

Gender and Women's Studies Major (GIS)

Co-Directors: Travis Foster, Ph.D. and Kelly-Anne Diamond, Ph.D.
[\[Website\]](#)

About

Gender and Women's Studies encourages critical analysis of gender and sexuality at local, national, and global levels—now and in the past. Our curriculum brings feminist and queer theory into conversation with fields of study across the University, from history to sociology to global finance, helping students discover new alternatives for thinking about the problems of the world and the contributions of its people. As teachers, we are profoundly influenced by feminist models of collaborative learning and shared authority. We recognize our students and their life experiences as sources of vital expertise, and we help them find a voice, a sense of community, and a purpose as agents of social change

Program: [Global Interdisciplinary Studies](#)
Type: Bachelor of Arts

PRIMARY MAJOR (122 credits)

Required Major Courses (30 credits)

The major in Gender and Women's Studies provides an interdisciplinary and comparative approach to deepen students' understandings of the history, culture, religion, politics, literature, and society. Students sign up for the major and choose their specialization through the Department of Global Interdisciplinary Studies. The GIS chair and GWS Academic Director will work closely with each student to develop their individual interests, abilities, and career goals while fulfilling the requirements for the major.

Course	Title	Credits
GIS 2000	Intro to Global Interd Studies	3
GWS 2050	Introduction to Gender Studies	3
PHI 2420	Philosophy of Women	3
GWS 5000	Integrating Seminar	3
	GWS Electives for B.A.	18

Core Curriculum Requirements (44 credits)

Course	Title	Credits
ACS 1000	Ancients	3
ACS 1001	Moderns	3
THL 1000	Faith, Reason, and Culture	3
PHI 1000	Knowledge, Reality, Self	3
ETH 2050	The Good Life:Eth & Cont Prob	3
	Mathematics or Statistics (1 course)	3
	Natural Science (2 courses with laboratory)	8
	Literature and Writing Seminar (1 course)	3
	History (1 course)	3
	Social Sciences (2 courses)	6
	Fine Arts (1 course)	3
	Upper-Level Theology (1 course)	3
	Language Requirement (Proficiency)	
	Diversity Requirement (2 courses)	

Free Elective Requirement (48 credits)

Students with a Gender and Women's Studies primary major have forty-eight (48) required free elective credits.

Degree Credit Summary

- **Major Credits:** 30 credits
- **Core Credits:** 44 credits
- **Free Electives Credits:** 48 credits
- **Total Required Credits:** 122 Credits

Note: The above credit totals are based on the minimum number of required credits in each degree area. The minimum number of required credits in each area listed above must be met. Credits taken beyond the required minimum for one area may not be applied to another area.

SECONDARY MAJOR

Students who declare Gender and Women's Studies as a **secondary major** must complete the Required Major Courses to achieve this major. Students are able to count any eligible course taken in their primary major, the core curriculum, minors, concentrations, or free electives toward these requirements.

Category Descriptions

GWS Electives for B.A.

Credits: 18

Select 6 Classes in any course of 3 credits or more with GWS attribute

Mathematics or Statistics (1 course)

Credits: 3

Students must take one course in either Mathematics or Statistics. Any course offered by the Department of Mathematics and Statistics fulfills the Core Curriculum requirement. Certain courses offered by other departments (e.g., Computer Science and Philosophy) also fulfill the requirement. These courses are designated by the Mathematics A & S Core attribute.

Natural Science (2 courses with laboratory)

Credits: 8

Non-science majors meet the Core Curriculum Natural Science requirement by taking two semesters of Mendel Science Experience (MSE), thematically-based lecture/laboratory courses designed for non-science majors; or two semesters of lecture/laboratory courses designed for science majors.

Science (AST, BIO, BIOC, CHM, CBN, CSC, ENV, MAT, PHY - B.S. only, PSY - B.S. only) majors meet the science requirement through the regular program of study in their major.