



Women's and Gender Studies Program

DR. ELENA CASTRO, **DIRECTOR**

DWGS@LSU.EDU

What is Women's and Gender Studies

- ▶ Women's and Gender Studies is an interdisciplinary program that examines the multiple roles gender plays in everyday life, the impacts of gendered practices on social, cultural, and political behavior and thought, and the intersections of gender, race, sexuality, ability, age, and class.

LSU's Program Description

- ▶ Women's and Gender Studies (WGS) is an **interdisciplinary** area
- ▶ WGS teaches students to **understand and critique** the formation of categories of gender, gender identity, and sexuality as they function in social, economic, cultural, and/or political contexts
- ▶ WGS considers **gender and sexuality** as they intersect with other categories of difference, such **as race, ethnicity, class, nationality, and ability**
- ▶ WGS emphasizes the importance of **thinking about problems from diverse perspectives**, and to applying feminist and queer critical perspectives to new questions across disciplines
- ▶ WGS trains students to **communicate effectively** using gender- and sexuality-based frames of analysis as a tool for academic research, creative production, collaborative work, and social change

LSU's Program Description

- ▶ WGS's **emphasis on diversity** teaches students to think about ways to meet the needs and address the concerns of multiple groups in society.
- ▶ Students in WGS go on **to careers in multiple fields** including law, education, social work, health, mass communications, and many more.
- ▶ The WGS concentration or minor serves as an ideal **complement to many majors and minors.**
- ▶ WGS is committed to the **3+3 program**

Course Topics

- ▶ Our courses examine topics such as
 - ▶ Women and LGBTQ persons in culture and history;
 - ▶ How assumptions about gender and/or sexuality operate in society, shaping masculine, feminine, trans, gay, lesbian, bisexual, asexual, nonbinary, and queer identities;
 - ▶ History and cultural analysis through the an intersectional-aware lens that considers gender, race, class, ability, nationality, and sexuality in context with one another;
 - ▶ Gender and sexuality in literature, politics, the law, the sciences, and other cultural fields
- ▶ **Our courses are diverse, multi-disciplinary, and the concentration provides students with many elective options**

Undergraduate Concentration

▶ **Required courses for the B.A. in Liberal Arts with a Concentration in WGS**

▶ As a student pursuing a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Liberal Arts with a Concentration in Women's and Gender Studies, you will be required to complete 36 hours of course work, including:

◀ **WGS 2500**, "Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies" (3 credit hours);

◀ **WGS 2900**, "Gender, Race, and Nation" (3 credit hours);

◀ **WGS 3150**, "Survey of Feminist Theory" (3 credit hours);

◀ **WGS 4500**, "Special Topics in Women's and Gender Studies" (6 credit hours).

◀ An **approved cross-cultural course** is also required (3 credit hours).

◀ You must also complete **18** additional hours of electives.

◀ These electives should be WGS-approved social science/humanities electives.

◀ Of these elective courses, 9 hours must be at the 3000 level or above.

◀ You should contact the WGS undergraduate adviser to ensure your electives are eligible for degree credit.

Undergraduate Minor

- ▶ **Required courses for the undergraduate minor in WGS**
As a student pursuing an undergraduate minor in Women's and Gender Studies, you will be required to complete 18 hours of coursework, including
- ◀ **WGS 2500**, " Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies" (3 Credit Hours)
- ◀ **WGS 4500**, " Special Topics in Women's and Gender Studies" (3 Credit Hours)
- ◀ You must also complete 12 hours of electives, at least 9 hours of which must be at the 3000 level or above.
 - ◀ The minor electives should be chosen from at least two of the following areas:
 - ◀ Literature: ENGL 2593, 3593, 4593; FREN 4090, 4095; SPAN 4100
 - ◀ Culture & Society: ENGL 4493; CLST 2080; HIST 4079; REL 3300; SOCL 4413, 4521; CMST 3115
 - ◀ Theory: ENGL 4593; PHIL 4015; WGS 3150

Graduate Minor

- ▶ Students minoring in WGS must complete 12 semester hours of course work including 6 hours at the 7000 level
 - ▶ (Choose two of these three: WGS 7150, WGS 7500 and WGS 7900) and 6 hours in WGS.
 - ▶ Of these courses, no more than two may be taken within the same department or with the same professor and no more than one course may be taken within the student's home department.

Program Numbers

- ▶ All students registered for Fall 2017: 600+
- ▶ Undergrad Minors and Concentrators: 36
- ▶ Grad Minors: 20

Transferable Skills

- ▶ WGS develops skills in
 - ▶ Critical thinking and problem solving
 - ▶ Data collection and analysis
 - ▶ Oral, written, and presentation skills
 - ▶ Team and individual work skills
- ▶ WGS cultivates knowledge of
 - ▶ Multiple roles gender plays in everyday life
 - ▶ Impact of gendered practices on social, cultural, and political behavior
 - ▶ How intersectional experience shapes our sense of identity
 - ▶ How race, ethnicity, sexuality, class, and national identity are interlinked
- ▶ Because of this, **WGS majors and minors are well-prepared for** many fields, including some of **the fast-growing career fields in the United States**
 - ▶ **Health and Human Services**
 - ▶ **Education**
 - ▶ **Digital Content Production**
 - ▶ **Public Service**
 - ▶ **Business and Industry**
- ▶ And more!

Future Career Fields: Business & Industry

Areas

- ▶ Training and Development
- ▶ Human Resources
- ▶ Equity and Diversity
- ▶ Management
- ▶ Marketing
- ▶ Advertising
- ▶ Public Relations
- ▶ Sales
- ▶ Consulting

Employers

- ▶ Public and private corporations, esp.
 - ▶ Women's divisions
 - ▶ Female-focused industries
 - ▶ LGBTQ-focused industries
- ▶ Consulting firms
- ▶ Marketing companies
- ▶ Public relations agencies
- ▶ Organizations for research on and advancement of women and the LGBTQ community in business

Future Career Fields: Healthcare

Areas

- ▶ Medicine specializing in Women's & LGBTQ Issues
- ▶ Nursing
- ▶ Physical Therapy
- ▶ Occupational Therapy
- ▶ Dentistry
- ▶ Public Health

Employers

- ▶ Healthcare settings exclusively for women and/or the LGBTQ community
- ▶ Organizations devoted to women's or LGBTQ community's health
- ▶ Hospitals and Clinics
- ▶ Private or group practice
- ▶ Health networks
- ▶ Wellness centers
- ▶ Nursing homes
- ▶ Mental health institutions
- ▶ Federal, state, or local health departments
- ▶ Centers for reproductive health

Future Career Fields: Human Services

Areas

- ▶ Counseling
- ▶ Psychotherapy
- ▶ Mental Health Services
- ▶ Case Management
- ▶ Social Work
- ▶ Vocational/Career Counseling
- ▶ Programming
- ▶ Community Relations
- ▶ Administration

Employers

- ▶ Private or group practice
- ▶ Mental health institutions
- ▶ Hospitals and clinics
- ▶ Federal, state, or local government (Department of Human Services, Veterans Administration, etc)
- ▶ Women's and LGBTQ service organizations
- ▶ Organizations for women's and LGBTQ aid (rape crisis, pregnancy support orgs, adoption agencies, eating disorder treatment centers, domestic violence shelters, etc)
- ▶ Youth and family agencies
- ▶ University and college counseling and career centers

Future Career Fields: Education

Areas

- ▶ Teaching
- ▶ Research
- ▶ Information/Library Science
- ▶ Community Education
- ▶ Higher Education Administration and Student Support Services, inc
 - ▶ Admissions and financial aid
 - ▶ Academic advising
 - ▶ Development and alumni affairs
 - ▶ International education, study abroad
 - ▶ Career services
 - ▶ Residence life
 - ▶ Student activities and Greek life
 - ▶ Orientation and leadership

Employers

- ▶ Universities and colleges
- ▶ Women's and LGBTQ resource centers
- ▶ Non-profit organizations
- ▶ Government programs
- ▶ Libraries, inc. those for academic departments, women's organizations, museums, etc

Future Career Fields: Writing

Areas

- ▶ Journalism
- ▶ Creative writing
- ▶ Freelance writing
- ▶ Copy writing
- ▶ Digital content development

Employers

- ▶ Newspapers and magazines
- ▶ Online content providers
- ▶ Broadcast media companies, inc. television and film
- ▶ Trade, professional, or consumer publications
- ▶ Advertising agencies
- ▶ Publishing houses
- ▶ Large corporations
- ▶ Self-employment

Future Career Fields: Nonprofit

Areas

- ▶ Administration
- ▶ Program management and development
- ▶ Fundraising/development
- ▶ Grant writing
- ▶ Research
- ▶ Policy analysis
- ▶ Volunteer coordination
- ▶ Community education
- ▶ Public relations and marketing

Employers

- ▶ Nonprofit organizations
- ▶ Social service agencies
- ▶ Hospitals and medical centers
- ▶ Private foundations
- ▶ International organizations
- ▶ Special interest groups
- ▶ Trade or professional associations
- ▶ Libraries
- ▶ Educational institutions
- ▶ Cultural heritage organizations
- ▶ Women's and LGBTQ service organization
- ▶ Human rights organizations

Future Career Fields: Law and Politics

Areas

- ▶ Law, inc. corporate practice, public interest law, civil law
- ▶ Lobbying
- ▶ Government relations
- ▶ Elected or appointed leadership
- ▶ Public policy
- ▶ Research
- ▶ Intelligence
- ▶ Campaign management
- ▶ Special interest advocacy
- ▶ Program administration

Employers

- ▶ Law firms
- ▶ Corporate legal departments
- ▶ Public defenders offices
- ▶ District attorneys
- ▶ Government agencies
- ▶ Public interest groups
- ▶ Legal aid
- ▶ Sole practitioner
- ▶ Lobbying groups
- ▶ Women's and LGBTQ advocacy organizations



Thank you

HIMES HALL ROOM 118 | 225-578-4807 | WGS@LSU.EDU

WWW.LSU.EDU/WGS