THE STUDY OF WOMEN, GENDER, AND SEXUALITY

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DEGREES OFFERED: BA AND GRADUATE CERTIFICATE

The undergraduate major, honors track undergraduate major, and the graduate certificate program take an interdisciplinary approach in their exploration of women’s experiences and the role that ideas about sexual differences have played in human societies. Areas of inquiry include women’s participation in social and cultural production; the construction of gender roles and sexuality; the relationship between ideas about gender and concepts inherent in other social, political, and legal structures; and the implications of feminist theory for philosophical and epistemological traditions. Students acquire an understanding of how adopting gender as a significant category of analysis challenges existing disciplines. They also gain proficiency in the methods used to study and compare cultural constructions of gender and sexuality, and they become familiar with the ongoing fundamental debates in women’s, gender, and sexuality studies.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS FOR BA IN THE STUDY OF WOMEN AND GENDER

For general university requirements, see Graduation Requirements on the main
General Announcements website. Students majoring in the study of women, gender, and sexuality must complete:

• 36 semester hours of departmental course work (30 hours if this is a second major)
• SWGS 101 Introduction to the Study of Women, Gender, and Sexuality, or SWGS 201 Introduction to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Studies
• SWGS 345 History of Feminism or at least one approved theory course
• SWGS 496 Engaged Research Practicum and SWGS 497 Engaged Research Seminar
• At least one approved non-Western studies course
• At least one approved critical race studies course

For students who pursue the Honors Program, the following two courses must be taken in place of SWGS 496 and SWGS 497, in addition to all other requirements listed above:

• SWGS 498 Honors Research in the Study of Women, Gender, and Sexuality (F)
• SWGS 499 Honors Research in the Study of Women, Gender, and Sexuality (S)

Of the remaining required courses, no more than four courses may be from a single department. All students must work out their individual courses of study with their faculty advisors. Each student's course of study must be approved by the director. Course requirement tracking forms are available in the SWGS office for declared SWGS majors.

The Engaged Research Practicum and Seminar are open to nonmajors. Permission of the instructor is required as well as some background in the study of women, gender or sexuality.

The SWGS Honors Track

Students wishing to pursue the Honors Program will complete a thesis. The process of preparing the thesis begins in the late spring of the junior year.

In that spring semester, the student chooses an advisor from the SWGS faculty, and with that advisor, produces a proposal for a research project. The proposal must be approved by the SWGS major advisor by the last day of the exam period in the spring of the junior year.

In the fall of the senior year, students enroll in SWGS 498, for directed research supervised by a CSWGS faculty affiliate and in regular consultation with their advisors.

In the spring of the senior year, students enroll in SWGS 499 and work closely with their advisors as they complete the thesis. Honors students present their projects in a public event at the end of the semester.

SWGS Courses

The following courses are among those that can be used to fulfill requirements for the major. As course offerings may vary from year to year, students are urged to consult with their faculty advisors or with the director at the beginning of each semester.
The Study of Women, Gender, and Sexuality

Please note that not all courses listed below will be offered every academic year. For a current list of courses that will be offered in fall 2011 and spring 2012, please visit the CSWGS website at cswgs.rice.edu.

I. Courses that Satisfy the Core Requirements

SWGS 101 Introduction to the Study of Women, Gender, and Sexuality
SWGS 201 Introduction to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Studies
SWGS 496 Engaged Research Practicum
SWGS 497 Engaged Research Seminar
SWGS 498 Honors Research in the Study of Women, Gender, and Sexuality (F)
SWGS 499 Honors Research in the Study of Women, Gender, and Sexuality (S)

II. Courses that Satisfy the Non-Western Studies Requirement

SWGS 240 Gender and Politicized Religion
SWGS 250 International Political Economy of Gender
SWGS 283 Women in the Modern Islamic World
SWGS 315 Gender and Islam
SWGS 340 Gender and Politicized Religion (enriched version)
SWGS 399 Women in Chinese Literature
SWGS 422 Gender and Global Economic Justice
SWGS 449 Cultures of Sexuality
SWGS 455 Women, Gender and Sexuality in Medieval Islamic Societies
SWGS 492 Gender Histories of Modern China

III. Courses that Satisfy the Critical Race Studies Requirement

SWGS 234 U.S. Women’s History I: Colonial Beginnings to the Civil War
SWGS 235 U.S. Women’s History II: Civil War to the Present
SWGS 370 Survey of African American Literature
SWGS 387 Cultural Studies

IV. Courses that Satisfy the Theory Requirement

SWGS 415 Sociolinguistics
SWGS 435 Topics in African American Literature: Black Women Writers

V. Other Courses

SWGS 105 Language, Gender, and Sexuality
SWGS 130 Women and National Socialism
SWGS 205 Language and Society
SWGS 225 Women in Greece & Rome
SWGS 273 Medicine and Media
SWGS 300 Medieval Women Writers
SWGS 305 Chaucer
SWGS 306 Human Sexuality
SWGS 307 Sexuality and Christianity
SWGS 320 Gender and Performance
SWGS 321 Exhibiting Sexualities
SWGS 323 The Knowing Body: Buddhism, Gender and the Social World
SWGS 324 Sociology of Gender
SWGS 325 Sociology of the Family
SWGS 327 20th-Century Women Writers
SWGS 329 The American West and Its Others
SWGS 331 Psychology of Gender
SWGS 332 Self, Sex, and Society in Ancient Greece
SWGS 333 Masculinities
SWGS 334 Madonnas and Divas: Images of and from Italian Women
The Study of Women, Gender, and Sexuality

Requirements for Graduate Certificate in the Study of Women, Gender, and Sexuality

The graduate certificate program in the study of women, gender, and sexuality is designed to provide interdisciplinary training in women, gender, and sexuality.

Concentration in Poverty, Social Justice, and Human Capabilities in the SWGS Major

Within the major in the Study of Women, Gender, and Sexuality, students can pursue a concentration in Poverty, Social Justice, and Human Capabilities (PJC). The concentration allows students to focus their course of study on the relation of gender and sexuality to poverty and human well-being and to develop an analytic framework for addressing these issues.

The concentration consists of three courses (of the 10 or 12 required in the SWGS major):

- PJHC/SOCI 280 Introduction to Poverty, Justice, Capabilities
- and two approved electives with substantive gender focus chosen from the PJC course offerings. These elective courses also may be approved to fulfill SWGS requirements for critical race and non-Western studies.

Requirements for Graduate Certificate in the Study of Women, Gender, and Sexuality

The graduate certificate program in the study of women, gender, and sexuality is designed to provide interdisciplinary training in women, gender, and sexuality...
studies to students pursuing a PhD degree at Rice University. Students who have been admitted into a PhD program are eligible to apply to the SWGS graduate certificate program. The SWGS graduate certificate is not a free-standing degree program; in addition to fulfilling the SWGS requirements outlined below, candidates will be required to successfully complete the PhD program in which they have been admitted in order to receive the graduate certificate in SWGS. Further information is available on request from the SWGS office. For PhD requirements, see the relevant department. For general university requirements, see Graduate Degrees in this publication.

The program awards graduate fellowship stipends, within the limits of available funds, to enrolled certificate students during the prospectus-writing semester. Although timelines vary depending on the student’s home department, this semester normally occurs during the semester following the completion of coursework and after passing the qualifying examinations in the PhD program. Graduate students who enroll in the certificate program in fall 2008 and in subsequent semesters will be asked to submit a dissertation proposal (or a 500-word statement with a proposal to follow later) that includes some indication of the ways women, gender, and/or sexuality feature in their project in order for a stipend to be disbursed during the “prospectus semester.” CSWGS will ask for this proposal or statement after the student completes qualifying exams. Graduate certificate students are eligible to work as teaching assistants for an SWGS undergraduate core or cross-listed course, or in some cases, to teach a course of their own upon approval of the steering committee.

For the graduate certificate in SWGS, candidates must complete:

- Nine credit hours of courses in SWGS, including two core courses (SWGS 501 and SWGS 502) and one cross-listed elective course (see list of approved courses below)
- Three noncredit hours for participation in annual colloquium

SWGS certificate students are strongly encouraged to include a member of the CSWGS faculty on their dissertation committee and to consult regularly with the faculty member as they pursue their dissertation work.

The following courses are those that can be used to fulfill requirements for the graduate certificate. In most cases, students will be able to complete these requirements within the normal time limits for coursework in their PhD programs. All students must work out their individual courses of study with the CSWGS director and the graduate advisor in their home departments. Each student’s course of study must be approved by the CSWGS director. Please note that not all courses listed below will be offered every academic year. For a current list of courses that will be offered in fall 2011 and spring 2012, please visit the CSWGS website at cswgs.rice.edu.

I. Courses that Satisfy the Core Requirements

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<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SWGS 501</td>
<td>Feminist Debates</td>
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<tr>
<td>SWGS 502</td>
<td>Gender, the Disciplines, and Interdisciplinarity</td>
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II. Courses that Satisfy the Cross-listed Elective Course Requirement

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<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SWGS 503</td>
<td>Directed Reading</td>
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<td>SWGS 517</td>
<td>Medieval Women Writers</td>
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<td>SWGS 520</td>
<td>Shakespeare and Difference</td>
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<td>SWGS 522</td>
<td>Feminist Economics</td>
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<td>SWGS 525</td>
<td>Self, Sex, and Society in Ancient Greece</td>
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<td>SWGS 534</td>
<td>Seeing Sex in European Art, 1400–1700</td>
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<td>SWGS 542</td>
<td>Victorian Fiction</td>
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SWGS 545 Women and Gender: Europe and Beyond
SWGS 546 20th-Century British Literature
SWGS 556 Seminar in Language Variation
SWGS 577 Buddhism, Gender, Society
SWGS 580 Sex, Sanctity, and Psychoanalysis
SWGS 581 Cultural Studies
SWGS 583 Reading Material
SWGS 584 Thinking Sex Under Neoliberalism
SWGS 585 Postcolonialism and Beyond

III. Annual Colloquium Requirement

Graduate certificate students will participate in a colloquium involving a series of speakers over the course of a year, to be offered annually at Rice and organized by the Center for the Study of Women, Gender, and Sexuality (CSWGS). Colloquium attendance by graduate certificate students constitutes an official requirement for the certificate. Normally, students are expected to attend colloquia over a minimum of four semesters, and attendance beyond that is highly encouraged. Colloquium topics will be determined by the CSWGS steering committee with a view to highlighting emerging knowledge in gender, sexuality, and women’s studies. The colloquium provides graduate students with the opportunity to engage in sustained intellectual exchange with leading scholars and to participate in producing cutting-edge work in the field.