

WOMEN'S, GENDER AND SEXUALITY STUDIES

Phone: (845) 257-2975

Location: Southside House

The Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies Program draws on the expertise of faculty based in several departments, enabling students to develop a feminist perspective on traditional disciplines and to cross disciplinary boundaries in order to explore experiences nationally and globally. Students examine the ways that gender intersects with other systems of domination, think critically about ways to challenge violence and injustice, and work together to envision a more just and humane world.

In our practicum course, students gain experience working with organizations that serve or mobilize women. In our senior seminar, they pursue independent research in topics of their own choosing. An interdisciplinary course, *Women: Images and Realities*, provides the introduction to the program.

The Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies Program at New Paltz is committed to improving the position of women on campus and in the community. It sponsors lectures, panels, and films, and every two years, it hosts a conference. A colloquium series provides a forum for students and faculty to discuss their research.

Major

- Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (<http://catalog.newpaltz.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/liberal-arts-sciences/womens-gender-sexuality-studies/major-womens-gender-sexuality-studies>)

Minor

- Women's Studies (<http://catalog.newpaltz.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/liberal-arts-sciences/womens-gender-sexuality-studies/minor-womens-studies>)

Undergraduate

WOM193. WGSS Selected Topic. 1-12 Credits.

WOM199. Modular Course. 0 Credits.

WOM220. Introduction to Women's, Gender, & Sexuality Studies. 4 Credits.

An introduction to the field of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies with particular focus on foundational feminist thought, issue-based platforms, and social movement activism.

WOM222. The Queer Experience. 3 Credits.

Utilizes biography as a window on the queer experience. An interdisciplinary approach to understanding a community defined by the sexual orientation and gender identity of its members.

WOM293. Selected Topics. 1-12 Credits.

WOM295. Indep Study Womens Studies. 0 Credits.

WOM299. Modular Course. 0 Credits.

WOM310. Motherhood and Mothering. 3 Credits.

Students explore historical, cultural, socioeconomic, and theoretical frameworks for understanding constructions of motherhood; reproductive justice; intersectional identity and parenting; queer mothering; birth and breastfeeding; adoption; assisted reproductive technologies; and the connections between maternal activism and feminism.

WOM311. Women and Work . 3 Credits.

Integration of perspectives and materials from a variety of disciplines to explore the experience of working women in the United States. Topics include: historical accounts; effects of the family, political system and economic structure on women's work; and alternatives for meaningful work.

WOM313. Women and Drugs. 3 Credits.

Examines historical, cultural, political, and economic contexts of women's drug use in the United States. Analyzes effects of racism, sexism, and classism on perceptions of women's drug use. Special focus on health, legal, and moral issues.

WOM314. Violence Against Women . 3 Credits.

An examination of violence against women in contemporary culture: rape, battery, sexual abuse and violence in the media.

WOM315. Queer Women. 3 Credits.

A study of women who choose to build lives with other women. Includes both a historical survey and an analysis of issues facing lesbians in contemporary society.

WOM316. Hst Women In US To 1880 . 3 Credits.

A survey of the history of women from 1620-1880, examining changes in women's private and public lives with attention to the differences among women of varying regional, racial and economic backgrounds.

WOM318. Women Love and Sex . 3 Credits.

This course is an interdisciplinary examination of beliefs about love and sex in the Western philosophical tradition. It will also include a discussion of past and present feminist critiques of prevailing ideas about love and sex.

WOM319. Feminist Art and Subculture. 3 Credits.

A survey of major aesthetic and political feminist subcultures, throughout the Americas, from the World War II era to present day.

WOM320. Reproductive Law and Policy . 3 Credits.

A survey of attitudes toward human reproduction in the United States from the colonial period to the present and an examination of the ways these attitudes have become manifest in legislation and regulation.

WOM321. Feminist Methods. 3 Credits.

An overview of feminist methodological issues, dilemmas, and debates; an introduction to a variety of qualitative and quantitative research techniques and methods; and guided instruction on designing a project and writing a research proposal.

WOM322. Masculinities. 3 Credits.

Examines how masculinities are constructed and represented culturally, socially, and institutionally; how race, class, gender, sexuality, age, ability, and nationality inflect understandings of masculinity; how masculinities may reproduce or challenge inequalities.

WOM324. Gender and Sexuality in Hip Hop. 3 Credits.

Students explore Hip Hop Culture's history, aesthetics, and politics, particularly in relation to gender and sexuality, from an intersectional feminist perspective.

WOM325. Women and Popular Culture. 3 Credits.

Takes a cultural studies approach to various feminist analyses of representations of women in popular culture and their relationship to power, both social and mythic.

WOM330. Intro to Queer Studies. 3 Credits.

Examines the history, politics, theories, cultures, and communities of those who identify as lesbian, bisexual, gay, transsexual, transgender, intersex, and queer. Analyzes theoretical arguments and themes within interdisciplinary Queer Studies, historically and currently.

WOM335. Performing Feminism. 3 Credits.

In this course, with an eye toward transnational and intersectional enactments, students will survey the performance of feminism from the (post) Civil Rights era to present day in the visual arts, politics, popular culture, and everyday life.

WOM340. Transnational Feminism. 3 Credits.

An interdisciplinary exploration of transnational and global feminisms with attention to global women's activism, the impact of globalization on women's movements, Global North/South conflicts and solidarities, and the development of gendered human right approaches.

WOM345. Women and Anger. 3 Credits.

Through an examination of psychological and philosophical literature on anger and female development we consider foundations of the relationship between women and anger which continue to influence girls and women in both their personal and political relationships. We investigate the ways in which anger can be expressed destructively and constructively and the political dimension of anger as a catalyst for personal and social change.

WOM350. Native American Feminisms. 3 Credits.

The course investigates Native American feminist theories as articulated by Indigenous women. Readings and assignments invite students to consider the gendered aspects of settler colonialism, uses of colonial violence to enforce heteropatriarchy, and contributions of Native feminist thinkers.

WOM393. Selected Topics. 3-12 Credits.

WOM399. Modular Course. 1-6 Credits.

WOM415. Women and Health . 3 Credits.

Women's health issues from an interdisciplinary perspective. History and structure of the medical establishment as it affects women consumers. Designed for lay persons, this course will increase understanding of women and health care and foster informed decision-making.

WOM420. Practicum in WGSS. 3 Credits.

Work in an organization or action project that serves or advocates for women. Participate in a seminar that analyzes various approaches to improving women's lives and integrates feminist theory and practice.

WOM421. Feminist Theory . 4 Credits.

A critical examination of various theoretical frameworks for understanding women's lives and their relationship to feminist social change.

WOM423. Feminism in the U.S.. 3 Credits.

An historical and theoretical analysis of various approaches to improving the status of women in the United States. The course examines recurrent themes in feminist theory and practice and traces the changes in feminist approaches from the 18th century to the present.

WOM430. Women in the Caribbean. 3 Credits.

History of Caribbean women in the context of slavery and colonialism, examination of Caribbean feminist perspectives and the impact of race, gender, class, ethnicity, religion, language, sexuality, and globalization in forming contemporary Caribbean women's identities.

WOM490. Senior Seminar in WGSS. 4 Credits.

A critical, interdisciplinary approach to advanced topics in Women's Studies. The focus of the course will vary year to year. Students will work on a major research project of their choice. Open only to Women's Studies majors.

WOM493. Selected Topics. 3-12 Credits.

WOM494. Fieldwork In Women's, Gender, & Sexuality Studies. 1-15 Credits.

WOM495. Indep Study Women's, Gender, & Sexuality Studies. 1-12 Credits.

WOM499. Modular Course. 0 Credits.

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