

# BACHELOR OF ARTS (BA) DEGREE WITH A MAJOR IN STUDY OF WOMEN, GENDER AND SEXUALITY

## Program Learning Outcomes for the BA Degree with a Major in the Study of Women, Gender and Sexuality

Upon completing the BA degree with a major in the Study of Women, Gender and Sexuality, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate an awareness of the diversity of feminist thought in the past and present.
2. Demonstrate familiarity with key issues in the study of women's lives and histories.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of social, political, and cultural features of gender and sexuality in the US and globally.
4. Understand diverse global feminist perspectives, including critical race studies and feminist contributions to social and critical theory.
5. Demonstrate knowledge of the feminist concept of engaged research based upon cumulative practice as engaged researchers in extra-classroom activities.
6. Develop skills in analytical writing as well as in oral and visual presentation.

## Requirements for the BA Degree with a Major in the Study of Women, Gender and Sexuality

For general university requirements, see [Graduation Requirements \(https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/graduation-requirements/\)](https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/graduation-requirements/). Students pursuing the BA degree with a major in the Study of Women, Gender and Sexuality must complete:

- A minimum of 10-11 courses (30-31 credit hours), depending on course selection, to satisfy major requirements.
- A minimum of 120 credit hours to satisfy degree requirements.
- A minimum of 5 courses (15 credit hours) taken at the 300-level or above.

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 SWGS Undergraduate Advisor. Course requirement tracking forms are available in the Study of Women, Gender and Sexuality office.

The courses listed below satisfy the requirements for this major. In certain instances, courses not on this official list may be substituted upon approval of the major's academic advisor, or where applicable, the department's Director of Undergraduate Studies. (Course substitutions must be formally applied and entered into Degree Works by the major's Official Certifier (<https://registrar.rice.edu/facstaff/degreeworks/officialcertifier/>.) Students and their academic advisors should identify and clearly document the courses to be taken.

## Summary

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Total Credit Hours Required for the Major in the Study of Women, Gender and Sexuality		30-31
Total Credit Hours Required for the BA Degree with a Major in Study of Women, Gender and Sexuality		120

## Degree Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
<b>Core Requirements</b>		
SWGS 101 or SWGS 201	INTRODUCTION TO WOMEN & GENDER INTRODUCTION TO LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, AND TRANSGENDER STUDIES	3
<i>Select 1 course from Critical Race Electives (see course list below)</i>		3
<i>Select 1 course from Global South Electives (see course list below)</i>		3
<i>Select 1 course from Theory Electives (see course list below)</i>		3
<b>Research, Practicum, and Seminar</b>		6-7
<i>Select 1 from the following:</i>		
Research, Practicum, and Seminar		
SWGS 494	PRE-SEMINAR IN ENGAGED RESEARCH	
SWGS 496	ENGAGED RESEARCH PRACTICUM	
SWGS 497	ENGAGED RESEARCH SEMINAR	
Senior Thesis		
SWGS 498	RESEARCH IN THE STUDY OF WOMEN GENDER SEXUALITY	
SWGS 499	RESEARCH IN THE STUDY OF WOMEN GENDER SEXUALITY	
<b>Elective Requirements <sup>1</sup></b>		
<i>Select 4 elective courses from department approved electives or from additional elective courses in Critical Race, Global South, or Theory (see course lists below)</i>		12
<b>Total Credit Hours Required for the Major in Women, Gender and Sexuality</b>		<b>30-31</b>
Additional Credit Hours to Complete Degree Requirements *		58-59
<a href="https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/graduation-requirements/">University Graduation Requirements (https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/graduation-requirements/)</a> *		31
<b>Total Credit Hours</b>		<b>120</b>

## Footnotes and Additional Information

\* **Note:** [University Graduation Requirements](https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/graduation-requirements/) include 31 credit hours, comprised of Distribution Requirements (Groups I, II, and III), FWIS, and LPAP coursework. In some instances, courses satisfying FWIS or distribution requirements may additionally meet other requirements, such as the Analyzing Diversity (AD) requirement, or some of the student's declared major, minor, or certificate requirements. [Additional Credit Hours to Complete Degree Requirements](https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/graduation-requirements/) include general electives, coursework completed as upper-level, residency (hours taken at Rice), and/or any other additional academic program requirements.

<sup>1</sup> Students may pursue an optional specialization in Poverty, Social Justice and Human Capabilities. See an advisor for more information.

## Course Lists to Satisfy Requirements

### Elective Requirements

Students must select a minimum of 1 course (3 credit hours) from Global South Electives and a minimum of 1 course (3 credit hours) from Critical Race Electives, and a minimum of 1 course (3 credit hours) from Theory Electives. To fulfill the remaining major requirements, students must complete a total of 4 courses (12 credit hours) from the department approved electives, or from additional elective courses in Global South Electives, Critical Race Electives, or Theory Electives. Course offerings may vary from year to year, and students are urged to consult with the undergraduate advisor or with the director at the beginning of each semester.

### Electives: Critical Race

Select a minimum of 1 course (3 credit hours) from the following:

Code	Title	Credit Hours
EDUC 304	RACE, CLASS, GENDER IN EDUCATION	3
ENGL 397	TOPICS IN LITERATURE AND CULTURE <sup>1</sup>	3
FREN 308	BEAUTY AND THE BEAST(S): SEX, VIOLENCE, AND FOLKTALES IN THE AFRICAN DIASPORA	3
FREN 337	SHAKESPEARE IN THE CARIBBEAN: POST/ COLONIAL READINGS	3
FREN 340	GENDER AROUND THE WORLD	3
FREN 413	BLACK VENUS/VÉNUM NOIRE: REPRESENTATIONS OF BLACK WOMEN IN THE LONG 19TH CENTURY	3
FREN 414	SEX AND RACE IN THE FRENCH ATLANTIC	3
SOCI 343	RACE, SOCIETY AND POPULATION CHANGE	3
SOCI 389	RACE, GENDER, CLASS IN FILM	3
SWGS 327 / ENGL 381	TOPICS IN WOMEN WRITERS	3
SWGS 329 / ENGL 369	THE AMERICAN WEST AND ITS OTHERS	3
SWGS 338 / HIST 338	19TH CENTURY WOMEN'S NARRATIVES	3
SWGS 354 / ENGL 371 / SPAN 396	CHICANO/A LITERATURE	3
SWGS 370 / ENGL 370	AFRICAN AMERICAN LITERATURE	3
SWGS 389 / ENGL 389	YOUTH STUDIES	3
SWGS 415 / LING 415	SOCIOLINGUISTICS	3
SWGS 466 / SPAN 456	LATIN AMERICAN WOMEN'S CULTURE	3

### Electives: Global South

Select a minimum of 1 course (3 credit hours) from the following:

Code	Title	Credit Hours
ASIA 381	SOUTH ASIAN DIASPORAS	3
FREN 337	SHAKESPEARE IN THE CARIBBEAN: POST/ COLONIAL READINGS	3

FREN 340	GENDER AROUND THE WORLD	3
FREN 414	SEX AND RACE IN THE FRENCH ATLANTIC	3
PJHC 371	POVERTY, JUSTICE, AND HUMAN CAPABILITIES	3
POLI 459	SEX, GENDER, AND POLITICAL REPRESENTATION IN LATIN AMERICA	3
SOCI 389	RACE, GENDER, CLASS IN FILM	3
SPAN 361	WOMEN AND GENDER IN SPANISH CULTURE	3
SWGS 250 / POLI 250 / ASIA 251	SEX, MONEY, AND POWER AROUND THE WORLD	3
SWGS 315 / RELI 315 / ASIA 315	GENDER AND ISLAM	3
SWGS 384 / HIST 384 / ASIA 328	MODERN GIRL AND ASIA IN THE WORLD	3
SWGS 399 / ASIA 399 / MDEM 379	WOMEN IN CHINESE LITERATURE	3
SWGS 449 / ANTH 449	CULTURES OF SEXUALITY	3

### Electives: Theory

Select a minimum of 1 course (3 credit hours) from the following:

Code	Title	Credit Hours
PHIL 267	PHILOSOPHY OF SEX AND LOVE	3
PHIL 470	ADVANCED TOPICS IN SOCIAL AND POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY	3
SWGS 317	TRANSGENDER STUDIES	3
SWGS 345 / HIST 340	HISTORY OF FEMINISM	3
SWGS 380 / ENGL 382	FEMINIST THEORY	3
SWGS 407 / ENGL 481	FEMINIST STUDIES	3

### Department Approved Electives

Select up to 4 courses (12 credit hours) from the following (or select additional courses from the course lists above):

Code	Title	Credit Hours
ANTH 380	GLOBAL HEALTH JUSTICE: HEALTHCARE INEQUALITIES IN CONFLICTS	3
ANTH 382	BODY, TECHNOLOGY, AND ENHANCEMENT	3
ANTH 428	FEMINIST SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY STUDIES	3
FREN 370	WOMEN IN TALES OF THE FANTASTIC	3
FREN 460	WOMEN IN FICTION AND HISTORY: NOTIONS OF THE FEMININE SINCE THE FRENCH REVOLUTION	3
FWIS 103	WHODUNIT? INVESTIGATING TRUE CRIME AND CRIME FICTION	3
HART 356	SEX AND MONEY: THE SPECIES DIVIDE	3

HART 364	GENDER AND SEXUALITY IN FILM	3
LING 303	LANGUAGE, GENDER & SEXUALITY	3
PHIL 267	PHILOSOPHY OF SEX AND LOVE	3
PHIL 275	FEMINIST PHILOSOPHY	3
POLI 339	GENDER AND POLITICS	3
POLI 459	SEX, GENDER, AND POLITICAL REPRESENTATION IN LATIN AMERICA	3
POLI 461	WOMEN AND POLITICAL LEADERSHIP	3
RELI 238	SPECIAL TOPICS <sup>1</sup>	1-4
RELI 393	MUTANTS AND MYSTICS: RACE, SEXUALITY, AND THE FUTURE OF THE HUMANITIES	3
SOCI 301	SOCIAL INEQUALITY	3
SWGS 205 / LING 205	LANGUAGE AND SOCIETY	3
SWGS 238	SPECIAL TOPICS	1-4
SWGS 273 / ENGL 273	MEDICINE AND MEDIA	3
SWGS 301 / ENGL 317 / MDEM 317	ARTHURIAN LITERATURE	3
SWGS 303	GENDER AND SCIENCE	3
SWGS 305 / ENGL 316 / MDEM 316	CHAUCER	3
SWGS 306 / HEAL 306	HUMAN SEXUALITY	3
SWGS 324 / SOCI 306	SOCIOLOGY OF GENDER	3
SWGS 325 / SOCI 334	SOCIOLOGY OF THE FAMILY	3
SWGS 327 / ENGL 381	TOPICS IN WOMEN WRITERS	3
SWGS 331 / PSYC 331	PSYCHOLOGY OF GENDER	3
SWGS 332 / ANTH 325	SEX, SELF, AND SOCIETY IN ANCIENT GREECE	3
SWGS 333 / ANTH 311	MASCULINITIES	3
SWGS 336 / ANTH 308	THE ANTHROPOLOGY OF THE HISTORICAL IMAGINATION	3
SWGS 343 / ENGL 343	JANE AUSTEN'S WORLDS	3
SWGS 353 / ANTH 354	ILLNESS, DISABILITY, AND THE GENDERED BODY	3
SWGS 361 / GERM 338 / HUMA 373	NEW GERMAN FILM: HITLER'S CINEMATIC CHILDREN	3
SWGS 364 / ENGL 354	QUEER LITERARY CULTURES	3
SWGS 372 / ENGL 342	SURVEY OF VICTORIAN FICTION	3
SWGS 385	SEXUAL DEBATES IN THE U.S.: SOCIAL AND CULTURAL CONTEXTS OF SUPREME COURTS DECISIONS	3

SWGS 390 / SPAN 390	HISPANIC CINEMA	3
SWGS 424 / FREN 424	WOMEN IN FRANCE	3
SWGS 434 / HART 434 / MDEM 434	SEEING SEX IN EUROPEAN ART, 1400-1700	3
SWGS 465 / SOCI 465	GENDER AND HEALTH	3
SWGS 495	INDEPENDENT STUDY	1-4

**Footnotes and Additional Information**

<sup>1</sup> ENGL 397 and RELI 238 are Special Topics courses. These courses only count toward the Study of Women, Gender, and Sexuality major when the topic is related to the Study of Women, Gender, and Sexuality. For questions regarding a specific instance of ENGL 397 or RELI 238, consult a major advisor.

**Policies for the BA Degree with a Major in the Study of Women, Gender and Sexuality**

**Program Restrictions and Exclusions**

Students pursuing the major in the Study of Women, Gender and Sexuality should be aware of the following program restriction:

- As noted in Majors, Minors, and Certificates (<https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-opportunities/majors-minors-certificates/>), students may not major and minor in the same subject.

**Transfer Credit**

For Rice University's policy regarding transfer credit, see Transfer Credit (<https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/transfer-credit/>). Some departments and programs have additional restrictions on transfer credit. The Office of Academic Advising maintains the university's official list of transfer credit advisors (<https://oaa.rice.edu/advising-network/transfer-credit-advisors/>) on their website: <https://oaa.rice.edu>. Students are encouraged to meet with their academic program's transfer credit advisor when considering transfer credit possibilities.

**Departmental Transfer Credit Guidelines**

Students pursuing the major in the Study of Women, Gender and Sexuality should be aware of the following departmental transfer credit guidelines:

- Requests for transfer credit will be considered by the SWGS Undergraduate Advisor (and/or the program's official transfer credit advisor) on an individual case-by-case basis.

**Distribution Credit Information**

The determination of distribution credit eligibility is done initially as part of the new course creation process (<https://registrar.rice.edu/facstaff/courseprocess/>). Additionally, as part of an annual roll call ([https://registrar.rice.edu/facstaff/distribution\\_credit/](https://registrar.rice.edu/facstaff/distribution_credit/)) coordinated each Spring by the Office of the Registrar, course distribution credit eligibility is routinely reviewed and reaffirmed by the Dean's Offices of each of the academic schools.

Faculty and leadership in the academic schools are responsible for ensuring that the courses identified as distribution-credit-eligible meet

the criteria as set in the [General Announcements \(https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/graduation-requirements/#text\)](https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/graduation-requirements/#text). Students are responsible for ensuring that they meet [graduation requirements \(https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/graduation-requirements/#text\)](https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/graduation-requirements/#text) by completing coursework designated as distribution-credit-eligible at the time of course registration.

Distribution courses from the Study of Women, Gender and Sexuality (SWGS) are broad in theme and scope and prompt students to probe knowledge about how gender and sexuality are crucial components of political life, social life, and general well-being. They involve a broad, interdisciplinary spectrum of such knowledge and provide students with the tools for thinking critically about formations of gender and sexuality in diverse contexts. Current DI courses are 100- and 200-level introductions to the study of women and gender and to LGBT studies.

### Additional Information

For additional information, please see the Center for the Study of Women, Gender and Sexuality website: <https://cswgs.rice.edu/>

## Opportunities for the BA Degree with a Major in the Study of Women, Gender and Sexuality

### Academic Honors

The university recognizes academic excellence achieved over an undergraduate's academic history at Rice. For information on university honors, please see [Latin Honors \(https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/honors-distinctions/university/\)](https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/honors-distinctions/university/) (*summa cum laude*, *magna cum laude*, and *cum laude*) and [Distinction in Research and Creative Work \(https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/honors-distinctions/university/\)](https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/honors-distinctions/university/). Some departments have department-specific Honors awards or designations.

### Senior Thesis

Students wishing to pursue the Study of Women, Gender and Sexuality senior thesis program will complete a thesis under the guidance of a faculty mentor. Students wishing to undertake a senior thesis should confirm their eligibility with the SWGS Director of Undergraduate Studies (major advisor) in the spring of their junior year.

Requirements for admission to the program are:

- a major in SWGS
- a cumulative Rice GPA at the end of the junior year of at least 3.00
- a SWGS major GPA of at least 3.50

The process of preparing the thesis begins in the spring of the junior year, when the student works with the SWGS Director of Undergraduate Studies (DUS) and chooses an additional advisor from the SWGS faculty. With guidance from those two advisors, the student produces a proposal for a thesis project. The proposal must be approved by the Study of Women, Gender, and Sexuality DUS 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 consult regularly 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. Thesis students present their projects in a public event at the end of the semester.

The length and content of the thesis is to be coordinated with the student's faculty advisor, but generally senior theses are between 40-50 double-spaced pages in length. The bibliography and theoretical apparatus of the thesis must demonstrate an informed engagement with feminist, gender, and sexuality studies.

It is often useful for students and advisors to write up and co-sign a project timeline that includes deadlines for various components of the work. SWGS theses are frequently interdisciplinary. Students wishing to undertake a thesis combining SWGS with another discipline in a substantive way should select one primary inter/discipline (e.g., SWGS, ANTH, ECON, HIST, etc.) for their thesis 'home' department and work with an advisor in each discipline to create a hybrid thesis in terms of content, methods, and theoretical orientations. The thesis may receive academic credit in only one home inter/discipline.

### Research, Practicum, and Seminar

The Engaged Research Practicum and Seminar courses (SWGS 494, SWGS 496, and SWGS 497) are open to non-majors. Permission of the instructor is required as well as some background in the study of women, gender or sexuality.

### Additional Information

For additional information, please see the Center for the Study of Women, Gender and Sexuality website: <https://cswgs.rice.edu/>.

See <https://humanities.rice.edu/student-life> (<https://humanities.rice.edu/student-life/>) for tables of fellowships, prizes, and internships/practica that may be relevant to this major.