reproduction, and Gender
Selected topics in gender and medicine and in
human reproduction. May be repeated as the
topic changes.
Prerequisite: WST 102 or WST 103; WST
major/minor or permission of instructor
DEC: H
SBC: STAS
3 credits

WST 395: Topics in Global Feminism
Designed for upper-division students, this
course provides an in-depth study of a
specific topic relating to non-western world
civilizations. With a focus on the development
of feminism beyond the United States and
Europe, topics may include such titles as
Global Feminism and Latinas: History,
Society, and Culture. May be repeated as the
topic changes.
Prerequisite: WST 102 or WST 103; WST
major/minor or permission of instructor
DEC: J
SBC: GLO, SBS+
3 credits
WST 396: Special Topics in the History of American Women

The changing roles of women in the family, community and the work force in historical perspective. Topics may include the suffragette movement, before and after; and women's roles in America's wars. May be repeated as the topic changes.

Prerequisite: WST 102 or WST 103; WST major/minor or permission of instructor
DEC: K & 4
SBC: SBS+
3 credits

WST 397: Social Sciences Topics in Women's and Gender Studies

Designed for upper-division students, this course provides an in-depth study of a specific topic within social sciences disciplines such as history, economics, sociology, political science, and linguistics. Past topics have included Gender, War, and Peacemaking, and The Psychology of Sexual Orientation. May be repeated as the topic changes.

Prerequisite: WST 102 or WST 103; WST major/minor or permission of instructor
DEC: F
SBC: GLO, SBS+
3 credits

WST 398: Topics in Gender, Race, and Ethnicity

Past topics include 20th-Century Latina Literature; Race and Gender in Opera; and Gender, Ethnicity, and Capitalism. May be repeated as the topic changes.

Prerequisite: WST 102 or WST 103; WST major/minor or permission of instructor
DEC: K
SBC: SBS+
3 credits

WST 399: Topics in Gender and Sexuality

Past topics have included titles such as Sexual Citizens and Queer Theory. Designed for upper-division students, this course provides an in-depth study of a specific topic within humanities disciplines such as music, art, literature, religion, and philosophy. Students will be expected to demonstrate knowledge of the conventions and methods used in the humanities discipline(s) studied. May be repeated as the topic changes.

Prerequisite: WST 102 or WST 103; WST major/minor or permission of instructor
DEC: G
SBC: HFA+
3 credits

WST 401: Seminar in Women's and Gender Studies

Seminars on selected topics in women's and gender studies. May be repeated as the topic changes.

Prerequisite: WST 102 or WST 103; WST major/minor or permission of instructor
3 credits

WST 402: Seminar in Women's and Gender Studies

Seminars on selected topics in women's and gender studies. May be repeated as the topic changes.

Prerequisite: WST 102 or WST 103; WST major/minor or permission of instructor
3 credits

WST 407: Senior Research Seminar for Women's and Gender Studies Minors

Seminars on selected topics in women's and gender studies. May be repeated as the topic changes.

Prerequisite: WST 102 or WST 103; WST major/minor or permission of instructor
3 credits

WST 408: Senior Research Seminar for Women's and Gender Studies Majors

An exploration of significant feminist scholarship in various disciplines designed for students who are majoring in disciplines other than women's and gender studies. Seminar participants present and discuss reports on reading and research.

Prerequisites: WST 291 or WST 301; 15 credits of WST coursework
SBC: EXP+, SPK, WRTD
3 credits

WST 444: Experiential Learning

This course is designed for students who engage in a substantial, structured experiential learning activity in conjunction with another class. Experiential learning occurs when knowledge acquired through formal learning and past experience are applied to a “real-world” setting or problem to create new knowledge through a process of reflection, critical analysis, feedback and synthesis. Beyond-the-classroom experiences that support experiential learning may include: service learning, mentored research, field work, or an internship.

Prerequisite: WRT 102 or equivalent; permission of the instructor and approval of the EXP+ contract (http://sb.cc.stonybrook.edu/bulletin/current/policiesandregulations/degree_requirements/EXPplus.php)
SBC: EXP+
0 credit, S/U grading

WST 447: Directed Readings in Women's and Gender Studies

Intensive readings in women's and gender studies for qualified juniors and seniors under close supervision of a faculty instructor. Topic to be chosen in consultation with the faculty member. May be repeated once.

Prerequisites: Permission of instructor and undergraduate director
1-3 credits

WST 458: Speak Effectively Before an Audience

A zero credit course that may be taken in conjunction with any WST course that provides opportunity to achieve the learning outcomes of the Stony Brook Curriculum's SPK learning objective.

Prerequisites: WRT 102 or equivalent; permission of the instructor
SBC: SPK
0 credit, S/U grading

WST 459: Write Effectively in Women's Studies

A zero credit course that may be taken in conjunction with any 300- or 400-level WST course, with permission of the instructor. The course provides opportunity to practice the skills and techniques of effective academic writing and satisfies the learning outcomes of the Stony Brook Curriculum's WRTD learning objective.

Prerequisite: WRT 102; permission of the instructor
SBC: WRTD
0 credit, S/U grading

WST 475: Undergraduate Teaching Practicum I

Students aid instructors and students in women's studies courses in one or several of the following ways: leading discussion sections, helping students improve writing and research skills, and library research. Students meet regularly with the supervising instructor.

Prerequisites: U3 or U4 standing; permission of instructor; WST major or minor
SBC: EXP+
3 credits, S/U grading
WST 476: Undergraduate Teaching Practicum in Women's and Gender Studies II
Work with a faculty member as an assistant in one of the faculty member's regularly scheduled classes. Students assume greater responsibility in such areas as leading discussions and analyzing results of tests that have already been graded. Students may not serve as teaching assistants in the same course twice.

Prerequisite: Permission of department
SBC: EXP+
3 credits, S/U grading

WST 487: Independent Project in Women's and Gender Studies
The design and conduct of a research project selected by the student and arranged by the student and the instructor. May be repeated once.

Prerequisites: Permission of instructor and undergraduate director
0-6 credits

WST 488: Internship
Participation in public and private agencies and organizations. Students are required to submit written reports on their experiences to the faculty sponsor and the women's studies program. May be repeated up to a limit of six credits.

Prerequisites: Six credits toward the women's studies minor; permission of instructor and undergraduate director
SBC: EXP+
0-6 credits, S/U grading

WST 495: Senior Honors Project in Women's and Gender Studies
First course of a two-semester project for Women's and Gender Studies majors who are candidates for the degree with honors. Arranged in consultation with the department through the mentoring faculty member and the Director of Undergraduate Studies, the project involves independent readings or research and the writing of a paper under the supervision and guidance of a faculty member. Students enrolled in WST 495 are obliged to complete WST 496 the following semester. Students receive only one grade upon completion of the two-course sequence.

Prerequisite: U4 standing; permission of instructor and department
SBC: WRTD
3 credits

WST 496: Senior Honors Project in Women's and Gender Studies
Second course of a two-semester project for Women's and Gender Studies majors who are candidates for the degree with honors. Arranged in consultation with the department through the mentoring faculty member and the Director of Undergraduate Studies, the project involves independent readings or research and the writing of a paper under the supervision and guidance of a faculty member. Students enrolled in WST 495 are obliged to complete WST 496 the following semester. Students receive only one grade upon completion of the two-course sequence.

Prerequisite: U4 standing; permission of instructor and department
SBC: WRTD
3 credits