Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

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Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (WGSS) at Lehigh University is an interdisciplinary field of academic inquiry that critically examines gender and sexuality from an intersectional model that takes into account the manner in which class, race, and power co-constitutively shape and impact gendered and sexed identity construction. In the best tradition of a liberal arts education, Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies encourages thinking that is critical and constructive, multifaceted and intersectional in order to redesign knowledge, and gain a better understanding of how identities shape and are shaped by the social world in which we live. Offering an undergraduate major and minor, a Graduate Certificate, and a host of faculty and student-focused events and resources, WGSS works to be a space of professional growth, intellectual development and maturity, and a knowledge leader on campus, in the surrounding Lehigh Valley, and abroad.

Associate Professors: Mary C. Foltz, PhD (State University of NY at Buffalo); Jacqueline Krasas, PhD (University of Southern California); Vera S. Steigmann, PhD (Indiana University Northwest)

Assistant Professor: Olivia Landry, PhD (Indiana University Bloomington)

UNDERGRADUATE MAJOR IN WOMEN, GENDER, AND SEXUALITY STUDIES

The Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies BA will provide students an in depth education in an interdisciplinary field of academic inquiry that critically examines the diverse realities of women's lives and the ways in which gender and power differentials shape human lives and human societies. WGSS pursues a fundamental critique of knowledge by challenging the basic assumptions, methods of inquiry, theoretical frameworks, and knowledge claims of traditional fields of inquiry that have thought it unimportant to study women, gender, or sexuality. WGSS seeks to create new paradigms of knowledge and inquiry, to develop more truthful and comprehensive understandings of humans and our world, and to explore non-sectarian alternatives for more richly human lives and more fully human social orders. Each semester, a complete list of WGSS course offerings can be found on the web site or in the Office of Interdisciplinary Programs, Williams Hall, Suite 101.

The WGSS major requires 34-36 credits of coursework and is designed to complement other areas of study within CAS in order to facilitate double-majors for our students. WGSS majors can stand alone; however, many students find the major an invaluable asset as part of a double major. The major will have a core curriculum, a concentration (social sciences or humanities), electives, and a senior experience.

Major Core Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Name</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WGGSS 001</td>
<td>Gender and Society (SS)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGGSS 350</td>
<td>Seminar in Feminist Theory (ND)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global/Diversity (select one of the following)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGGSS/ASIA/MLL 073</td>
<td>Film, Fiction, and Gender in Modern China (HU)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGGSS/SOC 110</td>
<td>Women's Work in Global Perspectives (SS)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGGSS/ANTH 123</td>
<td>Anthropology of Gender (SS)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>WGGSS/SOC 128</td>
<td>Race, Gender and Work (SS)</td>
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Major Concentration

Students must concentrate in Social Science (SS) or Humanities (HU)

Select two courses in SS or HU

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Name</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WGGSS/REL 138</td>
<td>Women in Jewish History (HU)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGGSS/AAS 145</td>
<td>African American Women Writers (HU)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGGSS/AAS/SOC 310</td>
<td>Gender, Race and Sexuality: The Social Construction of Differences (SS)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGGSS/FREN 327</td>
<td>Women Writing in French (HU)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>WGGSS/POLS/GS 342</td>
<td>Gender and Third World Development (SS)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGGSS/SOC 365</td>
<td>Inequalities at Work (SS)</td>
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Major Non-concentration

Select one of the following:

- One SS course if HU concentration
- One HU course if SS concentration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
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<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WGGSS 271</td>
<td>Independent Reading and Research (HU/SS)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGGSS 330</td>
<td>Internship in Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies (SS)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGGSS 373</td>
<td>Internship On-Campus (SS)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGGSS 399</td>
<td>Senior Thesis (ND)</td>
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</tbody>
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Total Credits 34-36

HONORS IN WOMEN, GENDER, AND SEXUALITY STUDIES

In order to receive honors in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, the student must attain a 3.5 grade-point average in courses presented for the major and a 3.2 grade-point average overall, and must take WGGSS 399 Senior Thesis and write a thesis during their senior year.

UNDERGRADUATE MINOR IN WOMEN, GENDER, AND SEXUALITY STUDIES

The minor in WGSS engages students in the study of three interrelated subjects. The first is an examination of the cultural, historical, and social experiences and contributions of women. The second is an exploration of gender (the social construction of differential identity for males and females) and of the ways in which gender distinctions shape human consciousness and human society. The third is an examination of sex/gender and sexuality systems. Nearly all academic disciplines have defined human nature and significant achievement in terms of male experience and have underestimated the impact of gender on social structures and human lives. By contrast, WGSS courses attend to women's diverse experiences and perspectives and acknowledge the critical significance of gender and sexuality. By shifting the focus to women, gender, and sexuality, WGSS seeks to provide an alternative paradigm for understanding human experience. Students in WGSS courses are encouraged to reevaluate traditional assumptions about human beings, human knowledge, and human culture and society.
and to explore nonexist alternatives for a more fully human social order.

The minor in WGSS consists of a minimum of 18 credit hours. Students pursuing the minor are required to take the introductory course (WGSS 001) and one upper-level course from among those concerned with the theory and practice of women, gender, and sexuality studies. Courses completed must include at least one course in the arts and humanities and one course in the natural and social sciences. Students arrange their program in consultation with the program director.

**Undergraduate Minor**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WGSS 001</td>
<td>Women &amp; Men in Society</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Select 2 credits from following:</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGSS 271</td>
<td>Independent Reading and Research</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGSS 330</td>
<td>Internship in Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGSS 373</td>
<td>Internship in Women's Center</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Select one 300-level course 4
Select two electives or new course as approved 8

Total Credits 18

1 One course must be HU and one course must be SS

**GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN WOMEN, GENDER, AND SEXUALITY STUDIES**

The Graduate Certificate in WGSS is designed as a complement to a disciplinary graduate program or as a standalone post-baccalaureate course of study. The Certificate is a small, flexible program that provides students with breadth and the challenge of working outside their home discipline in concentrated interdisciplinary study of women and gender. In recognition of contemporary educational and employment contexts that are increasingly diverse and international, the WGSS Program offers the graduate certificate as a means to enrich academic, personal, and employment horizons. A certificate in WGSS will be especially beneficial to those who wish to incorporate a broader perspective into their teaching (either in secondary or higher education), and qualifies them for positions that require such expertise. Additionally, individuals interested in fields such as social policy, human resources, and business will also gain from understanding how gender operates at individual, organizational, and institutional levels. Students will work closely with outstanding faculty from diverse disciplinary backgrounds.

**Basic Requirements**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WGSS 450</td>
<td>Seminar in Feminist Theory</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Select three additional courses 1,2</td>
<td></td>
<td>3-9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Credits 12

1 2 courses outside home department (for matriculating students)
2 No more than 6 credits at the 300-level

**Admissions**

Students in degree programs must be in good standing in their programs and are encouraged to apply early in their course of studies. Non-degree students must hold a bachelor’s degree or equivalent with a 3.0 GPA.

**Courses**

**WGSS 001 Gender and Society 4 Credits**
The course introduces students to key concepts, theoretical frameworks, and interdisciplinary research in the field of Women’s and Gender Studies. Examines how gender interacts with race, age, class, sexuality, etc., to shape human consciousness and determine the social organization of human society. The course may include topics such as: gender and work; sexuality and reproduction; women’s health; media constructions of gender and race; gender, law, and public policy.

**Attribute/Distribution:** SS

**WGSS 015 (ASIA 015, MLL 015) Sex, War, Women, Art 4 Credits**

Through the study of selected visual and literary works in their historical and social contexts, students will gain knowledge of cultures in Japan. This course examines various cultures from the perspectives of gender and sexuality as constitutive factors of Japanese society. Materials include a film depicting a romantic life of samurai, art works by contemporary artists, and writings on sex workers impacted by the Japanese empire. No prior knowledge of Japanese language is required. An introductory course taught in English.

**Attribute/Distribution:** HU

**WGSS 042 (SOAN 042) Sexual Minorities 4 Credits**

How minority sexual identities have been the subject of speculation, misunderstanding, and sometimes violent attempts at correction or elimination. Sexual orientation, gender role, including transvestism and "drag", transsexualism, sexism, heterosexism, and homophobia. Emphasis on critical thinking, guest speakers, and discussions.

**Attribute/Distribution:** SS

**WGSS 073 (ASIA 073, MLL 073) Film, Fiction, and Gender in Modern China 4 Credits**

Study of the struggle for an individual “modern” identity out of traditionally defined roles for men and women as depicted by Chinese writers and filmmakers. Class, texts, and films in English. Students interested in setting up a corollary Chinese language component for credit as CHIN 371 or CHIN 251, may discuss this possibility with the professor.

**Attribute/Distribution:** HU

**WGSS 091 Special Topics 1-4 Credits**

Intensive study of a topic of special interest not covered in other courses. May be cross-listed with relevant offerings in major department or other programs. Consent of program director required.

**Repeat Status:** Course may be repeated.

**WGSS 104 (ENGL 104) Special Topics in Gender Studies 4 Credits**

This course will involve extended study in a sub-area of English language culture, and literature with a focus on gender, sexuality, and/or race/ethnicity. Prereq: 6 hours of freshman English.

**Repeat Status:** Course may be repeated.

**Attribute/Distribution:** HU

**WGSS 110 (SOC 110) Women’s Work in Global Perspectives 4 Credits**

This course brings to the forefront the intersections of race, class, gender, and nation with women’s employment around the world. We will examine women’s paid and unpaid work in the U.S., Europe, Asia, Latin America, and Africa, in effort to understand the striking persistence of gender inequality over time and across the world. Topics of study include: work and family relations, women’s domestic labor, factory work, and agribusiness. In addition we will explore the ways in which women have organized for changes in work and in their communities in order to conceive of possibilities for the future of women’s work.

**Attribute/Distribution:** SS

**WGSS 117 (HIST 117, STS 117) Pioneering Women: Women in Science, Medicine and Engineering 4 Credits**

This course analyses the careers of professional women in science, medicine and engineering, principally in the United States. It examines historical barriers to training and entry into these professions; cultural stereotypes that shape women’s options; women’s participation in innovation in their fields; their concern for work/life balance; and their contribution to clients and patients, both male and female. It focuses on three locations of professional work: the laboratory, the clinic, and the job site.

**Attribute/Distribution:** SS

**WGSS 121 (ART 121) Women in Art 4 Credits**

A history of women artists from Renaissance to present day, with emphasis on artists of the 20th and 21st century from a global perspective. We explore attitudes toward women artists and their work as well as the changing role of women in art world. There may be required visits to museums and/or artists’ studios.

**Attribute/Distribution:** HU
WGSS 123 (ANTH 123) Anthropology of Gender 4 Credits
Comparative study of the meanings and social roles associated with gender. Psychological, symbolic, and cultural approaches.
Attribute/Distribution: SS

WGSS 124 (HIST 124) Women In America 4 Credits
Roles of women in American society from colonial to present times; attitudes toward women, female sexuality, women’s work, and feminism.
Attribute/Distribution: SS

WGSS 125 (HIST 125, HMS 125) Does Sex have a History? The History of Sexuality in the United States 4 Credits
Explores the history of sexuality in the United States from the colonial era to the present. While sexuality can appear timeless and stable, sexual ideologies, categories, and behaviors have consistently evolved through the course of society in the process. The class pays special attention to relationships between sexuality, race, class, and the state, as well as how law, medicine, and the media have shaped sexual identities and experiences. In so doing, the class develops sophisticated readers of historical and contemporary cultures.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

WGSS 126 (AAS 126, HIST 126) How Black Women Made Modern America 4 Credits
This course introduces students to the significant themes and events that have shaped the African American women’s historical experience from slavery to the present. We examine the social, political, and economic meaning of freedom for women of African descent.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

WGSS 127 (SOC 127) Human Sexuality 4 Credits
Students in this course view human sexuality through a sociological lens. This includes theory, research methods, and topics such as LGBTQ identities, family formation, sex work, teenage sexuality, sadomasochism, and sexual technologies. We pay particular attention to ways in which sexual behavior is regulated, as well as social constructions of “the normal.” Course material focuses on the United States, although students are encouraged to bring cross-national perspectives into papers and class discussions.
Attribute/Distribution: SS

WGSS 128 (SOC 128) Race, Gender and Work 4 Credits
Race, Gender and Work is a class designed to help students understand racial and gender inequalities as they relate specifically to work and employment. We explore the origins and histories of inequalities, the ways in which inequalities persist and/or change today, and what steps might be taken toward creating a more equal society.
Attribute/Distribution: SS

WGSS 129 (DES 129, THTR 129) History of Fashion and Style 4 Credits
Dress and culture in the Western Hemisphere from prehistory to today. The evolution of silhouette, garment forms and technology. The relationship of fashion to politics, art and behavior. Cultural and environmental influences on human adornment.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

WGSS 130 (JST 138, REL 138) Sex, Gender, Jews 4 Credits
How do Jews of all genders tell their stories? What are the varied Jewish approaches to sexuality? How have feminist movements affected Jewish rituals? In this course, we will consider how religion, gender, sexuality, race, and class intersect in the lives of Jews, with a particular focus on North America. Topics will include: Jewish women’s memoirs; the voices of LGBTQ Jews; recent innovations in Jewish ritual and leadership; Jewish masculinities; and the gendering of Jewish children’s literature, among others.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

WGSS 142 (SOC 142) Bad Girls: Gender, Sexuality, Deviance 4 Credits
This course focuses on people who perform their gender and/or sexuality in ways that fall outside of the norm. Topics include, but are not limited to: commercial sex workers, dominatrixes, transpeople, stay-at-home dads, and drag queens. We will regularly discuss the readings in the context of current events and popular culture.
Attribute/Distribution: SS

WGSS 145 (AAS 145) African American Women Writers 4 Credits
Literature by African American women writers with a focus on the experiences and images of black women in the U.S. Explores the written portraits and voices of 20th century black female novelists and poets, including Hurston, Petry, Morrison, Angelou, and Walker.
Attribute/Distribution: SS

WGSS 146 (PHIL 146) Philosophy of Sex and Gender 4 Credits
An examination of concepts, values, and assumptions relevant to gender and sex(uality) in our diverse society, investigating how they affect our lives in both concrete and symbolic ways. Intersections among gender, sex(uality), race, class, religion, ethnicity, etc., will be explored. Special attention will be paid to how gendered assumptions color our understandings of experiences of embodiment and emotion, reasoning and decision-making, knowledge production, and public and private relationships and activities.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

WGSS 173 (ASIA 173, REL 173) Sex, Celibacy and Sainthood: Gender and Religion in East Asia 4 Credits
This course explores themes of sexuality, celibacy, gender, and sainthood in East Asian religions. We will pay special attention to the experiences of religious women from many walks of life and time periods, from traditions including Buddhism, Daoism, and shamanism. Through film, poetry, autobiography, philosophical writing, visual art, and descriptions of visionary experience, students will encounter Buddhist and Daoist nuns, lay women, mothers, shamanic healers, oracles, activists, and royalty, from Tibet, Korea, Japan, China, and the U.S.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

WGSS 179 (POLS 179) Politics of Women 4 Credits
Selected social and political issues relating to the role of women in American society. Focuses on such questions as economics equality, poverty, and work roles, the older woman, gender gap, political leadership, reproduction technology, and sexual violence.
Attribute/Distribution: SS

WGSS 182 (REL 182) Sex and Gender in the Bible 4 Credits
The Bible is often invoked—and often simplistically—as an authoritative source in contemporary discussions about the role of women and what kinds of human sexual expression is acceptable. This course will examine how sex and gender are constructed in different biblical periods and biblical books. We will see that things are not nearly as simple as they are often made out to be.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

WGSS 184 (REL 184) Religion, Gender, and Power 4 Credits
Gender differences as one of the basic legitimations for the unequal distribution of power in Western society. Feminist critiques of the basic social structures, cultural forms, and hierarchies of power within religious communities, and the ways in which religious groups have responded.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

WGSS 191 Special Topics 1-4 Credits
Intensive study of a topic of special interest not covered in other courses. May be cross-listed with relevant offerings in major department or other programs. Consent of program director required.
Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

WGSS 210 (AAS 210, POLS 210) Revolution on Campus 4 Credits
Universities are often sites of political protest. Some of these protests are expressive but ineffective, others can spark revolutions and regime change. Why? What distinguishes universities as sites for resistance? What makes students prone to mobilization? The study of politics can seem like an abstract pursuit, one that is not relevant to our lives. This course takes the scholarly literature on social movements and applies it to the university. Students will engage in social activism as part of this course.
Attribute/Distribution: SS
WGSS 226 (PHIL 226) Feminism and Philosophy 4 Credits
Analysis of the nature, sources and consequences of the oppression and exploitation of women, and justification of strategies for liberation. Topics include women's nature and human nature, sexism, femininity, sexuality, reproduction, mothering. Must have completed one HU designated course in Philosophy or one course in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

WGSS 232 (ENTP 232) Gender Issues in Entrepreneurship 4 Credits
Explores role of women entrepreneurs in society & economic development; impacts of women's entrepreneurship in different economic and cultural contexts; research on why women still represent a minority or entrepreneurs; gender differences in patterns of entrepreneurship; related policy challenges. Also addresses pragmatic and personal life choices facing women entrepreneurs, including identifying key characteristics of entrepreneurial opportunities and mapping those against values, skills, ethics and definitions of success; and planning for professional and personal development.
Attribute/Distribution: SS

WGSS 271 Independent Reading and Research 1-4 Credits
Independent study of selected topics designated and executed in close collaboration with a member of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies faculty. May be repeated for elective credit. Consent of program director required.
Repeat Status: Course may be repeated. Attribute/Distribution: HU, SS

WGSS 272 Special Topics 1-4 Credits
Intensive study of a topic of special interest not covered in other courses. May be cross-listed with relevant offerings in major department or other programs. Consent of program director required.
Repeat Status: Course may be repeated. Attribute/Distribution: SS

WGSS 275 (LAS 275, SPAN 275) Introduction to Hispanic Women Writers 4 Credits
The objective of this class is to introduce students to Hispanic contemporary female authors from Latin America, Spain, and the United States through the analysis of all literary genres (novel, short story, poetry, essay, and drama). This class provides students with a solid introduction to Hispanic women's writing from the last years of the Nineteenth Century to the present, as well as to feminist literary theory.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

WGSS 291 Special Topics 1-4 Credits
Intensive study of a topic of special interest not covered in other courses. May be cross-listed with relevant offerings in major department or other programs. Consent of program director required.
Repeat Status: Course may be repeated. Attribute/Distribution: SS

WGSS 300 Apprentice Teaching 1-4 Credits
Supervised participation in various aspects of the teaching of a course. Transcript will identify department in which apprentice teaching was performed. Consent of department chairperson and permission of the Dean. The transcript will reflect the subject area in which the teaching was done. Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

WGSS 303 (ENGL 303, GERM 303, MLL 303) Grimm's Fairy Tales: Folklore, Feminism, Film 4 Credits
This intercultural history of the Grimms' fairy tales investigates how folktales types and gender stereotypes developed and became models for children and adults. The course covers the literary fairy tale in Germany, Europe and America. "Little Red Riding Hood", "Cinderella", or "Sleeping Beauty" exist not only in the Grimms' collection but in many forms of world literature/film. Modern authors have rewritten fairy tales in feminist ways, promoting social change. Taught in English. German language students may receive a German component.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

WGSS 304 (ENGL 304) Special Topics in Gender Studies II 3,4 Credits
This course will involve extended study in a sub-area of English language, culture, and literature with a focus on gender, sexuality, and/or race/ethnicity.
Repeat Status: Course may be repeated. Attribute/Distribution: SS

WGSS 310 (AAS 310, SOC 310) Gender, Race and Sexuality: The Social Construction of Differences 4 Credits
Students will engage with current debates about the meaning and use of racial and sexual classification systems in society. We will examine the historical and sociological contexts in which specific theories of racial and sexual differences emerged in the U.S. We will also explore the ways in which changes in the images have implications on the role racial, gender, and sexual identity plays in our understanding of the relationship between difference and inequality.
Prerequisites: SOC 103 or SSP 103 Attribute/Distribution: SS

WGSS 311 (ENGL 311) Representations of Gender and Sexuality 3-4 Credits
This course explores constructions of gender and sexuality in literature from different historical periods, traditions, and nationalities. How do female and male writers envision what it means to be a "woman" or to be a "man" at various moments in history and from various places around the world? How have gendered (and sexed) identities been shaped in various constraining and empowering ways in the literary imagination? What specifically gendered issues (such as love and violence) have been represented in literature?
Repeat Status: Course may be repeated. Attribute/Distribution: HU

WGSS 318 (PSYC 318) Seminar in Gender and Psychology 4 Credits
Gender as shaped by psychological and social psychological processes. Socialization, communication and power, gender stereotypes, methodological issues in sex differences research. Consent of department required.
Prerequisites: PSYC 210 Can be taken Concurrently: PSYC 210 Attribute/Distribution: SS

WGSS 325 (HIST 325, SOC 325) History of Sexuality and the Family in the U.S. 3-4 Credits
Changing conceptions of sexuality and the role of women, men, and children in the family and society from the colonial to the post-World War II era. Emphasis on the significance of socioeconomic class and cultural background. Topics include family structure, birth control, legal constraints, marriage, divorce, and prostitution.
Attribute/Distribution: SS

WGSS 326 (LAS 326, SPAN 326) Tradition and Resistance: Women Writers of Latin America 4 Credits
Study of poetry and narrative works by Latin American women writers. Authors include Rosario Ferré, Rosario Castellanos, Elena Poniatowska, Cristina Peri Rossi, among others.
Prerequisites: SPAN 152 Attribute/Distribution: HU

WGSS 327 (FREN 327) Women Writing in French 4 Credits
Reading and discussion of works written by women in French. The emphasis is on 19th and 20th Century writers, such as G. Sand, Colette S. de Beauvoir, M. Duras, Andrée Chédid.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

WGSS 330 Internship in Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies 1-4 Credits
Supervised work in women's organizations or settings, combined with an analysis, in the form of a major paper, of the experience using the critical perspectives gained in WGSS courses. Placements arranged to suit individual interests and career goals; can include social service agencies, women's advocacy groups, political organizations, etc. Consent of program director required.
Repeat Status: Course may be repeated. Prerequisites: WGSS 001 Attribute/Distribution: SS
WGSS 331 (GS 331, SOC 331) Gendered Experience of Globalization 4 Credits

Women and men experience globalization differently and globalization affects women in different cultural and national contexts. Gender stratification has been intensified by the transnational flow of goods and people, provides students with a survey of new development in feminist theories on gender stratification and development, and links these theoretical frameworks to empirical research about gender issues that have become more prominent with globalization.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

WGSS 334 (HMS 334, PSYC 334) The Psychology of Body Image and Eating Disorders 4 Credits

The course addresses the psychosocial aspects of the development of healthy and unhealthy body image and eating disorders. The roles of personality traits/individual factors, family and interpersonal functioning, and cultural factors will be examined, as will the impact of representations of body image in mass media. Public health and psychological interventions for prevention and treatment will be explored. Personal accounts/memoirs, clinical case presentations, and documentary and dramatic films will be incorporated in the presentation of topics.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

WGSS 341 (HMS 341, SOC 341) Gender and Health 4 Credits

Relationships of sex differences and gender norms to disease and longevity in the U.S. and around the world. Influence of medical systems on men's and women's lives and the impact of gender-based consumer health movements on health and medical care. Focus on specific topics, e.g. medicalization and commercialization of women's bodies, the politics of reproductive choices, masculinity and health, and gender and mental health.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

WGSS 342 (GS 342, POLS 342) Gender and Third World Development 3-4 Credits

Focus on gender implications of contemporary strategies for Third World economic growth, neo-liberalism. How do economic theories affect ‘real people’? How do economic theories affect men vs. women? What is the role of people who want to ‘help’? Some background in economic theories and/or Third World politics desired, but not required.

Prerequisites: POLS 001 or WGSS 001

Attribute/Distribution: SS

WGSS 346 (LAS 346, SPAN 346) Contemporary Hispanic Women Writers: The Novelists 4 Credits

This course explores the works of Hispanic women writers who have been oppositional to hegemonic cultural politics during the Twentieth Century in Latin America and Spain. Within their particular contexts, we examine issues these writers define as important in their work, their literary and political impact, use of literature to empower minority positions, and their narratives’ effects on the changing literary canon. Selected topics include: historical interpretations, exile, forms of violence and repression, expressions of desire, and sexuality.

Attribute/Distribution: HU

WGSS 349 (POL 349) American Social Policy: Race, Class, Gender and Sexuality 4 Credits

This course examines criminal justice, housing, health, education, and welfare policies across US states through the lenses of class, race, gender, and sexuality. Students will learn how social regulations structure opportunities and assess the implications of those opportunity structures.

WGSS 350 Seminar in Feminist Theory 4 Credits

An upper-level seminar serving as a capstone experience that challenges students to systematize insights gained from introductory and elective courses through the more deeply analytical lens of feminist theory. Consent of program director.

Prerequisites: WGSS 001

Attribute/Distribution: ND

WGSS 351 (SOC 351) Gender and Social Change 4 Credits

Changes in gender roles from social psychological and structural perspectives. Comparative analyses of men and women (including people of color) in the social structure; their attitudes and orientations toward work, family, education, and politics.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

WGSS 364 (SOC 364) Sociology of the Family 4 Credits

Sociological analysis of families in the United States, including investigations of historical and contemporary patterns. Issues addressed include parenting, combining work and family, divorce and remarriage, family policies.

WGSS 365 (SOC 365) Inequalities at Work 4 Credits

Primary focus is on race, gender, and class as axes of disadvantage and privilege in work and employment. We will explore both theories and empirical studies of inequality as well as their social, political, and practical ramifications for the workplace. The course will be conducted seminar-style and the class will rely heavily on student participation.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

WGSS 371 Special Topics 1-4 Credits

Intensive study of a topic of special interest not covered in other courses. May be cross-listed with relevant offerings in major department or other programs. Consent of program director required.

Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

WGSS 373 Internship On-Campus 1-3 Credits

Supervised work in on-campus student services office such as the Center for Gender Equity, the Pride Center, Office of Gender Violence, etc. allows WGSS students to bring critical perspectives on women and gender into the campus community. This course may be repeated for credit up to a maximum of 6 credits. Prerequisites: WGSS 001 and consent of the Center director and WGSS director.

Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

Prerequisites: WGSS 001

Attribute/Distribution: SS

WGSS 376 (AAS 376, COMM 376) New Media, Race and Gender 4 Credits

This class explores the relationship among race, gender and new media. It examines depictions of racial minorities and women online; how users access and use new media across race and gender (including a look at the digital divide); and differences in use of social media websites across race and gender. The goal is for students to understand how existing racial and gender categorizations are/are not transmitted to the online community and do/do not become extensions of present social hierarchy.

Attribute/Distribution: SS

WGSS 381 Special Topics 1-4 Credits

Intensive study of a topic of special interest not covered in other courses. May be cross-listed with relevant offerings in major department or other programs. Consent of program director required.

Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

WGSS 382 Special Topics 1-4 Credits

Intensive study of a topic of special interest not covered in other courses. May be cross-listed with relevant offerings in major department or other programs. Consent of program director required.

Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

WGSS 391 Special Topics 1-4 Credits

Intensive study of a topic of special interest not covered in other courses. May be cross-listed with relevant offerings in major department or other programs. Consent of program director required.

Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

WGSS 392 Special Topics 1-4 Credits

Intensive study of a topic of special interest not covered in other courses. May be cross-listed with relevant offerings in major department or other programs. Consent of program director required.

Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

WGSS 399 Senior Thesis 2-4 Credits

Research during senior year culminating in a senior thesis. Consent of program director required.

Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

Attribute/Distribution: ND
WGSS 403 (MLL 403) Grimms' Fairy Tales: Folklore, Feminism, Film 3 Credits
This intercultural history of the Grimm's fairy tales investigates how folktale types and gender stereotypes developed and became models for children and adults. The course covers the literary fairy tale in Germany as well as Europe and America. Versions of "Little Red Riding Hood", "Cinderella", or "Sleeping Beauty" exist not only in the Grimms' collection but in films and many forms of world literature. Modern authors have rewritten fairy tales in feminist ways, promoting social change. Taught in English. German language students may receive a German component.

WGSS 405 (CIE 405) Experiencing the United Nations: Gender and Education in International Development 3 Credits
Building on the Lehigh University/United Nations partnership initiative, this course provides a structured practical experience for students to learn about the dynamics of UN and civil society relationships, focusing on the issues of gender and education in international development. Class activities include trips to the UN to attend NGO briefings and other events. Students develop experiences and skills in international development such as policy blogging, brief writing, and education sector analysis.

WGSS 411 (ENGL 411) Gender and Literature 3 Credits
This seminar explores constructions of gender and sexuality in literature from different historical periods, traditions, and nationalities. Content changes each semester. Repeat Status: Course may be repeated. Attribute/Distribution: HU

WGSS 418 (SOC 418) Gendered Experience of Globalization 3 Credits
Women and men experience globalization differently and globalization affects women in different cultural and national contexts. Gender stratification has been intensified by the transnational flow of goods and people, provides students with a survey of new development in feminist theories on globalization and on gender stratification and development, and links these theoretical frameworks to empirical research about gender issues that have become more prominent with globalization.

WGSS 430 Internship in Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies 1-3 Credits
Internship related to women, gender, and sexuality studies. Supervised by WGSS faculty. Consent of program director required.

WGSS 441 (SOC 441) Gender and Health 3 Credits
Relationships of sex differences and gender norms to disease and longevity in the US and around the world. Influence of medical systems on men's and women's lives and the impact of gender-based consumer health movements on health and medical care. Focus on specific topics, e.g. medicalization and commercialization of women's bodies, the politics of reproductive choices, masculinity and health, and gender and mental health.

WGSS 442 (SOC 442) Bad Girls: Gender, Sexuality, Deviance 3 Credits
This course focuses on people who perform their gender and/or sexuality in ways that fall outside of the norm. Topics include, but are not limited to: commercial sex workers, dominatrixes, transpeople, stay-at-home dads, and drag queens. We will regularly discuss the readings in the context of current events and popular culture.

WGSS 449 (POLS 449) American Social Policy: Race, Class, Gender and Sexuality 3 Credits
This course examines criminal justice, housing, health, education, and welfare policies across US states through the lenses of class, race, gender, and sexuality. Students will learn how social regulations structure opportunities and assess the implications of those opportunity structures.

WGSS 450 Seminar in Feminist Theory 3 Credits
A graduate seminar providing foundational study of multidisciplinary theoretical frameworks of women, gender, and sexuality studies. Attribute/Distribution: HU, ND