WOMEN’S AND GENDER STUDIES (WMGS)

WMGS 102 # - Introduction to Women’s and Gender Studies 3 Credits
This course introduces the student to the broad and interdisciplinary field known as Women’s and Gender Studies. It is designed to make students aware of the new discoveries in feminist and gender studies research and to focus on many aspects of the female experience and the social construction of gendered identities. The course is designed to help students understand different theories and methodologies in diverse disciplines and to treat areas such as literature, history, psychology and the arts through an issue-oriented approach. Meets Gen Ed 2002 - Social Science Perspectives. Meets World Cultures Requirement. 3 hours lecture.

WMGS 200 # - Transnational Feminisms 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): WMGS 102. This course will interrogate the concept and practice of feminism from various locations outside of the U.S. Students will examine the political, cultural and socio-economic structures that promote or inhibit activism on women’s lives and issues. Meets Gen Ed 2002 - Global Cultural Perspectives. Meets World Cultures Requirement. Previous course WMGS 303 effective through Winter 2011. 3 hours lecture.

WMGS 201 # - Inventing Feminism 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): WMGS 102. How did feminism begin in Europe and America? This course studies the birth of feminism as an international political movement and explores its growth in response to Western social developments from 1750 to the mid-twentieth century. 3 hours lecture. 3 hours seminar.

WMGS 208 # - Men and Masculinities 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): SOCI 100 or SOCI 102 or SOCI 104 or SOCI 106 or SOCI 113 or SOCI 201. This course focuses on men and masculine identities in the United States and other countries. It reviews how masculine identities are constructed in everyday lives and how societies shape such identities. In this class, we will examine the construction of masculinity in different areas such as work, school, sports, family and other social relationships. We also explore the diverse experiences of masculinities based on race, ethnicity, class and sexual orientation. 3 hours lecture.

WMGS 301 # - Feminist Theory in Transnational Contexts 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): WMGS 200 or WMGS 201 or WMGS 208 or SOCI 208. This course examines a wide variety of feminist theories which illustrate the many ways in which issues of gender can be interpreted. Recognizing that gendered identities are molded by such factors as class, race, sexual orientation and national identity, this course explores the issues of difference among women and the role of theory in conceptualizing such differences. 3 hours lecture.

WMGS 302 # - Selected Topics in Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): WMGS 200 or WMGS 201 or WMGS 208 or SOCI 208. The exploration of a topic related to Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies which is either not covered in the curriculum or which deserves more in-depth treatment than is possible in an existing course. The specific topic will be announced each time the course is offered. May be repeated two times (as long as the topic is different) for a maximum of 9.0 credits. 3 hours lecture.

WMGS 308 # - Gender and Sexuality in Asian American Literature 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): ENGL 207 or ENFL 208 or ENGL 230 or ENGL 234 or ENGL 237 or ENGL 238 or ENGL 239 or ENGL 250 or ENGL 252 or ENGL 260 or ENGL 262 or ENGL 263 or ENGL 274 or ENWR 220. A study of Asian American literature and film through the lenses of gender and sexuality. Topics addressed will include major issues in Asian American literary studies, such as orientalism, intersections of race and gender, changing gender roles, the invention of "tradition," bachelor societies, queer sexuality, family, intergenerational issues, war, and colonialism and empire. Ethnic groups addressed might include Chinese American, Filipino American, Hmong American, Japanese American, Korean American, South Asian American, and Vietnamese American, among others. Cross-listed with English, ENGL 308. 3 hours lecture.

WMGS 314 # - Women and Migration 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): WMGS 102; or HIST 100 and HIST 117 or 118. This course focuses on female migrants from the late nineteenth century to the present. Using an interdisciplinary approach with an emphasis on historical studies, it considers issues of work, family, sexuality, and identity formation for migrant women past and present. Questions to explore include: what distinguishes the experiences of migration for women; what are the continuities and differences for women across time, ethnicity, and geography; how do historians, sociologists, anthropologists, and others, as well as the migrants themselves, understand female migration; what do women gain and lose through migration, and why a gendered approach to migration studies is crucial. Cross listed with HIST 314. 3 hours lecture.

WMGS 316 # - Victimology 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): JUST 204 or JUST 205 or WMGS 301 or departmental approval. Victimology is the scientific study of victims including the relationship between the victim and offender, the victim and the criminal justice system, and the victim with other societal institutions. The goal of this course is to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the subject of victimology in the context of Criminology and Women's and Gender Studies. The course will be presented in three parts: Research and theory on victimization, Exploration of special topics in victimology, and Historical and Contemporary practical responses to victimization. 3 hours lecture.

WMGS 345 # - Imagining Medieval and Early Modern Women 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): GNHU 201 or WMGS 201; or departmental approval. This course explores representations of medieval and early modern women, gender, and sexuality in literary, artistic, and musical media that were produced in continental Europe. Paying particular attention to works - e.g., manuscript illuminations, songs, texts - produced by, for, and about women this course transcends disciplinary boundaries and draws on a range of methodological approaches. Cross-listed with GNHU 345. 3 hours lecture.
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WMGS 350 # - Writing Women Safe: Writing, Rape Prevention, and Community Activism 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): ENGL 300, JOUR 210, JOUR 211, WRIT 204, ENWR 205, WRIT 206, WRIT 207, ENWR 250, or WMGS 201. This course exposes students to writing-as-social-action through intensive study of the topic of sexual violence against women. Students will gain a broad-based understanding of community literacy and the role of writing outside school walls in order to fully explore how writing can function as an activist tool for the prevention of sexual violence. We will read broadly on the issue of sexual violence against women-analyzing depictions of rape in popular language, exploring how rape has been discussed in feminist theory and scholarship, and researching community-based and activist responses to rape and its prevention-in order to strengthen our own literacy practices towards prevention and awareness-raising. Students will be familiar with local, national, and international agencies that work to protect women from sexual violence and advocate for rape survivors. Students will develop activist writing projects that work to serve and further these existing efforts. 3 hours lecture.

WMGS 355 # - Human Trafficking 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): WMGS 201 or WMGS 200 or JUST 204 or JUST 205 or departmental permission. The goal of this course is to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of global human trafficking, including extent, causes, impact, perpetrators, victims and responses. In addition to an overview of the global issues we will examine the multifaceted needs of trafficking survivors, and legal and policy approaches to reducing the problem. 3 hours lecture.

WMGS 376 # - Feminist Jurisprudence 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): PHIL 200 or PHIL 212 or JURI 210 or LAWS 200 or WMGS 200 or WMGS 201. An examination of the philosophical basis of legal doctrines as they apply to women and feminist issues. The course will explore the legal arguments feminists have made for social and political equality. It will also examine whether gender bias is built into traditional jurisprudential theories. Women's rights and women's legal status in politics, employment, education, and the family will be explored. Cross-listed with PHIL 376 and JURI 376. 3 hours lecture.

WMGS 401 # - Independent Study: Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): WMGS 301 and approval of the WMGS Director. This course involves advanced research on a topic of particular interest to the students that goes beyond the scope of available courses in Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies. Students are required to hand in an extensive paper documenting the results of their research. May be repeated once for a maximum of 6.0 credits. 3 hours lecture.

WMGS 402 # - Sexuality, and Women's Studies 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): WMGS 102, WMGS 201, WMGS 301 and 6 additional hours in the major. Each participant completes an individual project that is either (a) research on an approved topic or (b) description and analysis of a long-term field experience. With faculty facilitator, students discuss research strategies, issues, and work in progress. Meets the University Writing Requirement for majors in Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies. 3 hours lecture.

WMGS 403 # - Seminar on Gender and Crime 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): WMGS 301 or JUST 310 or by departmental approval. The goal of this course is to provide an upper-level, trans-disciplinary overview of ways that gender shapes individuals' experiences with the criminal justice system as workers, offenders and victims. Emphasis will be placed on the examination of structural disadvantage, the gendered nature of criminological theoretical perspectives, and the victim/offender dichotomy. 3 hours lecture.

WMGS 410 # - Cooperative Education: Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): WMGS 102, WMGS 301 and at least one other WMGS course; minimum GPA of 3.0; approval of WMGS director. Academic study integrated with supervised internship in an organization, agency, or business that addresses women’s issues or issues of gender or sexuality. Part-time (20 hours per week). Required individual meetings with faculty advisor supplement experiential component, and include discussion of field work experience, connection between feminist/gender studies theories and practice, issues of access and diversity, civic responsibility, and career options.

WMGS 436 # - Washington, D.C. Internship 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): WMGS 102 plus two Women’s and Gender Studies electives relevant to the intended placement (subject to the Women’s and Gender Studies director’s approval) and a minimum 3.0 G.P.A. in the major or minor. Corequisite(s): COED 401, COED 402, COED 403 or COED 404. In this course students will intern in Washington, D.C., at governmental offices, interest groups, party and electoral organizations, law and lobbying firms or other political organizations. Students’ academic learning is assessed by faculty and their work performance is evaluated by their placement supervisor. Students may receive up to 7.0 credits in Women’s and Gender Studies and up to 8.0 credits in a corequisite Cooperative Education course. Cross listed with Political Science, POLS 436. 3 hours lecture.

WMGS 481 # - The Legal Rights of Women 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): Departmental approval. This course will include some historical background for clearer understanding of what the changes in laws mean for women and men. Discussion and study of the effect of affirmative action, civil rights legislation and titles VI and IX will be included. Legal rights in the areas of education, employment, finances and credit, property ownership, marriage and divorce, health care, pensions and criminal law will be covered. Meets World Cultures Requirement. Previous course COUN 481 effective through Summer 2011. 3 hours lecture.