WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES

Mission
The UNO Women’s and Gender Studies Program empowers individuals and communities through the collaborative work of students and faculty, who together study and explore all women’s lives and all constructions of gender across time, place, and culture, using a feminist lens. Our interdisciplinary faculty teach a curriculum that emphasizes the intersections of gender with race/ethnicity, nationality, socioeconomic class, ability levels, sexuality, and additional dimensions of difference.

Our program employs the tools of different disciplines, including communication, arts and humanities, social sciences, natural sciences and history. Graduating students are prepared for many opportunities beyond graduation.

We envision a world in which differences offer paths to meaningful and fulfilling contributions.

Description
Women’s and Gender Studies is a liberal arts degree. It prepares students for a wide variety of career and avocational paths. Graduates of this program are employed in non-profit organizations and small businesses, the local arts community and counseling. Some are pursuing advanced degrees in law, nursing, and occupational therapy.

Other Information
All coursework taken for the Women’s and Gender Studies major or minor, or for the LGBTQ/Sexuality Studies minor or the Gender and Leadership Certificate, must be completed with a grade of “C-” or better.

Special Requirements
Courses presented for credit toward the minor or major, or toward the Gender and Leadership Certificate, must have been taught by a member of the Women’s and Gender Studies faculty. Students learn from a multidisciplinary faculty drawn from across campus; each instructor has applied and been admitted to the Women’s and Gender Studies faculty. Students should select WGST electives in consultation with their major adviser.

Residency
Students may transfer in no more than 9 credits earned at other institutions to the WGS minor and no more than 15 credits earned at other institutions to the WGS major.

Student Groups
Iota Iota Iota (Triota) is a club and honorary society that recognizes excellence in Women’s and Gender Studies. Membership is available to any student who has completed two introductory courses in Women’s and Gender Studies and has a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0. In addition, students pursuing the major or minor in Women’s and Gender Studies often become involved with campus organizations such as the Women’s and Gender Equity Resource Center, and Queer and Trans Services.

Contact
Women’s and Gender Studies Program Director 402.554.3834
307A Arts and Sciences Hall (ASH)

Website (http://www.unomaha.edu/college-of-arts-and-sciences/womens-and-gender-studies/)

Degree Offered

- Women’s and Gender Studies, Bachelor of Arts (http://catalog.unomaha.edu/undergraduate/college-arts-sciences/womens-gender-studies-program/womens-gender-studies-ba/)

Writing in the Discipline
All students are required to take a writing in the discipline course within their major. For the Women’s and Gender Studies major this is WGST 4010.

Minor Offered

- Women’s and Gender Studies Minor (http://catalog.unomaha.edu/undergraduate/college-arts-sciences/womens-gender-studies-program/womens-gender-studies-minor/)
- LGBTQ/Sexuality Studies Minor (http://catalog.unomaha.edu/undergraduate/college-arts-sciences/womens-gender-studies-program/lgbtq-sexuality-studies-minor/)

Gender and Leadership Certificate

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<td>INTRODUCTION TO WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES: SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE</td>
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<td>INTRODUCTION TO WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES: HUMANITIES</td>
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<td>WGST 3020</td>
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Select one of the following:

- WGST 4120 BLACK WOMEN LEADERS IN LIBERATION MOVEMENTS
- WGST 4130 GENDER & LEADING SOCIAL CHANGE

Total Credits 15

The Bachelor of Arts Degree in Women’s and Gender Studies is a liberal arts degree with a focus on women, gender and sexuality. Students learn the concepts, theories, and practices they need to enact positive change concerned with gender and sexuality. The major prepares students for a wide variety of career and avocational paths. Graduates of this program are employed in non-profit organizations that serve women, families, and gender non-conforming people; small businesses; the arts; and counseling. Some students pursue advanced degrees in law, nursing, and occupational therapy.

Career Options:

- Non-profit volunteer and training coordinator
- Outreach specialist
- Community health advocate
- Counselor/therapist
- Development associate
- Educator

WGST 1950 BLACK WOMEN IN AMERICA (3 credits)
Examines the evolution of the social, economic, and political status of the black woman in this society, with special emphasis on her struggle for freedom and equality. (Cross-listed with BLST 1950)
**WGST 2000 TOPICS IN GENDER, LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE (1-3 credits)**

A variety of topics primarily for the non-major. (For example, this course might study the image of the American businesswoman in American literature.) One or two such topics may be offered each term, depending upon current student interest and available faculty. Students should consult each term's class schedule in order to determine the specific topics for that term.

**WGST 2010 INTRODUCTION TO WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES: SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE (3 credits)**

A survey course which explores social science perspectives on women, men, and gender, including the biological contribution to human behavior and the impact of science as an institution. Examines challenges to traditional definitions of women’s place and movements for change. Includes historical and multicultural materials.

**Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s):** ENGL 1150 is recommended.

**Distribution:** U.S. Diversity General Education course and Social Science General Education course

**WGST 2020 INTRODUCTION TO WOMEN’S AND GENDER STUDIES: HUMANITIES (3 credits)**

An introduction to women's and gender studies in the humanities (literature, art, dance, music, theatre, philosophy). Explores both historical and contemporary images of women in these fields; discusses the context in which these images developed. Introduces the basic concepts and terminology of women's and gender studies.

**Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s):** ENGL 1150 is recommended.

**Distribution:** Humanities and Fine Arts General Education course and U.S. Diversity General Education course

**WGST 2030 INTRODUCTORY TOPICS IN WOMEN'S STUDIES (3 credits)**

This course offers an introductory level course in Women's Studies from a topics approach. The content will vary from semester to semester, according to instructor. May be repeated for credit when topic differs.

**WGST 3000 SPECIAL TOPICS IN LITERATURE (1-3 credits)**

Special Topics in Literature (1-3). A study of designated specific topics in literature. (May be repeated for credit as long as the topic is not the same.)

**Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s):** Variable according to topic.

**WGST 3020 PERSPECTIVES ON LEADERSHIP (3 credits)**

This course studies scholarship on and the practices of gender and leadership for undergraduate students. It is a service-learning course.

**Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s):** WGST 2010 or WGST 2020

**WGST 3050 WOMEN IN RUSSIAN SOCIETY & CULTURE: A HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE (3 credits)**

This course discusses the history of women in Russia beginning from early Russia (10th Century) to the present. It includes the study of feminist activists, female educational, professional, and employment opportunities, historical and current status of women, and their social, cultural, and intellectual influences on Russian society. Course offered in English. (Cross-listed with RUSS 3050)

**Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s):** Junior or permission.

**WGST 3080 HEALTH CONCEPTS OF SEXUAL DEVELOPMENT (3 credits)**

An examination of factors influencing sexual development. Emphasis is given to topics pertinent to healthful living in today’s culturally diverse, global society. (Cross-listed with PHHB 3080).

**WGST 3100 LGBT POLITICS (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to the political struggle for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) equal rights in the United States using a model of political empowerment, which may be applied for all minority or identity groups and social movements, generating operationalized measures of progress toward the loci of political power. (Cross-listed with PSCI 8105, PSCI 3100, WGST 8105)

**Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s):** PSCI 1100 is recommended.

**Distribution:** U.S. Diversity General Education course

**WGST 3120 WOMEN AND THE BIBLE (3 credits)**

This course explores the characterization of women in Hebrew and Christian scriptures as well as what we can learn about the lives of women in the ancient world from these and other sources. Attention is also given to the reception and use of these texts in later historical periods including contemporary religious contexts. (Cross-listed with RELI 3130).

**WGST 3130 WOMEN AND POLITICS (3 credits)**

This course introduces students to women's political participation, including holding elective office, socialization, the feminist movement and its opposition, and public policies with particular impact on women. The focus is on contemporary perspectives on women in American political ideas and behavior. (Cross-listed with PSCI 3130, PSCI 8135, WGST 8135)

**Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s):** PSCI 1100 is recommended.

**Distribution:** U.S. Diversity General Education course

**WGST 3230 GENDER AND GLOBAL POLITICS (3 credits)**

This course offers an introductory level course in Women's Studies from a historical and current status of women, and their social, cultural, and intellectual influences on Russian society. Course offered in English. (Cross-listed with PHHB 3080).

**Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s):** ENGL 1150 is recommended.

**Distribution:** Global Diversity General Education course

**WGST 3390 WOMEN, CRIME AND JUSTICE (3 credits)**

This course focuses on women’s experiences in the criminal justice system. The course will examine women's experiences as victims of crime, as offenders, as prisoners, and as criminal justice professionals. (Cross-listed with CRCJ 3390)

**Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s):** WGST major; CRCJ or WGST minor; CRCJ 1010, ENGL 1160 and 45 credit hours; or instructor permission.

**Distribution:** U.S. Diversity General Education course

**WGST 3490 GENDER AND PHILOSOPHY (3 credits)**

This course examines philosophical arguments concerning gender and sexual difference, gender issues and women in the history of philosophy, and major views in feminist theory. (Cross-listed with PHIL 3490).

**Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s):** Junior or 6 hours in PHIL or 6 hours in WGST.

**WGST 3600 SPECIAL TOPICS IN GENDER AND RELIGION (3 credits)**

The content of this course varies from semester to semester, giving instructor and students an opportunity to investigate various subjects of interest in religious studies. (May be repeated for credit as long as the topic is different.)

**Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s):** Junior, three hours in religion, or permission of instructor.

**WGST 3750 GENDER AND COMMUNICATION (3 credits)**

This course provides a survey of literature on communication about, by, and between women and men in society, personal relationships, and organizations. Students develop an understanding of how cultural meanings of gender both shape and are shaped by communication. (Cross-listed with CMST 3750).

**Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s):** Junior standing; minimum cumulative GPA of 2.25. Not open to non-degree graduate students.

**Distribution:** U.S. Diversity General Education course

**WGST 4010 SENIOR SEMINAR (3 credits)**

This course provides a capstone experience in women's studies. It serves as the third writing course, and is required for women's studies majors. It is open to seniors who have completed five courses in women's studies, including WGST 2010 and WGST 2020, with a 'C' or better; others may enroll with permission.

**Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s):** Senior standing, completion of five women's studies courses, including WGST 2010 and WGST 2020, with a grade of 'C' or better; or permission.
WGST 4020 INTERNSHIP IN WOMEN'S STUDIES (1-6 credits)
A faculty-supervised project involving part-time employment or service with a community agency, business, non-profit organization, university or other educational unit, or another appropriate organization or setting. Students will gain relevant practical experience and will integrate theory, concepts, and empirical knowledge from their classrooms with their work in the internship setting. Permission of instructor is required. 
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): WGST 2010 and WGST 2020, enrollment either as a WGST major or minor or as a BGS concentration in WGST, a 3.0 GPA, and permission of instructor.

WGST 4030 PERSONAL LEADERSHIP (3 credits)
In addition to a survey of leadership styles and theories, this course provides historical and contemporary perspectives of gender and leadership, barriers to women's leadership, bias, and discrimination. Individual leadership is examined within the context of being a change agent. This is a service learning course.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): WGST 2010 or WGST 2020

WGST 4050 SPECIAL TOPICS IN WOMEN'S STUDIES (3 credits)
This course will give instructor and students the opportunity to investigate a variety of advanced topics in Women's Studies. The content will vary from semester to semester, according to instructor. May be repeated for credit as long as topic differs.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): WGST 2010 and WGST 2020 or permission of instructor.

WGST 4060 HISTORY OF WOMEN IN AMERICA FROM 1875 - 1922 (3 credits)
This course examines the history of women in the United States from 1875 to 1992. Topics include law, work, sexuality and reproduction, immigration, civil rights, political participation and party politics, and changes to the American gender system, including family structure and employment. (Cross-listed with HIST 4060, WGST 8066, and HIST 8066).
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Junior or permission of instructor.

WGST 4070 GENDER AND LEADERSHIP CAPSTONE: COMMUNITY ACTION PROJECT (3 credits)
This course is designed for students in the final stage of the Gender and Leadership Certificate. Activities focus on practical experience in an organization that will allow students to exercise, observe, and later share lessons with classmates about leadership qualities and skills.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): WGST 2010 and WGST 2020 and either WGST 3020 or WGST 4030

WGST 4120 BLACK WOMEN LEADERS IN LIBERATION MOVEMENTS (3 credits)
This course studies scholarship on race, gender, and leadership with a specific focus on African and African descended women's roles in liberation movements in the U.S. and worldwide. Special focus will be on the use of their personal narratives to analyze the wide range of ideas in the conception and execution of leadership. (Cross-listed with BLST 4120)
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Junior standing or permission of instructor.

WGST 4130 GENDER & LEADING SOCIAL CHANGE (3 credits)
This course will cover theories, philosophies, movements, and concepts related to social change as a process and outcome. It is a service-learning course.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): WGST 2010 or 2020. Junior standing or permission.

WGST 4150 GEOGRAPHY, GENDER AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP (3 credits)
An advanced seminar focused on links among geography, gender and work, emphasizing leadership and entrepreneurship. The course considers theory and method in addition to empirical work. The nature of space, of gender, and of work, are examined. Topics include the gendering of work, the geography of entrepreneurship, gender and leadership. (Cross-listed with ENTR 4150, ENTR 8156, GEOG 4150, GEOG 8156 and WGST 8156).
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Junior, senior, or graduate standing, or permission of instructor.

WGST 4250 INTRODUCTION TO WOMEN'S STUDIES IN LITERATURE (3 credits)
A critical study of literature by and about women in which students learn about contributions of women to literature, ask what literature reveals about the identity and roles of women in various contexts, and evaluates standard interpretations from the perspectives of current research and individual experience. (Cross-listed with ENGL 4250).
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): ENGL 1160 and one additional course in literature or permission.

WGST 4260 WOMEN OF COLOR WRITERS (3 credits)
Women of Color writers is designed to introduce students to the multicultural, literacy experience and contributions of women of color writers. The course will elucidate the multi-ethnic and feminist/womanist perspectives reflected in literary works by examining the themes, motifs and idioms used to portray women. The course examines critically the implications and conceptual grounds of literary study which have been based almost entirely on male literary experiences.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): English major or permission of instructor.

WGST 4270 WOMEN WRITERS OF THE WEST (3 credits)
A survey of American and Canadian women writers who explore issues of settlement, land use, cultural displacement, and survival in western territories, states, and provinces. Readings span 19th and 20th-Century literacy and reflect the cultural diversity of the American and Canadian wests. (Cross-listed with ENGL 8276 and ENGL 4270).
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): ENGL 1150 and 1160 or equivalent; ENGL 2410 recommended.

WGST 4550 HEALTH ASPECTS OF AGING (3 credits)
This course emphasizes health promotion for older adults. Special health needs of older Americans are compared and contrasted with health needs for other age groups. Prevention or delaying of chronic diseases and disorders are emphasized. (Cross-listed with PHHB 4550, PHHB 8556, GER 4550, GER 8556)

WGST 4880 WOMEN'S ISSUES IN SOCIAL WORK (3 credits)
Topics and experiences in social work theory and practice pertaining to women's issues. Specifics will be announced when the course is offered. The topics selected will be consistent with faculty expertise and student needs. This course may be repeated for up to nine hours credit.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Junior or senior, or graduate standing in a social science.

WGST 4910 TOPICS IN WOMEN'S HISTORY (3 credits)
A course on selected topics offered on a one-time or occasional basis. Course may be repeated as long as the topic is different each time. Cross listed with WGST 4910/WGST 8916 when topics are appropriate to Women's and Gender Studies.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Junior

WGST 4930 SPECIAL TOPICS IN GENDER AND ART HISTORY (1-3 credits)
An illustrated lecture course dealing with a limited topic in the field of art history. The course may be coordinated with an external event such as an exhibition, publication or study trip.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): To be determined by the instructor based upon the preparation required for an adequate understanding of the material of the course. Lab fee required.

WGST 4960 TOPICS IN LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE (3 credits)
Specific subjects (when offered) appear in class schedules. Complete syllabi available in English Department. Formerly ENGL4940 / ENGL 8946 Studies in Language and Literature. (Cross-Listed with ENGL 4960).
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Will vary depending on what the topic is.

WGST 4970 PRO-SEMINAR (1-3 credits)
Detailed study of narrower phases of literature, language, or culture. (Cross-listed with WGST 8976).
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Permission
WGST 4990 INDEPENDENT STUDY (1-3 credits)
An individualized course of study with a member of the Women's and Gender Studies Faculty. Either independent research or advanced readings may be pursued. No more than 6 hours of independent study may be used towards the minor.
Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Permission from the Women's Studies director and the supervising faculty member is required.