

Women and Gender Studies

Degree:

A.A. – Women and Gender Studies

Division of Behavioral and Social Science

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Rodda Hall North, room 226

916-558-2401

Women and Gender Studies

Associate in Arts Degree

Program Information

Women and Gender Studies is an interdisciplinary program that involves an interdisciplinary, multicultural, and transnational perspective of gender inequality. Based on the conviction that gender roles are socially constructed through time, the program employs perspectives from disciplines such as history, literature, philosophy, sociology, politics, and psychology to examine how gendered experiences are created and 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 gender oppression within local, national, and global contexts. The program encourages an analysis of how race, class, sexuality, and nationality influence the construction of gender.

Career Opportunities

A degree in Women and Gender Studies provides students with an academically well-rounded knowledge base anchored in strong critical thinking skills, through the lens of feminism and social justice. Students who complete the Women and Gender 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 and Gender 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 and Gender Studies degree gives students the confidence to pursue nontraditional careers.

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 roles played by 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 a range of gender issues, including motherhood, gender-based violence, reproductive justice, economic issues, marriage and relationships, political leadership, employment, 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

WGS 300 Introduction to Women and Gender Studies	3
WGS 302 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)
- ENGLT 360 Women in Literature (3)
- ENGLT 401 Women in Film and Literature (3)
- POLS 340 Women in Politics (3)
- PSYC 356 Human Sexuality (3)
- PSYC 360 Psychology of Women (3)
- 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)
- WGS 304 Women, Globalization, and Human Rights (3)
- or SOC 347 Women, Globalization, and Human Rights (3)
- HIST 483 History of the United States – Honors (3)
- or HIST 310 History of the United States (3)
- HIST 311 History of the United States (3)
- or HIST 484 History of the United States – Honors (3)

Total Units Required

18

¹Students must take the “Women’s Emphasis” sections of HIST 310, HIST 311, HIST 483, and HIST 484. The “Women’s Emphasis” courses are identified in the class schedule.

Associate in Arts (A.A.) Degree

The Women and Gender Studies Associate in Arts (A.A.) degree may be obtained by completion of 60 transferable, semester units, including (a) the major or area of emphasis described in the Required Program, and (b) one of the following: the SCC General Education, the Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC), or the California State University General Education-Breadth 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.

Women and Gender Studies (WGS)

WGS 300 Introduction to Women and Gender Studies 3 Units

Prerequisite: None.

*Advisory: ENGRD 110 and ENGWR 101 with grades of "C" or better
OR ESLR 340 and ESLW 340 with grades of "C" or better*

*General Education: AA/AS Area V(b); AA/AS Area III(b); CSU Area D;
IGETC Area 4*

Course Transferable to UC/CSU

Hours: 54 hours LEC

This course provides an interdisciplinary approach to introducing Women and Gender Studies and key theories, concepts, and issues of the field. The course will examine gender inequality from an intersectional perspective, emphasizing the interrelated circumstances that influence women's status in popular culture, in the workforce, in the arts, before the law, in the family, and in other social, political, and economic realms of society. Students will strive to understand women's diverse histories and experiences, while at the same time seeking to understand how their own histories have shaped who they are and how they view the world. Employing gender as a central category of analysis, the course will be inclusive of issues of oppression based on gender expression and sexuality. Each student writes a minimum of 3,000 words. Formerly known as SOCSC 350.

WGS 302 Global Women's Issues 3 Units

Same As: SOC 345

Prerequisite: None.

*Advisory: ENGRD 110 and ENGWR 101 with grades of "C" or better
OR ESLW 340 and ESLR 340 with grades of "C" or better*

General Education: AA/AS Area V(b); CSU Area D; IGETC Area 4

Course Transferable to UC/CSU

Hours: 54 hours LEC

The course will consider the conditions of women's lives from the perspectives of global and transnational feminism, examining issues such as immigration, girls' education, maternal health, globalization, economics, war and conflict, gender-based violence, and political activism. Students will seek to understand women's lives by connecting global data about the status of women to material consequences for individual women and local communities. Using gender as a theoretical category of analysis, the course will explore how gender inequality and oppression create disproportionate suffering and lack of opportunities for women and girls. Students will learn to ask critical questions about the complex and intersecting aspects of the oppression of women, as well as develop an understanding of the culturally situated, creative, and heroic ways women are standing up to gender oppression and shaping change within their local communities and nations. Credit may be awarded for either WGS 302 or SOC 345 but not for both. WGS 302 was formerly known as SOCSC 352.

WGS 304 Women and Human Rights 3 Units

Same As: SOC 347

Prerequisite: None.

*Advisory: ENGRD 110 and ENGWR 101 or ESLR 340 and ESLW 340,
with grades "C" or better.*

Course Transferable to CSU

Hours: 54 hours LEC

Through global and transnational feminist perspectives, this course provides an overview of human rights ideas and frameworks, including the history and ongoing implementation of United Nations conventions, treaties, and campaigns concerning women. The course will consider the complex and gendered social, economic, and political impacts of globalization on women and girls around the world. Students will learn to critically engage with theories, approaches, and representation related to improving the lives of women in the global context and will learn about key human rights defenders who are recognized for their activism. Students will consider their own place in a globalized world and utilize course knowledge to think about their role in creating justice in the world. Credit may be awarded for either WGS 304 or SOC 347 but not for both.