GWSS Major

Gender, Women and Sexuality Studies provides a window into discussions about globalization, violence, commerce, reproductive rights, art, music and many other issues. Students gain broad exposure to interdisciplinary methods and activist strategies, and are trained to analyze inequities in society and work toward social justice and change. The GWSS major is an open major, students with a cumulative UW GPA of at least 2.0, can declare it at any time. If you have transfer courses that may count toward the major it’s a good idea to see the adviser early so your coursework can be evaluated and used toward requirements. Our major includes an Internship experience that helps integrate classroom philosophy with departmental learning goals, including engaging students in active and student-centered learning that contributes to social justice. We also offer a Departmental Honors program.

GWSS Major Requirements

For students declaring a major in Winter Quarter 2014 or later
Cumulative UW GPA of 2.0 required for entrance to the major
A minimum of 58 credits required, 25 of which must be taken in residence at UW

GWSS 200 Intro to Women Studies or transfer equivalent
GWSS 200 is a prerequisite for many other GWSS courses.

One elective 200-level GWSS course or transfer equivalent

GWSS 300 Gender, Race, and Class in Social Stratification
Prerequisite: GWSS 200. GWSS 300 is a prerequisite for the Senior Capstone and variable credit courses (494, 495, 497, and 499).

One course on feminist theory. Select one of the following:

- GWSS 206 Philosophies of Feminism
- GWSS 244 Indigenous Feminisms
- GWSS 455 Contemporary Feminist Theory (Strongly recommended for students who plan to pursue graduate studies.)
- Recommended: WOMEN 206 Prerequisite: GWSS 200.

If GWSS 206 is used to fulfill this requirement, it may not also be used to fulfill the additional 200-level course requirement.

One upper division course focusing on transnational perspective
See adviser for list of courses.

GWSS 497 Internship (A minimum of 3 credits are required.) One may take up to 12 additional credits for a total of 15 credits. Only ten of these additional credits can be applied to the elective upper-division GWSS credits. Prerequisites: GWSS 200 & 300.

25 elective upper-division (300-400 level) GWSS credits. 15 credits
Must be graded (not CR/NC). A maximum of 10 credits from our variable credit courses (495, 496, 497, and 499) can be applied toward this requirement.

GWSS 494 Senior Capstone
Prerequisites: GWSS 200, 300 and 15 graded credits of upper division GWSS courses.

Minimum GPA Must maintain a 2.0 minimum in coursework that is used toward the major requirements to graduate with a GWSS major.