

CERTIFICATE IN THE STUDY OF WOMEN, GENDER AND SEXUALITY

Program Learning Outcomes for the Certificate in the Study of Women, Gender and Sexuality

Upon completing the certificate in the Study of Women, Gender and Sexuality, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of historical and contemporary approaches to the study of women, gender and sexuality across diverse disciplines.
2. Engage through their intellectual production feminist concepts and methodologies, and features of women's studies, gender studies, and/or sexuality studies as academic fields.
3. Incorporate critical debates in the study of women, gender and sexuality in their oral presentations and written analyses, including work for publication and/or use in a thesis.

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

The certificate in the Study of Women, Gender and Sexuality is a graduate certificate. For general university requirements, please see [Graduate Certificates \(https://ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-opportunities/certificates/\)](https://ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-opportunities/certificates/). For additional requirements, regulations, and procedures for all graduate programs, please see [All Graduate Students \(https://ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/regulations-procedures-all-degrees/\)](https://ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/regulations-procedures-all-degrees/). Students pursuing the certificate in the Study of Women, Gender and Sexuality must complete:

- A minimum of 3 courses (9 credit hours) of graduate-level study (graduate semester credit hours, coursework at the 500-level or above) to satisfy certificate requirements.
- A minimum of 4 semesters of participation in the SWGS Department Annual Colloquium^{1,3}.
- A thesis (for the PhD program in which they have been admitted) that in some way features the study of women, gender and/or sexuality^{2,3}.
- All course requirements met with Rice University coursework (transfer credit not permitted). For additional program guidelines regarding transfer credit, see the [Policies](#) (p. 2) tab.
- A minimum overall GPA of 2.67 or higher in all Rice coursework.
- A minimum program GPA of 2.67 or higher in all Rice coursework that satisfies requirements for the graduate certificate with a minimum grade of B- (2.67 grade points) in each course.

This certificate is not a freestanding degree program; in addition to fulfilling the certificate requirements outlined below, candidates will be required to complete successfully the degree program to which they have been admitted in order to receive this certificate. Upon completion, the certificate is awarded at the same time as the conferral of the student's Rice degree, along with a formal notation on their academic transcript.

The courses listed below satisfy the requirements for this certificate. In certain instances, courses not on this official list may be substituted upon approval of the certificate's academic advisor, or where applicable, the Program Director. Course substitutions must be formally applied and entered into Degree Works by the certificate's [Official Certifier \(https://registrar.rice.edu/facstaff/degreeworks/officialcertifier/\)](https://registrar.rice.edu/facstaff/degreeworks/officialcertifier/). Additionally, these must be approved by the Office of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies. 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 Certificate in the Study of Women, Gender and Sexuality		9

Certificate Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Core Requirements		
SWGS 501	FEMINIST DEBATES	3
SWGS 502	GENDER, THE DISCIPLINES, AND INTERDISCIPLINARITY	3
Elective Requirement		
<i>Select 1 course from the following:</i>		3
POLI 536	WOMEN AND REPRESENTATION	
SWGS 503	DIRECTED READING	
SWGS 534 / HART 534	SEEING SEX IN EUROPEAN ART, 1400-1700	
SWGS 542 / ENGL 542	VICTORIAN FICTION	
SWGS 546 / ENGL 546	SPECIAL TOPICS: 20TH CENTURY BRITISH LITERATURE	
SWGS 581 / ENGL 581	CULTURAL STUDIES: CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE, CULTURE AND POLITICS	
SWGS 585 / ENGL 585	POSTCOLONIALISM AND BEYOND	
Annual Colloquium (minimum of 4 semesters)¹		
Total Credit Hours		9

Footnotes and Additional Information

- ¹ The Annual Colloquium requirement is met by attending a series of colloquium seminars and associated public lectures offered by the Center for the Study of Women, Gender and Sexuality (CSWGS) over the course of a year, for a total of four (4) semesters. Generally students complete this requirement within two (2) years of study. It is recommended, though not required, that students attend the Annual Colloquium beyond the minimum requirements. For more information about the Annual Colloquium, see the [Opportunities](#) (p. 2) tab.
- ² CSWGS must verify that a student's thesis (for the PhD program in which they have been admitted) in some way features the study of women, gender and/or sexuality. Students are strongly encouraged to include a member of the CSWGS faculty on their thesis committee and to consult regularly with the faculty member as they pursue their thesis work.

³ The participation in the CSWGS Annual Colloquium and the thesis that in some way features the study of women, gender, and/or sexuality together comprise the experiential learning opportunity requirement for the WGS certificate.

Policies for the Certificate in the Study of Women, Gender and Sexuality

Advising

In most cases, students will be able to complete the certificate requirements within the normal time limits for coursework in their PhD program. All students must work out their individual courses of study with the SWGS graduate advisor and the graduate advisor in their home departments. Each student's course of study must be pre-approved by the SWGS graduate advisor. Please note that not all courses listed as certificate requirements will be offered every academic year.

Thesis Work

Students pursuing the Certificate in the Study of Women, Gender and Sexuality are strongly encouraged to include a member of the CSWGS faculty on their thesis committee and to consult regularly with the faculty member as they pursue their thesis work.

Program Restrictions and Exclusions

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

- Graduate students may declare their intent to pursue a university certificate only after they have first been admitted into a graduate-level Rice degree-granting program.

Transfer Credit

For Rice University's policy regarding transfer credit, see [Transfer Credit \(https://ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/regulations-procedures-all-degrees/#transfer\)](https://ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/regulations-procedures-all-degrees/#transfer). Some departments and programs have additional restrictions on transfer credit. Students are encouraged to meet with their academic program's advisor when considering transfer credit possibilities.

Program Transfer Credit Guidelines

Students pursuing the certificate in the Study of Women, Gender and Sexuality should be aware of the following program-specific transfer credit guidelines:

- Transfer credit coursework cannot be applied or used to meet any of the program's course requirements.

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 Certificate in the Study of Women, Gender and Sexuality

Colloquium

Students in the Certificate in the Study of Women, Gender and Sexuality program participate in a colloquium consisting of a series of seminars and public lectures over the course of a year, offered annually at Rice and organized by the Center for the Study of Women, Gender and Sexuality (CSWGS). Colloquium topics are 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.

Colloquium attendance constitutes an official requirement for the certificate (for more information, see the Requirements tab). Attendance beyond the required minimum is highly encouraged.

Graduate Stipend

The Center for the Study of Women, Gender and Sexuality (CSWGS) awards graduate 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 normally occurs during the semester following the completion of all required coursework (within the student's home department as well as in the Certificate in the Study of Women, Gender and Sexuality), and after achieving candidacy in the PhD program.

To receive the stipend, graduate students will be asked to submit a 500-word thesis proposal that identifies the ways women, gender, and/or sexuality feature in their project. CSWGS will ask for this proposal after the student completes qualifying exams.

Teaching Assistants

Certificate students are eligible to work as teaching assistants for an undergraduate SWGS course. In some cases, certificate students may be eligible to serve as an instructor of record for a SWGS course.

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 program.