WOMEN'S & GENDER STUDIES

LIN, YI-CHUN TRICIA, Professor and Director, Women's Studies Program
AMENTS, ROSALYN M., Director of Women's Programs
ANTHIS, KRISTINE, Professor
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BEALS, POLLY, Associate Professor
BLACKMER, CORINNE, Associate Professor
CARDONE, RESHA, Associate Professor
CARTER-DAVID, SIOBHAN, Assistant Professor
CONFORTI, ROSEMARIE, Associate Professor
DELLINGER-PATE, CHARLENE, Associate Professor
HUTCHINSON, BRANDON, Associate Professor
LOCKWOOD, HEIDI HOWKINS, Associate Professor
LAROCCH, STEVEN M., Professor
LATORRE, SOBEIRA, Associate Professor
MEYERHOFFER, CASSI, Assistant Professor
NEVEROW, VARA, Professor
ROFUTH, TODD, Professor
SKOCZEN, KATHLEEN, Professor
SONNENSCHEIN, DANA L., Professor
VANCOU, MICHELE, Associate Professor
VILLANI, CHRISTINE J., Professor
Social Work, M.S.W. & Women's & Gender Studies, M.A. (Dual Degree)
Women's & Gender Studies, Graduate Certificate
Women's & Gender Studies, M.A.
WOMEN'S & GENDER STUDIES, GRADUATE CERTIFICATE

For further information: WomensStudiesGrad@southernct.edu

Application Deadline

Rolling Admissions

Compatible with many different areas of study in the professions and the liberal arts, Women's & Gender Studies allows students to explore the nature of women's status, circumstances, and objectives across the boundaries of academic disciplines, cultures, and historical periods. Women's & Gender Studies courses offer students the opportunity to integrate scholarly inquiry, critical problem solving methods, professional training, cooperative leadership skills, and practical strategies for intervention in real life situations.

The interdisciplinary graduate certificate in Women's & Gender Studies is available to those who have completed a bachelor's degree as well as those matriculated in graduate programs offered by departments which support the Women's & Gender Studies certificate: Art, Curriculum & Learning, English, Environmental Education, History, Nursing, Psychology, Social Work, Special Education, Sociology, and World Languages and Literatures. The Online Graduate Certificate in Women's & Gender Studies is a nine to twelve-credit program. The on-ground graduate certificate programs are either nine-credit (The Graduate Certificate) or twelve-credit (The Advanced Graduate Certificate).

The requirements for the certificate are at least one core course and two or three electives; two core courses and one or two electives are strongly encouraged. No student should take more than two courses for the Women's & Gender Studies Graduate Certificate in a single department and students matriculated for a degree are encouraged to take other women's studies courses outside their own department. The elective courses are selected in consultation with the Women's & Gender Studies graduate coordinator and with the student's departmental adviser.

All courses toward the certificate are taken at graduate level unless special permission is obtained from the Women's & Gender Studies graduate coordinator and from the departmental adviser.

Extra Course Information

In addition to the regularly offered Women's & Gender Studies courses, a range of special topics courses are offered. Some courses offered in the past have included: Evolution of Black Feminist Thought; Gender, Race, Class in Young Adult Literature; Take Back the Kitchen; Feminist Utopias; Psychoanalysis and Feminism; Ecofeminist Writing; History of U.S. Women Photographers; Women and the Law; Feminist Families/Women's Choices; Writer's Workshop: The Gendered Voice; Gender and
Culture; Women and Professional Ethics; Women, Affirmative Action and the Law; Women in the Professions; Gender, Crime and Criminal Justice; Ethnic Identity: Women's Voices; British Reform Movements; A Room With a View; Anglophone Women Writers; Women Writers of the British Isles; Women's Autobiographical Writing, Virginia Woolf and Bloomsbury; Women's Autobiographies Through the Arts; Feminist Interpretations of the Gospels.

Program Sequence

9-12 credits

As sequencing changes, it is highly recommended that students meet with their program advisor to finalize a list of requirements for graduation.

One required core course (3-credits in one of the following)
WMS 500 - Feminist Theories and Practices - 3 Credits
WMS 510 - Research Methods - 3 Credits
WMS 520 - History of Feminist Thought - 3 Credits
WMS 530 - Global Women’s Issues - 3 Credits

Option 1: Graduate Certificate (6 cr. + 3cr Core Course=9cr)
Electives by advisement, must be graduate level – 6 Credits

Option 2: Graduate Certificate (9cr. + 3cr Core Course= 12cr)
Electives by advisement, must be graduate level – 9 Credits

This program is not eligible for financial aid (Title IV and/or State funds).
WOMEN'S & GENDER STUDIES, M.A.

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Application Deadline

Rolling admissions

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Admission Procedures

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis. Students entering the Women's & Gender Studies program in the fall semester will enter a two-year cohort. Students entering in the spring semester will take electives in their area of concentration and begin the cohort the following fall semester.

Applications are considered complete only when items one through five have been received by the Graduate Coordinator of Women's & Gender Studies and item six has been received by the School of Graduate and Professional Studies.

• Official transcripts from each higher education institution attended
• Essay - Each applicant must compose a 500-word essay explaining his or her interest in the program and how completion of the program will play a role in future academic, professional and/or personal goals.
• One writing sample - A newspaper article, web-based essay, professional material, or academic paper
• Recommendations - Two confidential letters of recommendation (from different individuals)
• School of Graduate and Professional Studies application

Master of Arts Degree

The Master of Arts Degree in Women's & Gender Studies is a two-year program based on a cohort model. The program is designed to give students access to advanced concepts in Women's & Gender Studies, to the specialized research methods of the field, and to the professional skills related to Women's & Gender Studies that can be applied in the work place. The coursework in the degree emphasizes interdisciplinary and intersectional analyses; students are asked to identify an academic discipline or a related/applied area or a specialization designed by the student in consultation with the graduate coordinator.
The program offers options for degree candidates who choose to seek professional credentialing such as a terminal degree. The program also serves those who have achieved competence in their field and who want to integrate the theory and practice of Women's & Gender Studies into their profession. It is also suitable for students seeking personal enrichment.

The interdisciplinary model of the Master of Arts Degree Program in Women's & Gender Studies allows students to establish a complex grasp of Women's & Gender Studies issues within various disciplines. There are five core courses: Feminist Theories and Practices (WMS 500), Research Methods in Women's Studies (WMS 510), History of Feminist Thought (WMS 520), Global Women's Issues (WMS 530), and a Field Experience (WMS 601). Students are encouraged to take additional interdisciplinary Women's & Gender Studies courses among their elective options. Students select electives from a range of Women's & Gender Studies offerings. Core courses and electives can be offered on-ground, hybrid, or online. In consultation with the graduate coordinator, students choose a concentration in a discipline through a host department or identify a related/ applied area relevant to their professional objectives. Students may also choose to design a specialization based on their own interests. No student should take more than four courses (12 credits) through a single host department. It is strongly recommended that students complete WMS 510, WMS 500 and WMS 520 before enrolling in the thesis or special project seminars (WMS 590, WMS 591, WMS 592, WMS 593).

All candidates for the master's degree must satisfy the exit requirements of the program. The options are a thesis, a comprehensive examination, and special project.

**Program Sequence - 33 Credits (Thesis), 36 Credits (Comprehensive Examination), 33 Credits (Special Project Option)**

*As sequencing changes, it is highly recommended that students meet with their program advisor to finalize a list of requirements for graduation.*

**Core Requirements - 15 credits**
- WMS 500 - Feminist Theories and Practices - 3 credits
- WMS 510 - Research Methods in Women's & Gender Studies - 3 credits
- WMS 520 - History of Feminist Thought - 3 credits
- WMS 530 - Global Women's Issues - 3 credits
- WMS 601 - Field Experience - 3 credits

**Plan A - Thesis Option - 18 credits**
- WMS 590 - Thesis Seminar I - 3 credits
  and
- WMS 591 - Thesis Seminar II - 3 credits

Electives in area of specialization - 12 credits
Electives may be taken in any subject and must be graduate level

**Plan B — Comprehensive Option - 21 credits**
- Comprehensive Examination
- Electives in area of specialization - 21 credits
Electives may be taken in any subject and must be graduate level.

**Plan C — Special Project Option — 18 credits**
WMS 592 — Special Project Seminar I - 3 credits
and
WMS 593 — Special Project Seminar II - 3 credits

Electives in area of specialization - 12 credits
Electives may be taken in any subject and must be graduate level.

**Extra Course Information**

In addition to the regularly offered Women's & Gender Studies courses, a range of special topics courses are offered. Some courses offered in the past have included:

- Evolution of Black Feminist Thought
- Gender, Race, Class in Young Adult Literature
- Feminist Utopias
- Psychoanalysis and Feminism
- Ecofeminist Writing
- History of U.S. Women Photographers
- Women and the Law
- Feminist Families/Women's Choices
- Writer's Workshop: The Gendered Voice
- Gender and Culture
- Women and Professional Ethics
- Women, Affirmative Action and the Law
- Women in the Professions
- Gender, Crime and Criminal Justice
- Ethnic Identity: Women's Voices
- British Reform Movements
- A Room With a View
- Anglophone Women Writers
- Women Writers of the British Isles
- Women's Autobiographical Writing, Virginia Woolf and Bloomsbury
- Women's Autobiographies Through the Arts
- Feminist Interpretations of the Gospels
COURSES

WMS 500 - Feminist Theories and Practices
This cross-cultural, interdisciplinary course explores contemporary feminist theories and practices, examining the intersections of various feminisms including liberal, radical, Marxist-socialist, postmodern, and multicultural positions. The course also integrates the concept of feminist practice through the study of such topics as feminist art, community activism, and ecofeminism. Scheduled every fall semester. Last Offered: Fall 2020
3 credits

WMS 505 - Women, Heal Thyself: Interdisciplinary Approaches to Women's Health Issues
A cross-cultural, interdisciplinary approach to women’s health issues focusing primarily on 20th century North America. Engages with the politics of women’s health including selfcare, health activism and alternative medicine and focuses on strategies for empowerment in exploring and evaluating health care options. Scheduled summer semesters. Last Offered: Summer 2020
3 credits

WMS 510 - Research Methods in Women’s Studies
Interdisciplinary approach to a broad range of feminist research methodologies essential for planning and conducting research in the field of women’s studies; will include written and oral presentation of student research project. Scheduled every spring semester. Last Offered: Spring 2020
3 credits

WMS 520 - History of Feminist Thought
A survey of women’s intellectual history from ancient cultures to the contemporary period using primary sources, including ancient and classical texts, and focusing on the works of leading European and American feminist thinkers. The course will also cover the formation of women’s communities and the corresponding evolution of the feminist movement. Scheduled every fall semester. Last Offered: Fall 2020
3 credits

WMS 525 - Feminist Pedagogy
Examines feminist pedagogical theory and theories of teaching women’s studies courses in order to prepare students to conceptualize, develop, and teach women’s studies courses in other disciplines with a women's studies emphasis at the secondary and/or post-secondary level. Scheduled spring of odd years. Last Offered: Fall 2019
3 credits

WMS 529 - Intersectionality & Social Justice
Explores the intersection of race, class, and gender in social relations. Uses a wide variety of theoretical perspectives to investigate the ways that race, class, and gender are intersected and the impact this interrelationship has on the experiences and opportunities of individuals and their social location. Last Offered: Fall 2018
3 credits

WMS 530 - Global Women’s Issues
Interdisciplinary study of issues affecting women in cross-cultural perspective, such as international feminism, reproductive rights, health, global economy, women in leadership. Scheduled every spring semester. Last Offered: Spring 2020
3 credits
WMS 536 - Progressive and Modern Women in the U.S.
Survey of readings and research from the late nineteenth century to the present on the following topics: family, work, immigration, urbanization, altruism, professionalism, race, class, ethnicity, and cultural and political status.
Last Offered: Fall 2016
3 credits

WMS 545 - Self-Representation in the Writing of Immigrant Women
This course focuses on the female immigrant experience as understood through the autobiographical and fictional narratives written by those who have lived it.
Last Offered: Spring 2017
3 credits

WMS 590 - Thesis Seminar I
First of two courses fulfilling one of the exit requirement options. Development of a thesis proposal under the dual supervision of the instructor and the thesis adviser in the context of peer evaluation. Classes will meet at two-week intervals during the semester. Scheduled every fall semester.
Prerequisite(s): Restricted to matriculated Women’s Studies master’s degree candidates who have completed 15 credits of course work including WMS 500 and WMS 510.
Last Offered: Fall 2020
3 credits

WMS 592 - Special Project Seminar I
First of two courses fulfilling one of the exit requirement options. Development of a special project proposal relevant to the student’s own academic specialization and interests under the dual supervision of the instructor and the special project adviser in the context of peer evaluation. Classes will meet at two-week intervals during the semester. Scheduled every fall semester.
Prerequisite(s): Restricted to matriculated Women’s Studies master’s degree candidates who have completed 15 credits of course work including WMS 500 and WMS 510.
Last Offered: Fall 2020
3 credits

WMS 593 - Special Project Seminar II
Second of two courses fulfilling one of the exit requirement options. Completion of a special project relevant to the student’s own academic specialization and interests under the dual supervision of the instructor and the special project adviser in the context of peer evaluation. Class will meet at two-week intervals during the semester. Scheduled every spring semester.
Prerequisite(s): Restricted to matriculated Women’s Studies master’s degree candidates who have completed 18 credits of course work including WMS 592.
Last Offered: Spring 2020
3 credits

WMS 599 - Topics in Women’s Studies
Various topics in women’s studies are explored from multidisciplinary perspectives. Topics offered in recent years include Ecofeminism; Gender, Race, Class in Children’s Literature; Self-Representations of Immigrant Women; Take Back the Kitchen; and so forth. (See more listing below)
Last Offered: Fall 2020
3 credits
WMS 600 - Independent Study and Research
Provides students with an opportunity for supervised independent research under the direction of a faculty member.
Prerequisite(s): permission of the coordinators.
Last Offered: Summer 2019
3 credits

WMS 601 - Field Experience I
A required course for all Women’s Studies students (students may substitute an internship through a cooperating host department for the field experience). Field experience options are: administrative field experience in the Women’s Studies Program; administrative field experience in the Women’s Center; academic field experience in a Women’s Studies classroom; research-based field experience under the supervision of a Women’s Studies faculty member. A field experience requires a commitment of 150 hours (10 hours per week) per semester.
Prerequisite(s): matriculated Women’s Studies degree candidates who have completed 9 credits of graduate Women's Studies coursework and coordinators’ permission.
Last Offered: Fall 2020
3 credits

WMS 602 - Field Experience II
An elective course for all Women’s Studies students (students may substitute an internship through a cooperating host department for the field experience). Students select among the following options: administrative field experience in the Women’s Studies Program; administrative field experience in the Women’s Center; academic field experience in a Women’s Studies classroom; research-based field experience under the supervision of a Women’s Studies faculty member. A field experience requires a commitment of 150 hours (10 hours per week) per semester.
Prerequisite(s): WMS 601 and permission of the coordinator s.
Last Offered: Spring 2020
3 credits