Gender, Women's, and Sexuality Studies, BA

Requirements
The Bachelor of Arts with a major in gender, women's, and sexuality studies (GWSS) requires a minimum of 120 s.h., including at least 39 s.h. of work for the major. Students must maintain a grade-point average of at least 2.00 in all courses for the major and in all UI courses for the major. They also must complete the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences GE CLAS Core.

Students may declare the major at any time. They are advised by the Academic Advising Center until they have earned 30 s.h. of credit. Transfer credit is evaluated case by case; a maximum of 12 s.h. of transfer credit may be counted toward the degree. Students may count a maximum of 9 s.h. completed for another major, minor, or certificate toward the gender, women's, and sexuality studies major.

Work for the major consists of the undergraduate core, distribution requirements, and electives. The undergraduate core includes a practicum and culminates in a research seminar.

The BA with a major in gender, women's, and sexuality studies requires the following coursework.

Undergraduate Core

The undergraduate core consists of three courses. GWSS:1001 Introduction to Gender, Women's, and Sexuality Studies examines cultural and social beliefs about sex, gender, race, class, and sexuality; GWSS:1002 Diversity and Power in the U.S. explores the intersections of race, class, and gender in the United States. GWSS:3005/SJUS:3005 Practicum teaches students how to apply feminist intersectional concepts in a practicum experience organized in collaboration with community partners.

Course #  Title  Hours
All of these:
GWSS:1001  Introduction to Gender, Women's, and Sexuality Studies  3
GWSS:1002  Diversity and Power in the U.S.  3
GWSS:3005/SJUS:3005  Practicum  3-4

Distribution Requirements

The distribution requirements (total of at least 12 s.h.) are chosen from the following lists. They include one GWSS theory course, one transnational theory course, one GWSS course with a global/comparative focus, and one GWSS or other course with a race/ethnicity focus. Students may request permission from the director of undergraduate studies to use courses not on these lists; ideally, these courses should be offered by the Department of Gender, Women's, and Sexuality Studies (prefix GWSS). At least half of the material in global/comparative topics courses must have a non-U.S. context.

Theory

Course #  Title  Hours
One of these:
GWSS:3100  LGBTQ/Queer Studies  3
GWSS:3200  Theories for Gender, Women's, and Sexuality Studies  3

Transnational Theory

Course #  Title  Hours
One of these:
GWSS:3010/GHS:3015  Transnational Sexualities  3
GWSS:3326/GHS:3327  The Politics of Progress: NGOs, Development, and Sexuality  3
GWSS:3350/ANTH:3125/SJUS:3350  Transnational Feminism  3

Global/Comparative Focus

Course #  Title  Hours
One of these:
GWSS:2052/RELS:2852  Women in Islam and the Middle East  3
GWSS:2108/ANTH:2108  Gendering India  3
GWSS:2151/ANTH:2151/SJUS:2151  Global Migration in the Contemporary World  3
GWSS:2222/ASIA:2222/WLLC:2222  Women in Premodern East Asian Literature  3
GWSS:2500/ENGL:2570/SJUS:2500  Love, War, Activism: Stories About Women from Across the World  3
GWSS:2571/ENGL:2571/SJUS:2571  Visualizing Human Rights (if not taken to fulfill the Race/Ethnicity in the U.S. Focus area)  3
GWSS:2650/GHS:2650  Global Reproduction  3
GWSS:2674/GHS:2674/RELS:2674  Food, Body, and Belief: A Global Perspective  3
GWSS:2700  Transgender People, Politics, and Cultures  3
GWSS:2900/ANTH:2191  Love, Sex, and Money: Sexuality and Exchange Across Cultures  3
GWSS:3101/ANTH:3101  Anthropology of Sexuality  3
GWSS:3121/ANTH:3121  Love, Marriage, and Family in India  3
GWSS:3131/ASIA:3431/RELS:3431  Gender and Sexuality in East Asia  3
GWSS:3157/HIST:3157  Gender, Sexuality, and Human Rights  3
GWSS:3185/WLLC:3185  Global Women's Cinema  3
GWSS:3326/GHS:3327  The Politics of Progress: NGOs, Development, and Sexuality  3
GWSS:3427/HIST:3427  Family, Gender, and Society in Early Modern Europe  3
GWSS:4026/ FREN:4026 Gender, Women’s, and Sexuality Studies, BA
GWSS:4140/ ANTH:4140/ CBH:4140/GHS:4140 French Women Writers
GWSS:4540/ FREN:4540 Gender and Sexuality in French Cinema
SJUS:1046/ ANTH:1046/ GEOG:1046/ GWSS:1046 Environmental Politics in India

Race/Ethnicity in the U.S. Focus

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GWSS:2571/ ENGL:2571/ SJUS:2571</td>
<td>Visualizing Human Rights (if not taken to fulfill the Global/Comparative Focus area)</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>GWSS:2800/ AFAM:2800</td>
<td>African American Women, Health, Hair, and Sexuality</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>GWSS:3133/ ANTH:3133/ SJUS:3133</td>
<td>Anthropology of Race</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>GWSS:3177/ NURS:3739</td>
<td>Women and Their Bodies in Health and Illness</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>GWSS:3459/ HIST:3259/ SJUS:3459</td>
<td>Making Change, Making History: Iowa’s Black Activists and Digital History</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SJUS:1001/ GWSS:1003</td>
<td>Introduction to Social Justice</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>SJUS:3250/ ENGL:3170</td>
<td>Literature and Social Justice</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENGL:3459/ AFAM:3459</td>
<td>African American Literature Before 1900</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENGL:3460/ AFAM:3460</td>
<td>African American Literature After 1900</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIST:2266/ AFAM:2266</td>
<td>Civil War and Emancipation</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>HIST:2267/ AFAM:2267</td>
<td>African American History to 1877: From Slave Cabin to Senate Floor</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIST:3275/ AFAM:3275</td>
<td>History of Slavery in the U.S.A.</td>
<td>3-4</td>
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<tr>
<td>SSW:3847</td>
<td>Discrimination, Oppression, and Diversity</td>
<td>3</td>
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Electives

Students must complete 12 s.h. of GWSS/SJUS courses numbered 1000–4999; at least 6 s.h. of the 12 s.h. must be completed from the upper-level GWSS/SJUS courses numbered 3000–4999. Students can count GWSS distribution area requirement courses as electives if they were not used to fulfill their area requirements. With the instructor’s permission, honors students may count a graduate-level course numbered 5000 or above toward the electives requirement.

In choosing electives, students are encouraged to pursue a course of study that emphasizes breadth and depth in a specific discipline (anthropology, English, and history, among others) or a focus area (art, writing, literature, sexuality, media, global and transnational studies, race and ethnicity, health, and so on).

Capstone Courses

These courses help students develop and create their capstone projects.

Students first take GWSS:3900 Research for Public Engagement in the fall semester of their final year, which focuses on developing advanced research, reading, and writing skills and choosing capstone topics. In the spring of their senior year, students take GWSS:4090 Senior Research Seminar, a research and writing workshop in which students work collaboratively with their classmates to complete their creative or scholarship capstone work, including creating a poster for the end of the semester Senior Research Poster Show.

Students who write an honors thesis enroll in GWSS:4095 Honors Senior Thesis in the spring semester of their senior year.

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<tr>
<td>GWSS:3900</td>
<td>Research for Public Engagement</td>
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<tr>
<td>GWSS:4090</td>
<td>Senior Research Seminar</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GWSS:4095</td>
<td>Honors Senior Thesis</td>
<td>3</td>
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A Native American and Indigenous studies course (prefix NAIS) numbered 2000 or above that does not fulfill a GE CLAS Core requirement
A Latina/o/x studies course (prefix LATS) numbered 2000 or above that does not fulfill a GE CLAS Core requirement