

Women's Studies

Associate in Arts Degree

Department of Psychology
Division of Behavioral and Social Science
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Women's Studies Associate in Arts Degree

Program Information

Women's Studies is an interdisciplinary program that takes as its focus the experiences of women and an analysis of that experience. Based on the conviction that gender roles are socially constructed through time, the program employs perspectives from disciplines such as history, literature, philosophy, sociology, and psychology to examine how women's lives are shaped by social and economic institutions, political movements, and individual experiences. The course of study centers on teaching students how to use feminist and social justice frameworks to analyze women's diverse experiences within local, national, and global contexts. The program encourages an analysis of how the production of gender is influenced by factors of race, class, sexuality, and nationality.

Career Opportunities

A degree in Women's Studies provides students with an academically well-rounded knowledge base anchored in strong critical thinking skills, through the lens of women's experiences and feminist scholarship. Students who complete the Women's Studies program develop skills that are attractive to many employers in the twenty-first century, including the ability to think critically, to be open-minded and innovative, and to handle the real-life complexities of the workplace. Students also bring to the workplace a specific awareness of issues such as sexism, racism, homophobia, and class oppression. Students who earn an A.A. degree in Women's Studies may either pursue further study or obtain employment directly in fields such as health and social services, education, law, government and politics, communications, and business. Moreover, a Women's Studies degree gives students the confidence to pursue careers traditionally held by men.

Upon completion of this program, the student will be able to:

- identify women's contributions to major social and cultural institutions, including history, politics, science, social science, literature, and art.
- demonstrate an understanding of the role of oppression and privilege in the lives of women, integrating the role of race, class, gender, ethnicity, age, (dis)ability, and sexuality in women's experiences.
- demonstrate the ability to summarize and apply a variety of feminist theories.
- identify and discuss the major issues pertaining to contemporary women, including motherhood, violence against women, abortion, economic issues, marriage and relationships, and physical and mental health issues.
- demonstrate the ability to examine issues of women and gender from an interdisciplinary, cross-cultural, and global perspective.

- utilize a variety of strategies for social change, incorporating an understanding of the connection between knowledge and experience, theory and activism regarding issues pertaining to women and gender.
- demonstrate the ability to communicate effectively in writing.

Required Program

	Units
SOCS 350 Introduction to Women's Studies.....	3
SOCS 352 Global Women's Issues (3).....	3
or SOC 345 Global Women's Issues (3)	

A minimum of 12 units from the following:12¹

- ARTH 312 Women in Art (3)
- ENGL 360 Women in Literature (3)
- ENGL 401 Women in Film and Literature (3)
- FITNS 454 Personal Safety (1.5)
- HIST 310 History of the United States (3)
 - or HIST 483 History of the United States Honors (3)
- HIST 311 History of the United States (3)
 - or HIST 484 History of the United States Honors (3)
- POLS 340 Women in Politics (3)
- PSYC 356 Human Sexuality (3)
- PSYC 360 Psychology of Women (3)
- PSYC 363 Psychology of Women in Film (3)
- FCS 326 Sex and Gender in the U.S. (3)
 - or SOC 341 Sex and Gender in the U.S. (3)
- SOC 343 Women and Social Action (3)
- SOC 344 Sociology of Women's Health (3)

Total Units Required

18

¹Students must take the "Women's Emphasis" sections of HIST 310 or 483 and HIST 311 or 484.

Associate in Arts (A.A.) Degree

The Associate in Arts degree may be obtained by completion of the required program, plus general education requirements, plus sufficient electives to meet a 60-unit total. See SCC graduation requirements.

Transfer Information

In addition to the course requirements, transfer students should complete the general education requirements for the university to which they plan to transfer. Students can also use the Sacramento City College General Education pattern to obtain the degree; however, these courses do not necessarily fulfill the general education requirements of transfer institutions. Student should see a counselor regarding academic planning.