

Additional information may be obtained from:

UM-St. Louis Admissions Office  
One University Boulevard  
St. Louis, Missouri 63121-4400  
(314) 516-5451  
<http://www.umsl.edu/>



University of Missouri-St. Louis

# Women's and Gender Studies

## Why Earn a Women's and Gender Studies Certificate?

In Women's and Gender Studies (WGS), faculty and students draw upon the rich body of interdisciplinary feminist scholarship to investigate emerging theories and research on women, men, and gender. Similar to a minor, a Women's and Gender Studies Certificate supplements a student's traditional academic major by promoting critical analysis of gender roles and structures across different times and cultures. WGS classes promote the exchange of knowledge among people of different genders, classes, ethnicities, sexualities, and cultural conditions. Taught by committed and dynamic faculty, WGS courses enjoy strong reputations for student-centered, lively, and supportive classroom experiences. Earning a certificate not only enables students to broaden their educational experiences and develop new insights into their own lives and aspirations, but also facilitates employment in a wide variety of occupations.

## General Information

The Institute for Women's and Gender Studies is committed to:

- Providing students with a first-rate gender education by fostering the exchange of knowledge among people of different genders, classes, ethnicities, sexualities, and cultural conditions.
- Providing students with the appropriate skills to succeed in the workplace, community, and the world by offering an educated perspective on diversity and gender equality.
- Conducting and disseminating basic and applied research that advances our understanding of issues relevant to gender studies.
- Creating educational value by delivering innovative, cutting-edge curriculum, using both traditional and non-traditional delivery methods.
- Serving the University, the St. Louis business and not-for-profit communities, the citizens of Missouri, and society at large.

The Women's and Gender Studies program offers undergraduate and graduate certificates in cooperation with most of the departments in the College of Arts and Sciences, as well as with departments in the College of Fine Arts and Communication and the College of Education. The opportunity to earn an 18-hour certificate is available to all students pursuing a degree at UM-St. Louis and to individuals with a bachelor's or master's degree from any university. Women's and Gender Studies courses are open to all students, whether or not they are working toward a certificate.

## Undergraduate Certificate Requirements

Undergraduate certificate candidates must meet the University's general education requirements. Applicants must have a cumulative G.P.A. of at least 2.5 and must maintain a minimum 2.5 G.P.A. in WGS courses.

Candidates for undergraduate certificates are asked to register with IWGS after taking one or two courses. Students will then be enrolled in the program and will be placed on our mailing list for class information and announcements of upcoming events.

Students must take at least 18 hours in Women's and Gender Studies courses.

9 hours must include 3 core courses:

- 1) **WGS 2102** Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies
- 2) **WGS 3033** Sexuality and Gender Theory or other 3000-5000-level course in feminist or gender theory
- 3) **Capstone Experience:** Students must complete a final research project or practicum. The Capstone requirement may be satisfied by WGS 4352 Independent Study in Women's and Gender Studies, WGS 4353 Internship in Women's and Gender Studies, or by a 4000-level WGS course or other 4000-level seminar where a student completes a final research and writing project that focuses on women's and gender studies.

9 hours may be cross-listed courses with a student's major department or WGS electives from various disciplines.

CAREER

## Graduate Certificate Requirements

The graduate certificate in Women's and Gender Studies is designed for students who wish to receive post-baccalaureate training in gender studies.

### For Admission:

Baccalaureate degree

2.75 G.P.A.

Official transcripts of all previous undergraduate/graduate work

Two letters of recommendation

If you are not currently enrolled at UM-St. Louis, you must apply through the Graduate School. This certificate is available to students with Bachelor's or Master's degrees and students enrolled in graduate degree programs. A student need not be enrolled in a degree program to earn the WGS graduate certificate.

Post B.A./B.S. students may enroll in the undergraduate or graduate certificate program.

## Certificate Requirements

At least 18 hours of Women's and Gender Studies courses at the 4000-, 5000-, and/or 6000-level

- 1) 3 hours must include a graduate feminist or gender theory course, which may be WGS 5033 Advanced Sexuality and Gender Theory, WGS 5040 Feminist Critical Theory, or other theory course.
- 2) 3 hours must include either a graduate internship or practicum, or final writing project, which may be an independent study WGS 6452 Special Readings in Women's and Gender Studies, or a substantial research and writing project for a WGS graduate seminar, which may be WGS 6450 Seminar in Women's and Gender Studies, or other cross-listed, 5000- or 6000-level seminar
- 3) 12 hours must be at the 5000-level or above, while up to 6 hours of 4000-level courses may be taken for graduate credit, as long as the student completes graduate level work for the course.
- 4) No more than 6 hours may be taken as Directed or Independent Study credit.

Most WGS courses are cross-listed with other departments and count toward a department's degree requirements as well as toward the certificate.

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*Toll-free in MO and IL 618 area code:*

*1-888-GO-2-UMSL*

Career Services: (314) 516-5111

Institute for Women and Gender Studies: (314) 516-5581

<http://www.umsl.edu/divisions/artscience/rwgs/rwgs.html>