

# WOMEN'S, GENDER, AND SEXUALITY STUDIES

## FALL 2017 REGISTRATION/ADVISING NEWSLETTER

*We urge you to please see your advisor prior to registration. It is especially important that you receive appropriate advisement and that we keep your records updated. WGS faculty will be posting sign-up sheets outside their offices. Be sure to sign up!*

- \* Registration for the Fall 2017 semester begins on Tuesday, April 4, 2017 and runs through Friday, April 14th, 2017. You can find the date and time at which you become eligible to register on PAWS. If you have yet to do so, please familiarize yourself with the PAWS system.
- \* If you don't know who your advisor is, then find out. Your advisor should be listed on your PAWS account. If your advisor is not listed, please call the Women's and Gender Studies Department office at 609-771-2539.
- \* Prior to your advisement appointment, retrieve all the necessary information you will need.
- \* Review the WGS Department Advising Syllabus at: <http://wgs.pages.tcnj.edu/for-students/advising/>
- \* Review the requirements for your program. Check the courses offered. Devise a tentative schedule for the Spring including back-up courses. Put desired courses in your PAWS shopping cart.
- \* Bring your updated Academic Requirement Report to your advisement meeting.
- \* If you are a double major with the School of Education as your first major, you must also make an appointment to see your Education advisor.

### **WGS MAJOR REQUIREMENTS**

#### ***Section I: Six Core courses***

WGS 200 Women, Culture and Society  
WGS 325 Feminist Theories  
WGS 326 Feminist Methodologies  
WGS 398 Field Study in Women's Studies  
WGS 495 or 496 Senior Seminar

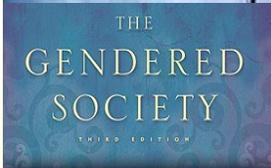
Gender in Global Perspectives - choose :  
WGS 260/AAS 280 Women of African Descent in Global Perspective  
WGS 360/LIT 334 Lit by Latinas and Latin American Women  
WGS 375 Transnational Feminisms  
WGS 376/LIT 316 Global Women Writers  
WGS 380/HON 338 Gender & Democracy  
WGS 381/ANT 311 Woman & Migration

#### ***Section II: WGS Options***

Four additional WGS courses.

#### ***Section III:***

Five courses of the ten in the major must be at a level of 300 or above.



### **WGS/EDUCATION MAJOR REQUIREMENTS**

#### ***Section I: Five Core courses***

WGS 200 Women, Culture and Society  
WGS 325 Feminist Theories  
WGS 350 Gender Equity in the Classroom  
WGS 495 or 496 Senior Seminar

Gender in Global Perspectives - choose from:  
WGS 260/AAS 280 Women of African Descent in Global Perspective  
WGS 360/LIT 334 Lit by Latinas and Latin American Women  
WGS 376/LIT 316 Global Women Writers  
WGS 381/ANT 311 Woman & Migration

#### ***Section II: WGS Options***

Education Majors will also take:  
WGS 225 Gender and Children's Literature  
WGS 302 or 303 or 361 (Women's US History Course)  
One Addition WGS/LIT Course  
Three Additional WGS/Social Studies Content Courses.

#### ***Section III:***

Five courses of the ten in the major must be at a level of 300 or above.

# WOMEN'S, GENDER, AND SEXUALITY STUDIES – FALL 2017 COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

## **WGS 200 - Women, Culture, and Society (LL: Behavioral, Social or Cultural Perspectives; Gender)**

Women, Culture and Society serves as the preliminary course to the interdisciplinary field of Women's and Gender Studies. It will provide students with an introduction to the literature and the historical evolution of the discipline, as well as an understanding of how scholars and students in the field analyze women and gender. This course encourages students to rethink and reevaluate much of what they have experienced and learned and to gain the critical vocabulary and analytic skills to question the gendered world in which they live.

## **WGS 210 - Women and Health: Power, Politics, & Change (LL: Behavioral, Social or Cultural Perspectives, Gender)**

This course concerns the domain of women's bodies and the on-going struggle for sovereignty therein. Students will examine how in addition to pathophysiology, women's health is impacted by social constructs, specifically history, politics, economics, and research. As a result of this exploration, students will enhance their ability to care for themselves and for others, to use and understand power and empowerment of self and others, and to advocate and be an activist for themselves and for others.

## **WGS 220 – Gender and Popular Culture (LL: Literary, Visual & Performing Arts; Gender)**

This course offers a critical examination of the messages and “knowledge” that popular culture employs, disseminates and constructs about men and women, masculinity and femininity. We will take our objects of study from a wide range of sources including advertisements, magazines, television, film, cyberspace, hip hop, and sports. Be ready to watch TV, go to the movies, and listen to music as a scholar of gender.

## **WGS 222 - Non Violence and Peace Action (LL: Gender, Behavioral, Social or Cultural Perspectives, and Global Perspectives)**

WGS 210 offers an overview of key areas of theory and practice in Peace and Justice Studies, a growing interdisciplinary field with applications from the local community to international relations. Aimed at achieving social transformation through active nonviolence, peace studies promotes in-depth understanding of structures that promote and perpetuate violence and offers methods for transforming the terms of conflict.

## **WGS 225 – Gender and Children's Literature (LL: Literary, Visual & Performing Arts; Gender)**

Our purpose in this course will be to develop a critical appreciation of the roles of children's literature in the social construction of gender--not only how it prescribes or resists normative gender roles, but how it represents the subjective experience of growing up gendered. With a grounding in gender theory and critical texts, we will explore classics and contemporary favorites, limiting our scope to works for young children and pre-teens.

## **WGS 235 – Gender and Violence (LL: Social or Cultural Perspectives, Gender)**

This course explores the relationship between gender and violence. It is comprised of theoretical perspectives as well as the study of specific forms of violence. Topics include: domestic and intimate partner violence; sexual violence; child abuse; socially institutionalized forms of violence against women; attitudes and reactions to violence; national and global contexts of violence; the gendered character of violence in patriarchal societies; the intersections between violence, race, class and sexuality; men and violence.

## **WGS 240 – Introduction to Gay and Lesbian Studies (LL: Gender; Behavioral, Cultural or Social Perspective)**

Introduction to Gay and Lesbian Studies provides students with an introduction to a quickly evolving field of study that is focused on gay and lesbian identity, politics, culture. Although focused primarily on the categories of “gay” and “lesbian,” this course situates its focus within a larger exploration of queer studies, gender analysis, and sexuality studies.

## **WGS 250 - Politics of Sexuality (LL: Behavioral, Social or Cultural Perspectives; Gender; Community Engagement)**

The political nature of personal life is a central critical concept of Women's and Gender Studies. Politics of Sexuality introduces students to implications of this concept through the study of contested topics concerning sexuality, such as gendered sexual socialization, sexual violence, family structures, poverty and welfare, sexual identities, transgenderism, commodification, risky sexual behaviors, AIDS, sexual exploitation, pornography, prostitution, and the traffic in women.

## **WGS 255/LIT 255 Shakespeare & Gender (LL: Literary, Visual, and Performing Art; Gender)**

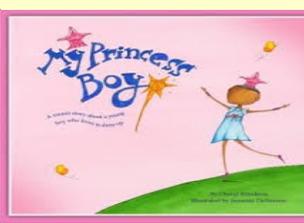
In this class, students explore the cultural work performed in the areas of gender and sexuality, as well as developing an ability to read early modern English and learning the conventions of each subgenre of Shakespeare play: comedy, tragedy, history, and romance. Class readings will include excerpts from early modern documents that provide a context for the plays.

## **WGS 260/AAS 280 - Africana Women in Historical Perspective (LL: Gender; Race & Ethnicity; Behavioral, Social or Cultural Perspectives)**

Africana Women in Historical Perspective is a global, cross-cultural survey of the lives and contributions of women of African ancestry. Emphasis will be placed upon shared elements of African culture that, when impacted by colonialism and/or the Atlantic slave trade, resulted in similar types of resistance to oppression, and analogous cultural expression among the women of four locales- Africa, South America and The Caribbean, North America and Europe. Theoretical methodologies, historical narrative, literature, demographic data, material culture, representations of self, and representations by others will be explored to illuminate/explain the: history, cultural artifacts, cultural retentions, and self-concept.

## **WGS 302/HIS 385 Women in the US to 1900 (LL: Social Change in Historical Perspective; Gender)**

This course will examine the history of women in the United States from the colonial era to 1900. We will explore the diverse ways in which women have lived, worked and contributed to the history of the US. While we will be looking at some of the “great women” of American history, the course will focus more on the aspects of the general experiences of women and their political, social, cultural and familial relationships. The course examines the experiences and contributions of women to the development and growth of America, which necessitates an examination of their subordinate position in American politics, culture and society.



**WGS 320/LIT 315 - Men and Masculinities: Literary Perspectives (LL: Literary, Visual & Performing Arts,; Gender)**

This course focuses on representations of men and masculinity in literary texts, although we may also look at film, video, television, advertising, and music. Some of the issues we will be thinking about include: the construction of modern male identities, the diversity of men's lives, the complex dynamics of men's relationships, and questions of power and social justice within the contemporary gender order.

**WGS 325 Feminist Theories/WGST 510– Graduate Section (Prerequisite: at least one WGS course) (LL: World View; Gender)**

This course explores the diverse ways in which feminist theorists conceptualize women's status in society, systems of inequality and the category of "woman" itself. Students will gain an understanding of evolving ideas and debates in feminist theory, relate those to feminist practices, and develop their own theoretical abilities. The course will address the social construction of gender, the relation between feminist theory and activism, and how feminists have responded to issues of race, class, gender, and sexuality in current feminist thinking, as well as the classic feminist texts.

**WGS 330 Gender and Public Policy: (LL: Behavioral, Social, and Cultural Perspectives; Gender)**

Gender and Public Policy will serve as deep dive in grassroots organizing, political strategy, and moving the opinions of those with influence and power. This course will explore powerful movements and tactics throughout the country and the world, with examples at the state and local level, where change often moves swiftly.

**WGS 344 Transgender Studies (LL: Behavioral, Social, and Cultural Perspective; Gender)**

This course examines the interdisciplinary field of queer studies, an approach to thinking about sexuality that emerged in academic and activist contexts in the early 1990s as a critique of normative models of sex, gender, and sexuality. From this perspective, the concept "queer" challenges any number of normalizing tendencies—e.g., "clear cut" identity categories (such as gay or heterosexual), sex and gender binaries (such as male/female, masculine/feminine), and assimilationist forms of politics, to name a few—that limits how we can think about questions of gender and sexuality, as well as other categories of social difference.

**WGS 350/WGST 520 Gender Equity in the Classroom (LL: Gender and Behavioral, Social and Cultural Perspectives)**

This seminar examines theoretical writings on feminist pedagogy and also addresses practical issues related to teaching Women's and Gender Studies. Participants will develop familiarity with feminist pedagogies and their significance for the field of Women's and Gender Studies; interpret their own educational experiences within the context of feminist reflections on education; formulate their own philosophies of education; and develop and test pedagogical strategies for developing critical consciousness about social inequalities.

**WGS 365/AAS 375 Black Feminist Thought (LL: World Views and Ways of Knowing; Gender and Race & Ethnicity)**

Traces the evolution of feminist consciousness among African women. Students will trace the thoughts, social and political activism and ideologies generated by women of African ancestry from the early 19th Century free black "feminist abolitionists" to contemporary times. "Womanist," "Feminist," "Critical Race Feminist," and "Black Feminist" ideologies will be emphasized through course readings and assignments that explore the emergence and perpetuation of an African women's feminist consciousness.

**WGS 374 Ecofeminism (LL: World Views and Ways of Knowing; Gender; Community Engagement)**

Ecofeminism offers a distinctive, interdisciplinary lens on the world, drawing on not only feminism and ecology, but also historical analysis, philosophy of science, cultural study, the arts, community development, spirituality, and a commitment to challenging oppression in all its forms. Through interdisciplinary readings, we will explore ways in which systemic social inequalities shape human relationships to the natural environment; challenge common abuses of the environment and explore alternatives; and study current movements.

**WGS 376/LIT 316 - Global Women Writers (LL: Literary, Visual & Performing Arts; Gender; Global Perspectives)**

This course will explore various literatures from around the world, encouraging students to examine the politics of gender, culture, and nation as well as the intersections of those systems of power. The explorations will cover a large range of topics, from arranged marriages to women in war in a variety of geographical areas around the world, particularly focusing on non-Western literatures. Common themes include feminist politics, post and neo/colonialisms, reproductive rights, translation, globalization, and activism.

**WGS 377 Gender Politics of Development (LL: Behavioral, Social, and Cultural Perspectives; Gender)**

This course analyzes the changing roles, opportunities and expectations of African women and men as societies undergo social upheavals associated with colonialism, independence, restructuring, conflict, development, globalization, neo-liberalism, and climate change, and the resultant impact this has on gender relations and power.

**WGS 398 - Feminism in the Workplace: Field Study in Women's and Gender Studies (Prerequisite: Two WGS courses. Non-majors should consult Instructor) (LL: Gender; Community Engagement)**

This internship course is a chance for students to consolidate and enrich their undergraduate learning while building the transition to life beyond college. A WGS education trains students to think critically and act strategically on issues of social inequity, particularly relating to gender and sexuality. Feminism in the Workplace therefore focuses not on the nature and demands of particular worksites, but on work itself and organizational practices that arise from feminist theory and scholarship.

**WGS 495 – Senior Seminar: Methods and Theories (LL: Gender) Prerequisite: WGS 325**

This course is the capstone courses for the WGS major. Students are expected to use expertise gained from their previous WGS courses to research and write their senior theses. Drawing on the methodologies and theories learned in previously taken courses, students work in a small focused seminar that emphasis not only their own work, but also critiquing the work of their peers. Students will produce a research paper applying feminist theories and methodologies.

