Women’s and Gender Studies  
Fall 2015 Undergraduate Courses

To earn the **WGS Concentration**, you have to take WGS 2500, 2900, 3150, and 2 sections of 4500. To be a **WGS Minor**, you have to take WGS 2500 and 4500.

### WGS COURSE OFFERINGS

**WGS 1001(1)**  
**Evolution of Sex and Gender**  
Interdisciplinary course, team-taught by faculty in the physical and social sciences. Covers evolution as differential reproduction; reproduction-related earth history highlights; genetics of sex; animal reproduction strategies; anatomy and physiology of human reproductive systems; evolutionary trajectories in primates; sex and gender in human prehistory and in culture. This course does not count towards the concentration or minor requirements. However, it does meet general education requirements for Natural Sciences.

Galvez, Larkin, Listi, Schiebout  
T/Th 9:00am – 10:20am

**WGS 2500**  
**Introduction to Women’s and Gender Studies**  
This course is an interdisciplinary introduction to how ideas about gender and sexuality affect our lives as women and men, family-members and co-workers, students and citizens. Questions of identity, ethics, economics, education, and social change are explored in a gendered frame. This course meets general education course requirements for Humanities.

**Section 1:**  
Liam Lair  
T/Th 7:30am – 8:50am

**Section 2:**  
Liam Lair  
T/Th 9:00am – 10:20am

**Section 3:**  
Sarah Becker  
T/Th 12:00pm – 1:20pm

**Section 4:**  
Dana Berkowitz  
T/Th 4:30pm – 5:50pm

**Section 5:**  
Mona Rocha  
MWF 12:30am – 1:20am

**Section 6:**  
Mona Rocha  
MWF 1:30pm – 2:20pm

**Section 7:**  
B. Gabriela Vitela  
MWF 2:30pm – 3:20pm

**Section 8:**  
Mona Rocha  
MWF 3:30pm – 4:20pm

**WGS 2900**  
**Gender, Race and Nation**  
This course explores differing gendered experiences across racial, ethnic, cultural, and class divides. In the course, students will explore the question: What does it mean to think "globally" about the experiences of women? We will explore the similarities and differences among women's experiences across a variety of topics. Some of the topics considered in the course include body image across cultures, women's political participation across nations, women's experiences of war and conflict, women and economics, and women's activism across national and international contexts. This course meets general education course requirements for Social Sciences.

**Section 1:**  
Challen Nicklen  
MWF 11:30am – 12:20pm

**Section 2:**  
Challen Nicklen  
MWF 12:30pm – 1:20pm

**Section 3:**  
Mona Rocha  
MW 4:30pm – 5:50pm

**WGS 4500(1)**  
**Gay US Autobiography**  
What kind of theory of biography does queer theory need? What is the relationship between an individual’s memory of a gay life and gay history? In this course, we will read a range of twentieth gay and lesbian autobiography in relation to queer theory (a field which describes itself as fundamentally anti-identitarian). We will ask questions about the nature of autobiography: What can gay lives from the past tell us about the present? What makes for a gay life? How does one narrate such a life? This course will introduce students to the fundamental questions of queer theory and the theories of autobiography and authorship. Primary text readings will include: David Sedaris, Langston Hughes, Gertrude Stein, Mary MacLane, Ralph Werther, and Glenway Wescott. We will also read work by Eve Sedgwick, Michael Warner, and Philippe Lejeune.

Benjamin Kahan  
T/Th 10:30am – 11:50am

**WGS 4500(2)**  
**Teaching Gender/Gendered Teaching**  
College teaching once seemed to be the placid step-sister of scholarship, accomplished through the spontaneous overflow of knowledge. Feminist theory has been central to a reconsideration of what, how, and why we teach, as well as who teaches and who learns. We’ll look at influential statements on gender and pedagogy, as well as critiquing them. What combination of subject matter, explicit pedagogical assumptions, mode of presentation, instructor’s stance, or students’ expectations identifies a class as “feminist”? What particular issues do we have to think about in teaching courses whose content is about gender and sexuality studies? What difference does the sex, race, or orientation of someone standing before a class make, regardless of the class’s topic? The design of the syllabus will be partially decided by the interests of students who enroll for the class, but format will be discussion. Reading journals, two short essays, longer final essay, and class presentation. This course has graduate credit, and there is a modified final project option for M.F.A. students.

Michelle Massé  
T/1:30PM – 2:50PM

**WGS 4500(3)**  
**Issues in Feminist Theory: Cognitive and Implicit Bias**  
Feminist theorists have argued that scientific knowledge is “constructed,” demonstrating that scientific practice involves...
systematic biases incompatible with the ideals of impartiality and objectivity. While feminist theorists have usually focused on how sex and gender norms impact scientific theory choice, their results can be generalized to think about the epistemic effects of power and authority. More recently, theorists have argued that cognitive biases cannot be eliminated—they are a positive condition of knowledge production—and that, consequently, we need to revise our ideas about the impartiality knowledge and do more work to understand which biases are epistemically costly and which are productive. In this course, we will examine research at the intersection of feminist theory, science studies, social epistemology, and cognitive science with the goal of conceptualizing how cognitive and implicit biases operate in social contexts and how they may both constitute and distort knowledge production. We will ask whether ideas about race and gender are best thought of as social cognitive biases and how we might correct for or cope with these biases.

Deborah Goldgaber
T/Th 1:30pm – 2:50pm

WGS 4900
Readings in Women’s and Gender Studies
PERMISSION OF DEPARTMENT REQUIRED

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**ELECTIVES**

**Social Sciences/Humanities**

**CMST 3115**
Communication & Gender
Prereq.: CMST 2010 or equivalent. Gender differences, sex roles and sexual stereotypes in communication.

Section 1: TBA
T/Th 3:00pm – 4:20pm

Section 2: Amy Fannin
Web-based

**ENGL 4593(1)**
Writing Women
An immersion in the work of women writers enlarges our understanding of the literary object, and an introduction to feminist critical perspectives opens new approaches to the text. This course explores a selection of Modern and contemporary women writers and some relevant theoretical perspectives from feminist scholarship. There will be various assigned exercises and in-class presentations, a short paper and a final (take home essay) exam will be required.

Laura Mullen
MW 4:30pm – 5:50pm

**HIST 4079(1)**
Women in American History
This course provides an overview of the history of women in the United States, with a focus on the late 19th and 20th centuries. Course readings will focus mainly on women’s organizing and movement building. Course topics and readings include: the struggle for suffrage, labor activism, civil rights organizing, reproductive rights, the modern feminist movement and queer activism.

Catherine Jacquet
MW 10:30am – 12:00pm

**REL 3300(1)**
Women & Religion
Role of women in the religions of the world.

Gail Sutherland
T/Th 4:30pm – 5:50pm

**SOCL 4521(1)**
Sociology of Gender
Prereq.: SOCL 2001 or equivalent. Gender differences in families, education, the workplace and the state; understanding the social, economic and cultural factors that shape the lives of men and women; theoretical analysis of how different women and men experience the social world.

Dana Berkowitz
T/Th 10:30am – 11:50am

**SW 2500(1)**
Intro to LGBTQ Studies
Surveys the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) experience, existence and influence, in areas of culture, theory, and research.

Elaine Maccio
T/Th 1:30pm – 2:50pm

**THTR 4021**
Gender & Sexuality in Performance
Survey of theories, artists, movements and texts involved with staging issues of sexuality and gender.

Shannon Walsh
T/Th 9:00am – 10:20am

**Cross-Cultural**

**ANTH 2051**
Intro to World Ethnography
This is a General Education course. Sex roles, economic pursuits, values, beliefs, families and other institutions of selected nonwestern peoples; implications for American culture.

Section 1: Helen Regis
T/Th 3:00pm – 4:20pm

Section 2: TBA
T/Th 3:00pm – 4:20pm

**ANTH 4470(1)**
Folklore of the African Diaspora
African, Caribbean and African-American cultures from the viewpoint of the diaspora.

Joyce Jackson
M 3:30pm – 6:20pm

**ENGL 3674(1)**
Survey of African-American Literature
Literature of the black experience in the U.S. from slave narratives to the present.

Isiah Lavender
T/Th 9:00am- 10:20am

**SPAN 3044(1)**
Introduction to Latin American Literature II
This is a General Education course. Prereq.: SPAN 3020. Reading and analysis of representative literature from independence to the present.

Alejandro Cortazar
MWF 11:30am – 12:20pm

Updated 10/28/2015