Courses Offered by the GWS Department  
(Includes Required Courses and Additional Electives for Majors and Minors. Go to page 3 for other GWS courses)

GWS 100: Intro to Gender Women's Studies  
Same as HDFS 140 and SOC 130

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This course addresses issues such as everyday experience, media and popular culture, femininities and masculinities, family, education, employment, economics, literature and the arts, religion, history, science, and technology. It also explores interrelationships of race, ethnicity, sexuality, gender, ability, and age from a transnational perspective.

This course satisfies the General Education Criteria in Fall 2018 for a: UIUC Social Sciences course.

GWS 201: Race, Gender and Power  
Meets w/SOC 201

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Race offers a framework for thinking about gender, sexuality, power, class, identity, and culture, and their multiple intersections. This course explores “race” to examine the relations between self and society, community and culture, and imperial subjects and colonial institutions. By focusing on race and power in the context of film and media, science and technology, religion, colonialism, militarism, indigeneity, sports, museums, and other political, social, and cultural forces, this course offers nuanced understandings of the way gender systems are formed, patrolled, and maintained.

This course satisfies the General Education Criteria in Fall 2018 for a: Western Comparative Cultures course.

GWS 333: Memoir & Autobiography  
Meets w/ ENGL 333

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Explores the phenomenon of autobiography in the contemporary world. Students will read theories of autobiography, and ask questions about how writing about the self is gendered, and how representations of the self-fare in the outside world. An important aspect of the course will be examinations of how changing media such as film, television talk shows and the Internet shape these representations. Students will be assigned to read and make a presentation on one of the supplementary texts of autobiographies chosen from authors in the First and Third worlds.

GWS 335: Film, TV, and Gender  
Same as MACS 335

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Examines the history and theory of film, television, and their interrelationship through one or more specific case studies. Topics may include: film and feminist movements; girl films; queer TV; gender, sport and TV. Focuses attention on gender and related issues such as race, ethnicity, sexuality, age, ability and disability, class, and nationality. Addresses issues of representation, narrative, genre, industry, audience, exhibition, media convergence, new and mobile media, and social space.
GWS 363: Gender, Health & Pop Culture
Flynn, K.  KF  CRN 57509  MW  11-12:20 p.m.

Aspects of popular culture, including television, magazines, newspapers, social networking sites, and internet sources to name a few, are ways that health information is disseminated. Students will examine how we define health and understand disease as related to popular culture. Discusses how people resist or reinforce these messages about health, wellbeing, fitness, and diet. Also discusses how understandings of race, sexuality and class affect the ways that we think about sickness, health and constructions of gender.

GWS 366: Feminist Disability Studies
Prerequisite: One of the following: GWS 100, GWS 201, GWS 202.

Beauchamp, T.  TB  CRN 66123  TR  12:30-1:50 p.m.

Explores the complex relationship between gender and disability. Approaching disability as a social and political category rather than a strictly medical one, we will ask: how is the language of disability used to produce and police a variety of gender, sexual, and racial identities as non-normative? How might debates over medicine, technology, and the concept of "natural" pit gender and disability against one another? How have feminist, queer, and transgender scholarship and activism engaged disability?

GWS 370: Queer Theory
Prerequisite: GWS 100, GWS 201, GWS 202, or consent of instructor.
Same as SOC 320.

Ngo, F.  A  CRN 42909  TR  3:30-4:50 p.m.

This course traces the development of queer theory as a mode for understanding queer studies methodologies and the changing intellectual landscape of key issues in the field. As part of the course, students will review key concepts and theoretical schools of thought, navigating important debates guiding the field. Theories will engage questions of the social and cultural through topics including race, gender, nation, family, history, identity formation, sexology, the state, and capital.

GWS 385: Transnational Sexualities
Meets w/HIST 385. Prerequisite: GWS 100, GWS 201 or GWS 202 or consent of instructor.
Investigates the ways in which sexual identities change as national contexts change, as borders are imagined, valued, and crossed, and as definitions of race, gender, and religion shift. Interrogates how national and transnational identities (at home and abroad), modernites, histories, and colonial and global narratives are built on ideas of racialized sexualities, and as such, is particularly interested in the study of queer diaspora. Importantly, this course utilizes transnational feminist frameworks for re-thinking issues related to sexuality, immigration, nation-building, race and gender. Areas of inquiry include imperialism, immigration, war, tourism and globalization.

Asaska, I.  A  CRN 61612  TR  3:30-4:50 p.m.

This course takes transnational and comparative approaches to analyses of gender, race, and sexuality. Comparing and connecting U.S. contexts with examples from societies in the Middle East, East Asia, Africa, Europe, and Latin America, it looks at diverse gender and sexuality systems from the classical to modern era and explores how race, gender, and sexuality as modern categories have intersected with one another in their construction of differences and hierarchies.

GWS 478: Sex, Power and Politics
Meets w/PS413

Nadeau, C.  G  CRN 61104  R  9:30-12:20 a.m.
UG  CRN 61103  R  9:30-12:20 a.m.
Examines representations of the relationship between sex, power, and subjectivity and how they have shaped feminism. Explores critical approaches to feminist analyses of women’s oppression and debates about sexuality, including issues such as consent, rape and prostitution.

GWS 550: Feminist Theories & Methods
Prerequisite: At least one graduate-level humanities course or consent of instructor. Please contact Jacque Kahn at jskahn@illinois.edu for registration.

Nguyen, M.  1  CRN 30426  M  1-3:50 p.m.

Interdisciplinary study in diverse feminist theories and methods produced in and across various disciplines. Study in contemporary philosophical and theoretical developments in the study of gender to specific histories of class, race, ethnicity, nation and sexuality.

GWS Crosslisted/Area Elective Courses

GWS 218: Intro to Social Issues Theatre
Same as THEA 218. See THEA 218

Enslin, M.  A  CRN 52166  MW  1-2:50 p.m.

An introductory exploration/survey of the rich histories, theories, and practices of community-based and social issues theatre. Through discussion, participation, lecture, and performance, representative works, movement, and artists will be explored. Lively connections will be made to an array of social issues in today’s world.

GWS 226: Black Women in Contemp US Society
Same as AFRO 226 and SOC 223. See AFRO 226

McKee, M.  RM  CRN 58493  MW  12:30-1:50 a.m.

Sociological perspective of the experience of African American women in the contemporary United States. Specifically, an examination of relationships between the economy, state policy, culture, work and motherhood for this demographic group.

GWS 240: Sex & Gender in Antiquity
Same as CLCV 240 and CWL 262. See CLCV 240

TBD  E  CRN 33551  MW  2-3:20 p.m.

Understanding of the place of women in ancient societies can be gained through the examination of the ways in which the ancients conceptualized sex and gender. The myths, religion, art and literature of Egypt, Greece, Rome and the Near East contain a wide array of representations of men and women, of their emotions, as well as of their social, legal and political status and relations. *This course satisfies the General Education Criteria in Fall 2018 for a UIUC: Literature and the Arts and UIUC: Western Comparative Cultures.*

GWS 270: Sexuality and Literature
Same as GER 270 and CWL 272. See CWL 272.

Niekerk, C.  C  CRN 49508  MWF  2-2:50 p.m.

Examination of the historical contexts in which sexuality has been debated during the past three centuries and to what extent sexuality is perceived differently in diverse cultures. Part one will look at the Western tradition, especially Germany. Part two will shift focus to the non-Western world, especially to the colonial history of Indonesia.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria in Fall 2018 for a UIUC: Literature and the Arts course.

GWS 280: Women Writers
Topic: Section Q: Woman, Animals and Ecology
Same as ENGL 280. See ENGL 280.

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This semester, Women Writers focuses on gender and environmentalism. Rachel Carson’s 1962 book Silent Spring is sometimes said to have launched the environmental movement in the United States; we will read excerpts from that, along with Elizabeth Cline's Overdressed: The Shockingly High Cost of Cheap Fashion. Most of the course, however, will be focused on environmental novels by women: these include Jane Smiley, A Thousand Acres, set on a family farm in Iowa; Helena Maria Viromontes, Under the Feet of Jesus, which features migrant farm workers in the Western United States; Margaret Atwood, Oryx and Crake, an Orwellian take on a post-apocalyptic future; and Sheri Tepper, Grass, set in an off-world colony for aristocratic fox hunters. In discussing these novels, we will explore important relationships among environmentalism and other fields to which it is—or can be—closely allied: gender studies, animal studies, critical race studies, queer studies, and food studies.

GWS 281: Women in the Lit Imagination
Topic: Section F: British Feminist Fiction in 1813
Same as ENGL 280. See ENGL 280.

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Jane Austen published Pride and Prejudice, the story of a young woman who refuses to be forced into marrying the wrong man despite the prospect of future penury. But for much of British history, women of all classes were expected to maintain the social hierarchy through marriage and to fulfill their personal destiny through motherhood no matter how they felt about their sexual orientation, their husbands, their job prospects or married life. In this course, we’ll explore the evolution of women’s marital choices, their sexual practices and their economic rights in the UK over a two hundred year period, viewing the changes that came along the way. We’ll begin during the Regency period by probing into the nuances of 18th century marriages, zeroing in on how women regarded courtship and how the new mercantile class began to restructure rules about marriage and property in England. Then we’ll see why in spite of their many accomplishments and a female figurehead to lead the nation, Victorian women were barred from owning property, barred from voting, and forced into submissive marriages that could leave them vulnerable and depressed or curiously happy. Next, we'll turn to the rise of women's suffrage in the late Victorian period and determine whether this radical political movement truly empowered British women in their homes and in the workplace. As we move through the 20th century, we'll explore the pre and post WWI and WWII periods to see how women fared in the UK after war had permanently altered gender paradigms. We'll examine how postwar Britain normalized the concept of working women in trousers while at the same time restoring the use of confining undergarments as well as introducing modern make-up lines. We'll end the semester on a lighter note with the popular adaptation of Elizabeth and Darcy's courtship, Pride, Prejudice and Zombies, and view how postfeminist views of women as sexually aware, self-sufficient and buff have reshaped this classic novel. Course requirements include an oral report, three short papers and a final project or exam. Texts and films may include: Jane Austen, Pride and Prejudice; Charlotte Brontë, Jane Eyre, Thomas Hardy, Far From the Madding Crowd, Suffragette, A Room With A View, E. M. Forster, Downton Abbey, Jean Rhys, After Leaving Mr. McKenzie, Barbara Pym, Excellent Women and Seth-Grahame Smith, Pride, Prejudice and Zombies.

GWS 285: US Gender History to 1877
Same as HIST 285, See HIST 285.
Asaka, I. NL CRN 70110 TR 12:30-1:50 p.m.

This course surveys the historical formation of gender in the social, political, and economic developments that shaped and characterized the United States to 1877. It begins with colonial contact and examines the diverse and changing meanings of gender that molded the experiences of people before and after American Independence. Throughout, we pay particular attention to the ways gender intersected with the categories of race and class as it placed women of different backgrounds in hierarchical positions. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria in Fall 2018 for: Humanities – Hist & Phil

GWS 286: US Gender History Since 1877
Same as HIST 286, See HIST 286.

TBD A CRN 70122 MWF 10:30-10:50 a.m.

Examines the experiences of women and men in modern America, focusing on variations according to class, race, ethnicity, religion, region, and sexual preference; considers the impact of social movements on gender politics; gender and the wars of the 20th century; gender, reform, and social welfare policy; and the place of popular culture in the production of gender ideologies. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria in Fall 2018 for: Humanities – Hist & Phil

GWS 340: Gender, Relationships and Society
Same as HDFS 340, and SOC 322. See HDFS 340 - Restricted to students with Sophomore, Junior, or Senior class standing. Seats may be reserved by class level or major. Unfilled reserve seats will be open to all April 20th

Oswald, R. A CRN 38499 TR 11-12:20 p.m.

Explores the production of gender through social interaction within families and other specific interpersonal and institutional relationships that change over time. Gender is also linked to race, class, ability, and sexuality.

GWS 356 - Sex & Gender in Popular Media
Same as MACS 356. See MACS 356

Ju, R. Valdivia, A.

Examines the notion that the mass media influence our development as gendered individuals, looking at those who argue for and against this notion. Considers different forms of feminist theory applied to the study of mass media, the history and scholarly criticisms of the media and their portrayal of women, and feminist attempts to create alternatives to mainstream media images. Throughout, the course considers representation of minorities in the dominant media and examines newly created alternative representations. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria in Fall 2018 for a UIUC Western Comparative Cultures course.

GWS 356 - Sex & Gender in Popular Media
Same as MACS 356. See MACS 356
Meets Oct. 22nd – Dec. 12th, 2018

Chenyek, R. ONL CRN 69860 ARRANGED --

Examines the notion that the mass media influence our development as gendered individuals, looking at those who argue for and against this notion. Considers different forms of feminist theory applied to the study of mass media, the history and scholarly criticisms of the media and their portrayal of women, and feminist attempts to create alternatives to mainstream media images. Throughout, the course considers representation of minorities in the dominant media and examines newly created alternative representations. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria in Fall 2018 for a UIUC Western Comparative Cultures course.

GWS 360 – Woman and the Visual Arts
Same as ARTH 360. See ARTH 360.
Rosenthal, L  LR  CRN 61695  TR  9:30-10:50 a.m.

Explores the complex interconnections of women with the visual arts in Europe and North America from the classical era to the present, including the modes of artistic production and the representation of women in western society.

GWS 392: Chicanas & Latinas: Self & Society
Same as LLS 392 and SOC 392. See LLS 392
Prerequisite: Any 100, 200, or 300-level LLS, GWS, or SOC course.

Dowling, J.  A  CRN 50123  MW  10-11:20 a.m.

Explores the experiences of Chicanas and Latinas through the lens of contemporary sociological research. Topics to be discussed include: community formation and activism, Chicana/Latina feminisms, sexuality, religion, health, family, immigration, education, work, media, and artistic expression. Readings emphasize the link between the structural inequalities of society, and the day-to-day lived experiences of Chicanas/Latinas.  This course satisfies the General Education Criteria in Fall 2018 for: Advanced Composition

GWS 395: Prison Race and Terror
Meets with AAS 390 & LLS 396

Paik, A.  NP  CRN 64876  MW  1-2:20 p.m.

The United States has the highest rate of incarceration in the world. In addition to the 2.5 million people imprisoned under the criminal justice system, the U.S. government captures even more people into carceral spaces within and beyond its borders. This course examines the U.S. prison regime—manifested not only in the prison as a physical place or institution, but also enacted in active practices that seek to shore up state authority by exercising extraordinary power over inmates. Reading scholarship in critical ethnic studies, particularly regarding U.S. prisons, immigration, and warfare, we will examine three areas of U.S. imprisonment—criminal justice, immigrant detention, and martial imprisonment. We will focus on narratives told from the perspectives of prisoners—in autobiographies, documentary films, and testimonies.

GWS 397: Sexuality in Modern Europe
Same as HIST 397. See HIST 397.

Chaplin, T.  A  CRN 62743  TR  3:30-4:50 p.m.

What is sexuality? How is it practiced, policed, represented, liberated and controlled? How do religion, the state, the law and the media influence sexual identities and practices? Focusing on modern Europe, we will examine the history of sexuality from the late eighteenth century to the present in order to explore how historians have answered these questions. We will investigate topics from pornography, prostitution, sex and totalitarianism, queer sexualities, sex and colonialism, and masturbation, to sex education, sexual revolutions, hermaphroditism, sex surveys and AIDS.

GWS 417: Leading Post-Perform Dialog
Same as THEA 417 – See THEA 417.
Some evening hours required. Junior standing or consent of instructor – Restricted to students with Junior or Senior class standing.

Brown, N.  LTD  CRN 47939  TR  4-5:50 p.m.

Study of the history, processes, and methods of leading discussions with social issues theatre audiences. Emphasis on the skills and techniques of facilitators/peer educators; artistic considerations; function and application of the dramaturg; and practical experience through facilitation of social issues theatre dialog.

GWS 418: Devising Social Issues Theatre
Same as THEA 418. See THEA 418
Focuses on the role of the artist as 'cultural worker' through devising theatre in a community-based context that is explicitly concerned with social and/or health-related issues. While there is substantial research, reading and critique involved, the overall experience will be that of rigorously composing theatrical work vital to the community.

GWS 424: Gender & Race in Contemp Arch
Same as ARCH 424. See ARCH 424 - Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

Anthony, K. B CRN 41035 TR 11-12:20 p.m.

Analyze how the built environment reflects social attitudes towards gender and race. Identifies the work of women and people of color in architecture and related disciplines as consumers, critics, and creators of the environment. Provides links with valuable professional networks in Chicago and elsewhere.

GWS 442: Body, Culture & Society
Same as KIN 442, See KIN 442.

Littlefield, M. G1 CRN 59078 MW 11-12:20 p.m.
U1 CRN 59079 MW 11-12:20 p.m.

Analysis of the significant social aspects of the human body including anthropological, historical, psychological and sociological perspectives. Places emphasis on cross-culture and cross-national studies of bodily behavior with particular stress on exercise, health and sport practices.

GWS 454: Social Work with Women
Same as SOCW 455. See SOCW 455.

TBD A CRN 68318 MW 2:30-3:45 p.m.

Focuses on women and now cultural belief systems related to gender are instantiated through the differential treatment of females and males in our education, mental health, social welfare and health care systems; and the consequences of such practices through the lifespan. Includes consideration of policies and practices that support women emphasizing issues of special concern to women of color, lesbians, older women, impoverished women and disabled women.