WOMEN’S STUDIES

Founded in 1971, the Center for Women’s Studies at Wichita State University is one of the longest-standing, degree-granting, autonomous women’s studies departments in the country.

As a department in the Fairmount College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, the Center for Women’s Studies offers a major and minor in women’s studies. Students receive academic training and professional skills with the goal of improving women’s lives in domestic and professional arenas. The analysis of gender, race ethnicity, class and sexuality is central to the major.

Transnational and global analyses are included. Women’s studies is interdisciplinary in approach, and the major reflects a thematic rather than disciplinary focus. The four core areas—internationalism; representation and media; social issues; and religion and thought—provide critical understanding of women’s lives in various social and political contexts. Students may elect to double-major in women’s studies and other fields in the liberal arts and sciences, or other colleges. In addition, you may select appropriate cross-listed courses from such fields as philosophy, sociology, social work, history, English, anthropology, religion, ethnic studies, political science, criminal justice, psychology and communication to complete the major.

The major prepares students for careers in a variety of fields. If you are considering this major, a women’s studies faculty member understanding your academic program, career goals and selection of core area will advise you.

If you major in women’s studies, you’ll enhance your preparation to work in areas such as social work, education, international relations, media, politics, law, psychology, criminal justice and others that concentrate on media literacy, diplomatic or foreign service, international trade, visual design or social services. A women’s studies major is also good preparation for graduate work not only in women’s studies, but in cultural studies, American and liberal studies, and other disciplines and interdisciplinary fields.

Our graduates include lawyers, writers, Peace Corps volunteers, small business owners, social workers, human resources specialties, sales managers and professors.

Admission

When you choose to study women’s studies, you will be admitted to the Fairmount College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. You will be assigned a faculty advisor in the women’s studies department who will help you develop your program of study and who will outline specific requirements.

If you are still deciding on a major when you start at Wichita State, the Liberal Arts and Sciences Advising Center will help you explore career and major options.

Related Opportunities

As a women’s studies major or minor, a BGS with a women’s studies concentration, a liberal studies graduate student, or a student involved in women’s studies and global learning, you have the opportunity to apply for a variety of scholarships ranging in amounts from $180-$1,500. General Plaza of Heroines Scholarships are available up to $500; also available are the Forum for Executive Women (FEW) scholarship, part-time graduate and undergraduate student assistantships, and scholarships that provide students with opportunities to participate in conferences.

As a women’s studies major, you may also be employed—through the university’s Career Development Center—in a co-op position related to women’s studies and earn credit hours for the experience.

If eligible, you may be selected for university academic honor societies such as Phi Kappa Phi and Mortar Board.

Related Programs

The pursuit of studies related to women is relevant in any discipline.

For more information

If you have further questions or would like to schedule a campus visit, please contact the Office of Admissions.

Marcus Welcome Center       wichita.edu/admissions
Office of Admissions        wichita.edu/visit
1845 Fairmount
Wichita, KS 67260-0124
**Major Requirements - 30 hours**

**Requirement Core - 12 hours**
- WOM S 190 Women in Popular Culture
- WOM S 287 Women in Society: Social Issues
- WOM S 387 Women in Society: Cultural Images
- WOM S 587 Theories of Feminism

**Core Area - 9 hours**
Three courses taken within a core area. (One course taken in the electives or core area must be a diversity course, such as WOM S 334, 370, 385, 482, 513, 514, 532, 542, 579 or 588.)

**Electives - 9 hours**
Three courses in any of the three core areas, taken in any combination.

Of the 30 credit hours, no more than three hours in courses numbered 100-199 may be counted toward the major, except WOM S 190, Rel 110 and Rel 115. Students are strongly encouraged to take WOM S 190 and 287 as early as possible in the major.

**Minor:** The minor in Women’s Studies consists of a minimum of 15 hours of Women’s Studies courses, including WOM S 287 and 387. Restrictions on 100-level courses in the major (see above) also apply to the minor.

**Core Areas**
Some courses may appear in two or three core areas if course content is appropriate.

**Core Area I: Internationalism**
- WOM S 334 Islam
- WOM S 370 Women in World Religions
- WOM S 482 Latinas in Culture & Society
- WOM S 513 Women in Africa
- WOM S 514 Women in the Middle East
- WOM S 532 Women in Ethnic America
- WOM S 533 Women and the Law
- WOM S 542 Women in Other Cultures
- WOM S 579 Asian Women in Modern History
- WOM S 588 Gender, Race, and the West/East Divide

**Core Area II: Representation & Media**
- WOM S 330 Women’s Personal Narratives
- WOM S 332 Feminism & Girl Culture
- WOM S 385 Introduction to LGBT Studies
- WOM S 510 Hollywood Melodrama
- WOM S 522 Contemporary Women’s Drama
- WOM S 523 Feminist Film Criticism
- WOM S 536 Writing by Women
- WOM S 585 The Femme Fatale in Film Noir

**Core Area III: Social Issues**
- WOM S 306 Introduction to Gender Studies
- WOM S 316 Men & Masculinities
- WOM S 325 Women in the Political System
- WOM S 340 Human Sexuality
- WOM S 345 Women & Dependencies
- WOM S 380 Special Topics (1-3)
- WOM S 385 Introduction to LGBT Studies
- WOM S 386 Women and Sports
- WOM S 533 Women and the Law
- WOM S 534 Psychology of Women
- WOM S 541 Women, Children and Poverty

**Core Area IV: Religion & Thought**
- REL 110 Old Testament
- REL 115 New Testament
- PHIL 345 Philosophy of Sex & Love
- WOM S 334 Islam
- WOM S 338 Philosophy of Feminism
- WOM S 370 Women in the World Religion
- WOM S 384 Paul
- WOM S 420 Women and the Bible
- WOM S 586 Gender, Race and Knowledge

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Kansas State University does not discriminate in its employment practices, educational programs or activities on the basis of age, color, disability, gender, gender expression, gender identity, genetic information, marital status, national origin, political affiliation, pregnancy, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or status as a veteran. Retaliation against an individual filing or cooperating in a complaint process is also prohibited. Sexual misconduct, relationship violence and stalking are forms of sex discrimination and are prohibited under Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972. Complaints or concerns related to alleged discrimination may be directed to the Director of Equal Opportunity or the Title IX Coordinator, Wichita State University, 1845 Fairmount, Wichita KS 67260-0138; telephone (316) 978-3187.

For more information on Women’s Studies at WSU visit [wichita.edu](http://wichita.edu) or call (316) 978-7185.