THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

GENDER AND WOMEN’S STUDIES

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The mission of the Department of Gender & Women’s Studies is to examine relationships of power, identity and transformation by:

1. reading narratives and representations
2. questioning institutions and cultures
3. challenging discrimination and inequity; and
4. understanding racialized, sexualized, and queer bodies

A major in Gender & Women’s Studies encourages students to think broadly about intersections of race, gender and sexuality while challenging discrimination and inequities. Students majoring in Gender & Women’s Studies gain foundational skills to examine gender, race, class, ethnicity, religion and sexuality in relation to local, national, colonial, post-colonial and transnational contexts. The major forges together an array of feminist and intersectional approaches which draw upon social sciences, humanities, sciences, arts and community engagement. Students will sharpen their abilities to critically analyze gender, approach problems theoretically, and utilize cross-disciplinary research methods to question institutions and cultures.

For the Degree of Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences

Major in Sciences and Letters Curriculum

E-mail: gws@illinois.edu
www.gws.illinois.edu (http://www.gws.illinois.edu)

Minimum required courses: 33 hours.

General education: Students must complete the Campus General Education (https://courses.illinois.edu) requirements including the campus general education language requirement.

Twelve hours of 300- and 400-level courses must be taken on this campus.

A Major Plan of Study Form must be completed and submitted to the LAS Student Affairs Office before the end of the fifth semester (60-75 hours). Please see your advisor.

Minimum hours required for graduation: 120 hours

Departmental distinction. To be eligible for graduation with distinction, a student must have a cumulative grade-point average (GPA) of 3.5 and a 3.5 GPA within the major.

High distinction. To be eligible for graduation with high distinction, a student must have a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.5, a GPA of 3.7 within the major, and complete a thesis or project in a 400-level GWS course that is approved by the department.

Advising: The Department of Gender and Women’s Studies provides advising for students to help plan a coherent program of study.

Required Courses

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<th>Course</th>
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<td>GWS 201</td>
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<td>GWS 202</td>
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<td>or GWS 370</td>
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Additional Coursework

At least 15 additional hours of coursework offered by the Department of Gender & Women’s Studies, with no more than 3 hours at the 100 or 200 level. Required courses are offered by the Department of Gender & Women’s Studies and are on an approved list maintained in the department office and with the GWS advisor.

Area Electives

Two courses in Gender and Women’s Studies. No more than one may be counted from the 100 or 200 level. For a list of approved courses contact the GWS department or the GWS advisor.

Total of the 33 hours in the major, students must take at least one course focused on transnational or non-U.S. issues. For a list of approved courses contact the GWS department or the GWS advisor.

Total Hours 33

1 Topics courses (GWS 199, GWS 295, GWS 395, GWS 495) may count up to 3 hours toward the additional coursework with consent of the GWS advisor. GWS 390 or GWS 490 may count up to 3 hours toward additional coursework with consent of the GWS advisor.

- Minor in Gender and Women’s Studies (http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/las/academic-units/gender-womens-studies/gender-womens-studies-minor)
- Minor in LGBT/Queer Studies (http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/las/academic-units/gender-womens-studies/lgbtqueer-studies-minor)

GWS Class Schedule (https://courses.illinois.edu/schedule/DEFAULT/DEFAULT/GWS)

Courses

GWS 100 Intro Gender & Women’s Studies credit: 3 Hours.
Interdisciplinary introduction to the study of gender, women, and sexuality. Addresses issues such as social experience, representation and popular culture, femininities and masculinities, family structure, education, employment, economics, literature and the arts, religion, history, and technology. Explores interrelationships of race, ethnicity, sexuality, gender, ability, and age from a transnational perspective. Same as HDF 140 and SOC 130.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for: UIUC: Social Sciences

GWS 103 Black Women in the Diaspora credit: 3 Hours.
Same as AFRO 103 and AFST 103. See AFRO 103.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for: UIUC: US Minority Culture(s)
GWS 150  Contemp Women's Issues  credit: 3 Hours.
Explores the most recent debate and research related to contemporary issues which affect primarily women. Reviews issues related to sexual and domestic violence, gender socialization, feminization of poverty, women's health, sexual harassment, work and family, politics, and media influences from a multi-discipline and multi-cultural perspective.

GWS 199  Undergraduate Open Seminar  credit: 0 to 5 Hours.
Approved for letter and S/U grading. May be repeated.

GWS 201  Race, Gender & Power  credit: 3 Hours.
Presents multiple windows into perceptions and perspectives upon gender, sexuality, power, identity and culture, and their multiple intersections. The concept of race in its many manifestations is used to examine relationships of self to society, state institutions and cultures. By paying greater attention to race and power, nuanced understandings of the way the gender systems are maintained, patrolled and formed will be examined. Topics may include: film, media, technology, culture, religion, identities, sexualities. Same as SOC 201.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
UIUC: Western Compartv Cult

GWS 202  Sexualities  credit: 3 Hours.
Surveys sexualities from multiple perspectives, standpoints, disciplines, and theories. How have different cultures, different people, and different viewpoints understood, shaped, and interpreted sex, sexualities and genders? Course places the concept of sexuality at its core to examine citizenship, education, reproduction, science, tourism, urban/rural space, and politics. Topics may include: gender, race, identities, power, transformation, reproduction. Same as SOC 202.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
UIUC: Western Compartv Cult

GWS 215  US Citizenship Comparatively  credit: 3 Hours.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
UIUC: HistPhilosoph Perspect
UIUC: US Minority Culture(s)

GWS 218  Intro to Social Issues Theatre  credit: 3 Hours.
Same as THEA 218. See THEA 218.

GWS 225  Women in Prehistory  credit: 3 Hours.
Same as ANTH 225. See ANTH 225.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
UIUC: Social Sciences

GWS 226  Black Women Contemp US Society  credit: 3 Hours.
Same as AFRO 226 and SOC 223. See AFRO 226.

GWS 230  Latina/o Genders & Sexualities  credit: 3 Hours.
Same as LLS 230. See LLS 230.

GWS 240  Sex & Gender in Antiquity  credit: 3 Hours.
Same as CLCV 240 and CWL 262. See CLCV 240.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
UIUC: Literature and the Arts
UIUC: Western Compartv Cult

GWS 245  Women & Gender Pre-Mod Europe  credit: 3 Hours.
Same as HIST 245 and MDVL 245. See HIST 245.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
UIUC: HistPhilosoph Perspect
UIUC: Western Compartv Cult

GWS 250  Gender and Representation  credit: 3 Hours.
Focusing primarily on gender, race, sexuality, and their intersections, this introductory course analyzes the politics of representation drawn from popular culture, painting, television and film, literature, music, religion, and new media.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
UIUC: Social Sciences

GWS 255  Queer Lives, Queer Politics  credit: 3 Hours.
Investigates queer lives in relation to dominant ideas about "deviance" and "equal rights." Drawing on case studies, the course investigates questions related to nation, race, economy, bodies, drugs, health, identities, agency and action as they intersect with contemporary queer politics. Students will learn conceptual and qualitative methods to investigate issues related to queer lives. Same as SOC 255.

GWS 258  Sex in Nature and Culture  credit: 3 Hours.
Same as ANTH 258. See ANTH 258.

GWS 261  Gender Transnatl Perspective  credit: 3 Hours.
Same as SOC 261. See SOC 261.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
UIUC: Social Sciences

GWS 262  Women's Lives  credit: 3 Hours.
Same as ANTH 262. See ANTH 262.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
UIUC: Social Sciences

GWS 263  US History of Medicine  credit: 3 Hours.
Same as HIST 263. See HIST 263.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
UIUC: HistPhilosoph Perspect
UIUC: Western Compartv Cult

GWS 265  Gender, Place & Space  credit: 3 Hours.
What can we learn about gender by examining cultural spaces and places? Through a specific topic or theme, students will gain an introduction to meanings of space and location through the lens of gender. Areas may include: architecture/design; production/consumption; ritual/material space; urban/domestic landscape; public/private arenas. Attention will be given to the way that place and space relate to gender identities, politics, and cultural understandings.

GWS 270  Sexuality and Literature  credit: 3 Hours.
Same as GER 270 and CWL 272. See CWL 272.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
UIUC: Literature and the Arts

GWS 272  Women and Politics  credit: 3 Hours.
Same as PS 272. See PS 272.

GWS 280  Women Writers  credit: 3 Hours.
Same as ENGL 280. See ENGL 280.

GWS 281  Women in the Lit Imagination  credit: 3 Hours.
Same as ENGL 281. See ENGL 281.

GWS 285  US Gender History to 1877  credit: 3 Hours.
Same as HIST 285. See HIST 285.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
UIUC: HistPhilosoph Perspect

GWS 286  US Gender History Since 1877  credit: 3 Hours.
Same as HIST 286. See HIST 286.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
UIUC: HistPhilosoph Perspect
GWS 287  African-American Women  credit: 3 Hours.
Same as AFRO 287 and HIST 287. See HIST 287.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
UIUC: US Minority Culture(s)

GWS 295  Beginning Topics GWS  credit: 3 Hours.
Approved for letter and S/U grading. May be repeated in the same term to a maximum of 9 hours; may be repeated in separate terms to a maximum of 12 hours.

GWS 301  GWS Lab, Studio & Practicum  credit: 3 Hours.
Develops students' research and writing skills in gender and women's studies, highlighting the complexity of the research process and exploring various topics and issues from a variety of methodological perspectives, including activist and/or interventionist approaches, and experimental productions.

GWS 305  Theories of Race, Gender, and Sexuality  credit: 3 Hours.
Same as AAS 300 and LLS 305. See AAS 300.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
UIUC: Advanced Composition

GWS 315  War, Memory, and Cinema  credit: 3 Hours.
Same as AAS 315. See AAS 315.

GWS 320  Gender & Latina/o Migration  credit: 3 Hours.
Same as LLS 320 and SOC 321. See LLS 320.

GWS 325  Lesbian/Queer Media Cultures  credit: 3 Hours.
Discusses how various LGBT/Q communities were consolidated or drawn together by print and invented in the very acts of writing, distributing, purchasing, and reading print artifacts. Students examine early homophile publications, the rise of presses dedicated to LGBT/Q literature, independent bookstores and distribution networks, as well as the contemporary world of zines, blogs, chatrooms, fanfiction, and online journals, to see the intersection of sexuality, community, identity, and the print sphere. Students will learn how to historicize the rise of various LGBT/Q subcultures through a long history of print and how to navigate and understand the gregarious contemporary world of online publishing and social networking. Prerequisite: Previous course in GWS recommended.

GWS 330  Bodies & Tech in Pop Culture  credit: 3 Hours.
Examines gender, race, sexuality and nation as embodied in visions of science and technologies in popular culture. Topics include medicine, work, leisure, domesticity, games, films, fiction, geopolitics, and the body. Prerequisite: GWS 100 or GWS 250 or GWS 350 or consent of instructor.

GWS 333  Memoir & Autobiography  credit: 3 Hours.
Explores the phenomenon of autobiography in the contemporary world. Students will read theories of autobiography, and ask questions about how writing about the self is gendered, and how representations of the self fare in the outside world. An important aspect of the course will be examinations of how changing media such as film, television talk shows and the Internet shape these representations. Students will be assigned to read and make a presentation on one of the supplementary texts of autobiographies chosen from authors in the First and Third worlds. Same as ENGL 333.

GWS 334  Brazilian Women's Lit Trans  credit: 3 Hours.
Same as PORT 334. See PORT 334.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
UIUC: Literature and the Arts
UIUC: Western Compartv Cult

GWS 335  Film, TV, and Gender  credit: 3 Hours.
Examines the history and theory of film, television, and their interrelationship through one or more specific case studies. Topics may include: film and feminist movements; girl films; queer TV; gender, sport and TV. Focuses attention on gender and related issues such as race, ethnicity, sexuality, age, ability and disability, class, and nationality. Addresses issues of representation, narrative, genre, industry, audience, exhibition, media convergence, new and mobile media, and social space.
Same as MACS 335.

GWS 337  Interrogating Masculinities  credit: 3 Hours.
Explores the social construction of gender as it pertains to masculinities in conjunction with analyses of race, class, gender, ability, and sexuality. Masculinities, in its various forms, shapes and lives of both women and men and this course will examine the construction, reproduction, and impact of masculinities on the institutions of politics, education, work, religion, sports, family, media, and the military to name a few. Paying careful attention to the conjunctions between materiality and culture, this course will interrogate how masculinities shape individual lives, groups, nationalisms, organizations, and institutions and will analyze the ways in which power functions within local transnational contexts. Above all, this course offers a road map for forging new, progressive models of masculinity.

GWS 340  Gender, Relationships & Society  credit: 3 Hours.
Same as HDFS 340 and SOC 322. See HDFS 340.

GWS 345  Digital & Gender Cultures  credit: 3 Hours.
This interdisciplinary course uses the lens of gender critique and pairs it with social activism to provide students analytical tools to engage with, reshape, and create digital cultures. Examines recent research and public policies related to the gendered, raced, and classes dimensions of digital cultures and inequality; the broad range of labor issues embedded in the growing income disparity related to digital cultures; the various ways that digital inequality has been defined by public policy, sociologists, and activists, and real examples of collective activism and social change related to emerging technologies. Same as INFO 345, MACS 345, and SOC 345.

GWS 350  Feminist & Gender Theory  credit: 3 Hours.
Interdisciplinary survey of feminist and gender theory. Traces developments in feminist theory and LGBT/Q approaches and explores contemporary debates.

GWS 355  Beauty and Culture  credit: 3 Hours.
Examines beauty and culture, in particular how tropes, ideologies, and politics bolster the construction of beauty as an aesthetic value. Looks at the ways in which beauty is imagined, visualized, narrated, naturalized, reproduced, privileged, and contested through various venues such as art, performance, philosophy, media, history, and popular culture. Attention will be given to race, class, gender, sexuality, and the implications thereof.

GWS 356  Sex & Gender in Popular Media  credit: 3 Hours.
Same as MACS 356. See MACS 356.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
UIUC: Western Compartv Cult

GWS 360  Women and the Visual Arts  credit: 3 Hours.
Same as ARTH 360. See ARTH 360.

GWS 361  Women in East Asia  credit: 3 Hours.
Same as EALC 361. See EALC 361.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
UIUC: Non-Western Cultures
UIUC: Social Sciences

Information listed in this catalog is current as of 03/2016
GWS 363 Gender, Health & Pop Culture credit: 3 Hours.
Aspects of popular culture, including television, magazines, newspapers, social networking sites, and internet sources to name a few, are ways that health information is disseminated. Students will examine how we define health and understand disease as related to popular culture. Discusses how people resist or reinforce these messages about health, well being, fitness, and diet. Also discusses how understandings of race, sexuality and class affect the ways that we think about sickness, health and constructions of gender.

GWS 365 Gender & Technoscience credit: 3 Hours.
Examines the relationship of gender to scientific practice and technological development. The course looks at the professionalization of scientists in STEM fields (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) and the category of ?women in science.? Addresses how assumptions about gender and science mutually influence each other. Attention also given to the relationship of gender identities to the use and design of technologies (for the body, in transportation, or architecture for example), and how both are produced and informed by one another. No scientific or technical background required.

GWS 366 Feminist Disability Studies credit: 3 Hours.
Explores the complex relationship between gender and disability. Approaching disability as a social and political category rather than a strictly medical one, we will ask: how is the language of disability used to produce and police a variety of gender, sexual, and racial identities as non-normative? How might debates over medicine, technology, and the concept of “natural” pit gender and disability against one another? How have feminist, queer, and transgender scholarship and activism engaged disability? Prerequisite: One of the following: GWS 100, GWS 201, GWS 202.

GWS 370 Queer Theory credit: 3 Hours.
Traces the development of queer theory as a mode for understanding queer studies methodologies and the changing intellectual landscape of key issues in the field. As part of the course, students will review key concepts and theoretical schools of thought, navigating important debates guiding the field. Theories will engage questions of the social and cultural through topics including race, gender, nation, family, history, identity formation, sexology, the state, and capital. Same as SOC 320. Prerequisite: GWS 100, GWS 201, GWS 202, or consent of instructor.

GWS 376 Children and Youth Literature credit: 3 Hours.
Same as CWL 376, EURO 376, and SCAN 376. See SCAN 376.

GWS 378 Fairy Tales & Gender Formation credit: 3 Hours.
Discusses how femininity and gender formation are related through fairy tales. As children grow they are taught the difference between male and female roles. One of the main ways this instruction takes place is through the pleasurable media of fairy tales in books, poems, and more recently, films. Sleeping Beauty, Snow White, Beauty and the Best, and the Little Mermaid, among others, will be examined to understand how sexual identity is constructed differently in different cultures, and how issues such as rape and incest are addressed within the narratives. The readings explore the ways that fairy tales work to express psychological reactions to maturation while conditioning both characters and readers to adopt specific social roles in adulthood. Same as ENGL 378.

GWS 380 Black Women Hist & Cultures credit: 3 Hours.
Interdisciplinary study of black women’s multiple histories and varied cultures including black women from North America, Africa, and the Caribbean. Same as AFRO 380. Prerequisite: AFRO 100 or GWS 100 or GWS 250 or consent of instructor. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for: UIUC: Non-Western Cultures

GWS 382 Black Women & Popular Culture credit: 3 Hours.
Examines how Black women have been are currently portrayed in popular media, such as television, internet, movies, and popular mediums such as magazines, popular fiction, newspapers, and other cultural phenomenon. Examines what these portrayals reveal about Black women’s role in society and how black women as consumer and participants respond to these stereotypes, and create alternative oppositional images. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
UIUC: US Minority Culture(s)

GWS 383 Hist of Blk Women’s Activism credit: 3 Hours.
Same as AFRO 383 and HIST 383. See AFRO 383.

GWS 385 Transnational Sexualities credit: 3 Hours.
Investigates the ways in which sexual identities change as national contexts change, as borders are imagined, valued, and crossed, and as definitions of race, gender, and religion shift. Interrogates how national and transnational identities (at home and abroad), modernites, histories, and colonial and global narratives are built on ideas of racialized sexualities, and as such, is particularly interested in the study of queer diaspora. Importantly, this course utilizes transnational feminist frameworks for re-thinking issues related to sexuality, immigration, nation-building, race and gender. Areas of inquiry include imperialism, immigration, war, tourism and globalization. Same as HIST 385.
Prerequisite: GWS 100, GWS 201 or GWS 202 or consent of instructor.

GWS 387 History of Sexuality in U.S. credit: 3 Hours.
Explores a wide variety of sources to understand how notions of sexuality have emerged and been contested at key moments in U.S. history. Our guiding questions include: How have “official” or governing discourses of sexuality (in law, medicine, religions, science) been formulated? In turn, how have “ordinary” people understood and practiced their sexuality? How the meaning of particular sexual practices changed over time? How have ideas about race, gender, and/or class been embedded within the discourse of sexuality at different moments in U.S. history? What methods of reading and interpretation are most useful for the historical study of sexuality? Also emphasizes skills such as critically analyzing primary sources within their historical context; interpreting different types of primary sources; locating, understanding, and evaluating scholarly secondary sources; and presenting historical arguments, based on both primary and secondary sources. Same as HIST 387.

GWS 390 Individual Study credit: 0 to 3 Hours.
Special topics not treated in regularly scheduled classes. Approved for letter and S/U grading. May be repeated to a maximum of 6 hours if topics vary. Prerequisite: One course in Gender and Women’s Studies; consent of instructor.

GWS 392 Chicanas&Latinas: Self&Society credit: 3 Hours.
Same as LLS 392 and SOC 392. See LLS 392.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
UIUC: Advanced Composition

GWS 395 Intermediate Topics GWS credit: 3 Hours.
Approved for letter and S/U grading. May be repeated in the same term to a maximum of 9 hours; may be repeated in separate terms to a maximum of 12 hours.

GWS 397 Sexuality in Modern Europe credit: 3 Hours.
Course Information: Same as HIST 397. See HIST 397.

GWS 403 Women in Muslim Societies credit: 3 or 4 Hours.
Same as ANTH 403, GLBL 403, HIST 434, RLST 403 and SAME 403. See RLST 403.

GWS 409 Women’s Health credit: 3 Hours.
Same as CHLH 409. See CHLH 409.

Information listed in this catalog is current as of 03/2016
GWS 415 Africana Feminisms  credit: 3 or 4 Hours.
Same as AFRO 415 and AFST 420. See AFRO 415.

GWS 417 Leading Post-Perform Dialog  credit: 4 Hours.
Same as THEA 417. See THEA 417.

GWS 418 Devising Social Issues Theatre  credit: 3 or 4 Hours.
Same as THEA 418. See THEA 418.

GWS 421 Sex Role Theory in Counseling  credit: 4 Hours.
Same as EPSY 421. See EPSY 421.

GWS 424 Gender & Race in Contemp Arch  credit: 3 Hours.
Same as ARCH 424. See ARCH 424.

GWS 428 Sociolinguistics of Gender  credit: 3 or 4 Hours.
Same as ANTH 428 and LING 428. See LING 428.

GWS 432 Gender and Language  credit: 3 or 4 Hours.
Same as CMN 432 and LING 432. See CMN 432.

GWS 435 Commodifying Difference  credit: 3 or 4 Hours.
Same as AAS 435, AFRO 435, LLS 435, and MACS 432. See LLS 435.

GWS 442 Body, Culture & Society  credit: 3 or 4 Hours.
Same as KIN 442. See KIN 442.

GWS 445 US Latina Lit and Iconography  credit: 3 or 4 Hours.
Same as LLS 442 and SPAN 442. See LLS 442.

GWS 450 Topics in Bodies and Genders  credit: 3 Hours.
Same as CWL 450. See CWL 450.

GWS 454 Social Work with Women  credit: 3 or 4 Hours.
Same as SOCW 455. See SOCW 455.

GWS 455 Girls and Popular Culture  credit: 3 or 4 Hours.
Examination of the relationship between girls and popular culture from various interdisciplinary perspectives. Topics include historical representations of girls, prominence of girls in contemporary popular culture, and how girls use, produce and interact with popular culture. Previous course in GWS recommended. 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours.

GWS 459 Gender, Sex, & Postcoloniality  credit: 3 or 4 Hours.
Explores the relationship of imperialism, sexuality, and race through the lens of postcolonial theory. Same as HIST 459. 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Prerequisite: GWS 100 or GWS 250 and GWS 350 or GWS 370; or consent of instructor.

GWS 462 Hip Hop Feminism  credit: 3 or 4 Hours.
Explores how hip hop has shaped the culture, aesthetics, experiences, and perspectives of an emergent generation of artists, scholars, and writers with several aims: 1) To challenge systemic social inequalities. 2) To articulate new visions of justice that depend on the power young people possess. To better understand how and why the relationship between hip hop and feminism is coherent, meaningful, and compelling, students will become familiar with artists working within and beyond various elements of hip hop (rap, graffiti, emceeing, dee-jaying, etc.), social critics concerned with documenting hip hop's cultural practices, and critical educator (broadly defined). 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours.

GWS 465 Race, Sex, and Deviance  credit: 3 or 4 Hours.
Same as AAS 465, AFRO 465, and LLS 465. See LLS 465.

GWS 467 Locating Queer Culture  credit: 3 Hours.
Our goal is to learn different methods for researching "queer culture," with a special focus on the local context. Explores two research methods in depth: history and ethnography. Students will produce their own original research based on genuine gaps in existing knowledge. Provides an opportunity to learn both received knowledge about queer culture, as well as that which we do not yet know. By the end of this course, the class will collectively produce new knowledge about queer culture using local stories. Same as HIST 468. 3 undergraduate hours. No graduate credit.

GWS 470 Transgender Studies  credit: 3 or 4 Hours.
What are the issues and politics related to transgender and transsexual identities? Students will examine and critically evaluate historical and contemporary debates that contest normative male/female binaries and traditional categorizations of sexuality. The course moves beyond these initial inquiries into gender theory to consider the effects of institutional discourses produced through stage and civil society. Taught with particular attention given to questions of race, national formations, medical, and legal discourses. Areas of inquiry may include gender theory, transnational identities, gendered and racial performances, medical and psychological diagnoses, violence, the law, and the Prison Industrial Complex. Through these topics, students will be asked to consider important questions over political and legal representation, autonomy, the rights of citizenship, and the practice of everyday life. 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Prerequisite: One course in Gender and Women's Studies at the 200- or 300-level, or consent of instructor.

GWS 478 Sex, Power and Politics  credit: 3 or 4 Hours.
Examines representations of the relationship between sex, power, and subjectivity and how they have shaped feminism. Explores critical approaches to feminist analyses of women's oppression and debates about sexuality, including issues such as consent, rape and prostitution. Same as PS 413. 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Prerequisite: One course in Gender and Women's Studies at the 200- and 300-level or consent of instructor.

GWS 485 The Politics of Fashion  credit: 3 or 4 Hours.
Interdisciplinary and transnational study of the historical and cultural development of fashion. Examines the social and political tensions embodied in fashion, the fashion industry, and sartorial practices in relation to gender, race, nation, and sexuality. Same as AAS 485. 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Prerequisite: One course in Gender and Women's Studies at the 200 or 300 level, or consent of instructor.

GWS 490 Individual Study  credit: 2 to 4 Hours.
Supervised reading and research in Gender and Women's Studies chosen by the student with instructor approval. 2 to 4 undergraduate hours. 2 to 4 graduate hours. May be repeated to a maximum of 6 hours. Prerequisite: Two courses in Gender and Women's Studies at the 200-400 levels; or junior standing; or consent of instructor.

GWS 495 Advanced Topics GWS  credit: 3 or 4 Hours.
3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Approved for letter and S/U grading. May be repeated in the same term to a maximum of 9 undergraduate hours or 12 graduate hours; may be repeated in separate terms to a maximum of 12 undergraduate or 12 graduate hours.

Information listed in this catalog is current as of 03/2016
GWS 498  Senior Seminar  credit: 3 Hours.
Considers the relationship between theory and research in Women’s 
Studies. Reviews and examines the key issues of feminist scholarship. 
Provides students with the methodological knowledge and opportunity to  
carry out a research project. 3 undergraduate hours. No graduate credit. 
Prerequisite: Senior standing and enrollment as a major in Gender and  
Women’s Studies, or consent of instructor. 
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for: 
UIUC: Advanced Composition