Gender and Women's Studies

Gender and Women's Studies is an interdisciplinary program that centers on issues of gender, sexuality, and the ways gender and sexuality shape human experience through history and across cultures. Students work closely with GWS faculty in discussion-centered courses and independent research projects. Our students become critical and creative thinkers, able to analyze gender through interdisciplinary connections and multiple cultural perspectives. GWS graduates bring their knowledge of gender and their analytical abilities to other academic fields, to graduate and professional programs, and to a wide range of careers.

Major Requirements

GWS 100 Introduction to Gender & Women's Studies
GWS 300 Theories of Gender
GWS 350 Applied Studies
GWS 500 or 501 (Capstone)
Six GWS elective courses representing at least three academic programs, including at least one at the 300-level or above and at least one with a focus on international issues

Minor Requirements

GWS 100 Introduction to Gender & Women's Studies
GWS 300 Theories of Gender
Four GWS elective courses representing at least two academic programs

Recent Elective Courses

CIS 245 Information Visualization
COM 361 Film in Context: Race and Sex
ECN 326 Economics of Gender
ENG 224 Gay and Lesbian Literature
ENG 341 Southern Women Novelists
EVS 130 Women, Gender, and the Environment
GWS 210 Human Trafficking
GWS 210 Sex and Gender: Evolution
GWS 210 Women in Cross-Cultural Perspective
GWS 350 Queer Studies
MUS 215 Social Politics of the Diva in Music
PHL 236 Philosophy and Gender
POL 312 Women in Politics
PSY 382 Psychology of Sex and Gender
REL 274 Religion, the Body, and Sexuality
SPN 420 Modern Mexican Women

A full list of courses and descriptions can be found online in the College catalog.

Beyond the Classroom

Students have many opportunities for research, internships, conferences, and networking beyond the classroom that give them an advantage to prepare for life after W&J.

Student Research

Recent capstone projects include:

- “Danger Zones and Gendered Zones: Rape Culture”
- “Treating Trauma Based on Gender: Improvements for Transgender and Non-binary Individuals”
- “Black Matriarchy”

Graduate School

GWS majors and minors have earned advanced degrees in a variety of fields from institutions including:

- The London School of Economics
- Northeastern University
- University of Texas
- Brown University
- University of Pittsburgh
- Penn State University
- American University
- Carnegie-Mellon University
- Vanderbilt University
- Bowling Green State University
- West Virginia University
- Sciences Po Paris School of International Affairs

Careers

GWS majors and minors have achieved success in business, communications, counseling, the creative arts, higher education, law, medicine, nonprofit management, politics, public health, publishing, social work, teaching, and many other fields.