

# 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

## 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.





gies. By deconstructing, revising and rebuilding basic issues in theology on the basis of women's experiences and gender analysis, a substantial range of feminist theologies has emerged. This course will explore theological themes and interests central to the diversity of feminist theologies.

**SCWK-3213. Women and Social Work\***

This course is designed to enable students to examine critically first, the oppression of women in our society, in particular as consumers of social services; second, the developing literature, theory, and practice of "feminist counselling" as a significant new approach to working with women; and third, the position and status of women within the social work profession. \*Please check with professor for prerequisites.

**SCWK-3713. Fields of Practice**

This course involves an in-depth examination of a particular field of practice, (e.g., mental health, corrections, child welfare) based on student and instructor interest. The focus of the course will be examination and analysis of unmet needs in the field, and professional response to them.

**SCWK-4713. Feminist Counselling**

This course will provide an in-depth critique of traditional approaches to helping women; will explore the theory, ethics, and practice of feminist counselling, and will provide students with the opportunity to learn the skills and techniques of feminist counselling. Prerequisites: Scwk 3213 and Scwk 3123.

**SOCI-2013. Research Design & Method (NATI)**

An introduction to the main research techniques used in sociology. The course will include practical experience in research design, methods of data collection, sampling procedures, and analysis of data.

**SOCI-2313. Deviance**

Review of theory and research, with a focus on the social basis of deviance, deviance construction, and the consequences of social reactions to selected forms of deviance.

**SOCI-2333. The Sociology of Chinese Women in Literature and Film.**

This course explores the sociology of women and China in recent literature and film, particularly in recent work by women in China and of Chinese origins in Western countries. The novels focus on three generations of families and illustrate the traditional expectations for women within China and in North America. The films include recent works by Chinese filmmakers that comment on women's place in pre-revolutionary and modern society.

**SOCI-2416. Inequality in Society**

This course explores existing patterns of social inequality and debates concerning the possibility and desirability of greater equality. Taking a theoretical and historical focus, we examine the changing nature of inequality in contemporary Canadian society in the context of globalization. Throughout, we develop our understanding of how different forms of inequality - particularly social class, gender and race - intersect. One section of the course may have a service learning requirement, where students engage in volunteer work in the community, and then reflect upon their experiences through reading, writing, and discussion.



studies and analysis of media representation, students will examine the topics of citizenship, global labor flows, migration, militarization, neoliberalism and the construction of the gendered global subject. They will study both the opportunities and challenges that are inherent in postcolonial and transnational feminist scholarship and activism.

### **SOCI-3243. Sociolog of Men and Masculinities (GEND)**

Description: In this course, students will examine the social production of masculinities in North America and the impacts of these gender expressions on the lives of boys and 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. Sociolog of Women & La**

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. Emplo ment Equit Polic and Gender Inequalit at Work**

This is an advanced course on the organization of gender inequality in the labour force and the policies aimed at creating equal opportunities for women. We begin by studying how gender segregation is organized in the occupations of teaching, clerical work, and other professions. Secondly, the course examines, from a sociological perspective, the federal and provincial government policies which are aimed at the equal and fair treatment of individuals regardless of sex: pay equity legislation, employment equity programs, contractual provisions and human rights legislation on fair employment practices.

### **SOCI-3583. Research for Social Change**

This seminar course encourages students to explore how research can inform social justice and social change. Examining specific debates from the fields of feminist research, Indigenous methodologies, and critical race theory, students will gain new understandings in the various ways research can both reproduce and challenge operations of power and privilege. This course offers students the opportunity to engage in debates around these methodologies as they consider how to do research for social change.

### **STS-3303. Se , Science & Gender (HMRT)**

This course examines how scientific research, in the late 19th and 20th centuries, has shaped common conceptions of sex behaviour and how this scientific knowledge has also been shaped by cultural conceptions of gender roles and "normal" behaviour.

### **STS-3503. Feminism and Techno-Science (GEND) (HMRT 3273)**

Examines a variety of feminist perspectives on science and technology which suggest that scientific authority (particularly in the biological and life sciences) rationalizes and normalizes gender stereotypes and inequalities, and also marginalizes women from its institutions. The content and positions of various perspectives (as well as counter-arguments) are studied for their political, philosophical, and epistemic assumptions. Prerequisite: at least 9 credit hours in STS or permission of the instructor.

