

Women's Studies and Gender Studies

Major, Minor and Honours

The university offers an interdisciplinary Major, Minor and Honours program in the area of Women's Studies and Gender Studies. The Gender Studies Committee has identified faculty advisors (listed below) who are available to serve as Program Directors for students who wish to pursue such a course of studies. The Program Coordinator is Marilee Reimer, 452-0479.

Women's Studies and Gender Studies Faculty

Kristi Allain, PhD, Sociology
Alexandra Bain, PhD, Religious Studies
Linda Caissie, PhD, Gerontology
Gül Çalıřkan, PhD, Sociology
Dawne Clarke, PhD, Sociology
Csilla Dallos, PhD, Anthropology
Dennis Desroches, PhD, English
Amanda DiPaolo, PhD, Human Rights
Stewart Donovan, PhD, English
Suzanne Dudziak, PhD, Social Work
Cécilia Francis, PhD, French
Erin Fredericks, PhD, Sociology
Jeannette Gaudet, PhD, French
Sylvia Hale, PhD, Sociology
Nancy Higgins, PhD, Psychology
Jane Jenkins, PhD, Science and Technology Studies
Colm Kelly, PhD, Sociology
Laurel Lewey, MSW, Social Work
Maira MacLaughlin, MA, Anthropology
Susan Machum, PhD, Sociology
Kathleen McConnell, PhD, English
Joan McFarland, PhD, Economics
Karla O'Regan, PhD, Criminology
Suzanne Prior, PhD, Psychology
Marilee Reimer, PhD, Sociology, Program Coordinator
Karen Robert, PhD, History
Josephine Savarese, PhD, Criminology
Derek Simon, PhD, Religious Studies
Hester Vair, PhD, Sociology
Peter Weeks, PhD, Sociology

Major in Women's Studies and Gender Studies

A Major in Women's Studies and Gender Studies consists of 36 credit hours of course work beyond the 1000 level. These consist mostly of the cross-listed courses below.

Honours in Women's Studies and Gender Studies

An Honours in Women's Studies and Gender Studies consists of 48 credit hours of courses beyond the 1000 level, of which 6 credit hours must be in theory or methods. In addition, an Honours thesis valued at 6 credit hours is required. These courses should include an Honours thesis seminar or workshop of 3 or 6 credit hours, depending on the discipline offering the course.

Minor in Women's Studies and Gender Studies

A Minor in Women's Studies and Gender Studies requires completion of 18 credit hours in cross-listed courses, in two different fields. Introduction to Women's Studies and Gender Studies (GEND 2016) is recommended. Although students must devise their own plans, the University has designated the following courses as appropriate for Women's Studies and Gender Studies. The notation (GEND) appears after the titles of these courses as they appear in the description of courses for respective departments. To confirm the Minor, students are to email the courses they are registered for to registrar@stu.ca.

GEND-2016. Introduction to Women's Studies and Gender Studies

This is the introductory course to the interdisciplinary field of Women's Studies and Gender Studies. The basis of femininity, masculinity and women's inequality are examined in the context of wider social relations, including the historical subject, literary voice and the women's movement.

GEND-3013. Women's Studies and Gender Studies Methods

This is a foundational course in Gender Studies methodology. It examines the feminist critique of positivism, the development of feminist research methodologies and the use of these methods in a range of disciplines.

ANTH-2533. Women in Cross-cultural Perspective

This course examines male and female roles in a number of different cultural settings, especially non-Western societies. Particular attention is given to the cultural expectations of gender behaviour, the structure of economic opportunities for males and females, and how shifts in opportunity structures impact gender roles. Various examples illustrating the roles of males and females in the context of marriage, domestic group organization, economic decision making and political decision making, will be presented.

CRIM-4403. Feminist Legal Studies (HMRT) (WS/GS)

In this course, students will be exposed to a critical evaluation of women and criminology. Possible topics include social and legal responses to the victimization of women, social and legal intervention strategies, criminological discourses on women's criminalized behaviour,

through case studies. This course will also explore a variety of other identity issues such as race, age, disability, and class intertwine with gender and sexuality identities. We will also examine how experiences and identities shape the ways in which people resist inequality and lobby for change. This course will enable students to critically evaluate legislative and judicial responses to human sexuality and gender expression.

PSYC-3183. Sexuality and Diversity

This course will encourage students to critically examine the diverse factors that contribute to how sexuality is conceptualised and represented. Multiple perspectives, including cultural, psychosocial, and biological, will be considered. Possible topics include sexual orientation, varieties in sexual development and expression, attraction, and psychological perspectives on sex as a commodity. Prerequisites: PSYC 2183

PSYC-3523. Psychology of Gender and Gender Relations

An introduction to contemporary issues related to differences in the experience and behaviour of females and males. Prerequisite: PSYC 2023 or permission of the instructor.

PSYC-4433. Seminar in Women and Mental Health

This course will review and critically examine the theory and research in the area of women's mental health. Developed from a feminist perspective, this course will explore women's and girls' experiences of mental health and distress, and the ways in which these experiences have been conceptualized in clinical psychology. Topics include gender and the social determinants of health, problems prevalent among women (e.g., depression, eating disorders, personality disorders), and feminist approaches to intervention. Prerequisites: PSYC 2643 or permission of the instructor.

PSYC-4483. Seminar in the Psychology of Women

This course is designed to examine women's experiences and the treatment of women in psychological research, theory, and applied practice from a feminist perspective. This will involve analyzing psychological concepts of women and gender, examining the impact of our culture on our understanding of womanhood and femininity, reflecting on our own experiences, developing critical thinking skills, and understanding the diversity of women. Topics may include feminist approaches to research, stereotypes, sexuality, childhood,

men, and girls and women. Students will be introduced to theoretical perspectives used to understand the lives of men and boys, while examining topics such as fathering, the social construction of men's bodies, the ways the media (re)produces notions of masculinity, and sports masculinities.

SOCI-3323. Sociology of Women & Law

This course will explore the relationship of women to the state and to law. The ways in which criminal and family law influence gender relations in society will be analyzed, including the implications of legal intervention and non-intervention in family relations. Sex-specific and sex-related legislation, concerning such issues as sexual harassment, rape, pornography, and affirmative action, will also be examined. Theoretical concepts and issues, such as the position of women within capitalism, patriarchy, sexuality and reproduction, formal and informal control, will be addressed.

SOCI-3413. Employment Equity Policy and Gender Inequality at Work