WOMEN’S, GENDER AND SEXUALITY STUDIES (BA)

This program was approved for students entering the university in the Summer 2022–Spring 2023 catalog year. For more information about catalog year, go to Catalog Year Information (http://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/university-wide-unit-specific-policies/catalog-year/).

Bachelor of Arts in Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies
Unit: College of Arts and Sciences (AS) (http://www.louisville.edu/a-s/)
Department: Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies (http://www.louisville.edu/a-s/ws/)
Academic Plan Code(s): WGSTBA, WGSTBA_O

Program Information

This program can be completed in a traditional classroom format or entirely online (https://louisville.edu/online/programs/bachelors/bachelor-of-arts-in-womens-and-gender-studies/).

Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies is an interdisciplinary major that draws its questions and approaches from the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, and arts. It helps students to develop theoretical, empirical, and methodological perspectives for studying gender as a crucial category for understanding the world. We offer extremely flexible scheduling for our majors: we have three core courses, offered regularly; students are allowed a fair amount of control in selecting the classes that will be most helpful to them in their chosen career path to complete the remainder of their requirements. Our students are required to engage in service learning opportunities outside the university, giving them useful career experience. Students in our program also find it easy to double major, if they so desire.

WGST majors learn to:

1. Apply gender analytics at the micro and macro level for research and practices of social change;
2. Examine complex social problems using gender-informed analysis, research and design;
3. Select appropriate methodologies from the humanities and social sciences for analyzing data and texts;
4. Provide appropriate theoretical interpretation based on discipline-related concepts;
5. Draw conclusions based on the analyses of texts and qualitative and quantitative information;
6. Demonstrate effective written and oral communications tailored to specific audiences and contexts to increase the understanding and utilization of research findings;
7. Identify how social, cultural and scientific knowledges are produced by institutions such as academic disciplines, media, arts, and politics;
8. Understand how gender intersects with other structures of power such as race, class, sexuality, disability and other structures of power in the U.S. and globally;
9. Draw from multiple fields of study to evaluate and generate information and experiences related to gender, race, class, sexuality, disability, etc.

Completion of this degree requires work to be submitted for the department’s Learning Outcomes Measurement. For details, contact the department.

Degree Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>General Education Requirements (<a href="http://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/">http://catalog.louisville.edu/undergraduate/general-education-requirements/</a>)</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>College/School Requirements</td>
<td>13</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Program/Major Requirements</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Supporting Courses</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Minimum Total Hours</td>
<td>121</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Some courses required in this degree program can satisfy multiple requirements. Using other courses to satisfy General Education requirements will require additional hours to complete the degree requirements or reduce the number of available electives. See the Degree Requirements and Track tabs for specific coursework.

Specific coursework information can be found on the Degree Requirements tab.

Accelerated BA-BS/MA in Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies

Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies majors who are considering pursuing a master’s degree in Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies can speed up the process by applying some of their undergraduate credit hours toward a master’s degree. Students accepted into the Accelerated BA-BS/MA take three graduate courses (9 credit hours) as an undergraduate that apply toward both the bachelor’s degree and the eventual master’s degree.

Interested students must apply to the program during their Junior year (i.e., when they have accumulated 60-90 hours of credit). Students must complete an application for admission to the Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies Department’s Master of Arts program (including transcripts, two letters of recommendation, a statement of purpose, and a writing sample). Applicants must have a minimum overall grade point average and major grade point average of 3.35 and must meet all other requirements for admission to the Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies Department’s Master of Arts program.

Students must retain a 3.35 GPA in Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies during their senior year to remain in the program.
Departmental Admission Requirements

Admission to the BA in Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies requires a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.0 and a minimum grade point average of 2.0 on courses in the major.

The Application for Major form can be found on the Arts and Sciences Advising Center website (http://louisville.edu/artsandsciences/advising/apply/).

Accelerated BA-BS/MA in Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies

Interested students should apply for entry into the accelerated program no later than the end of their Junior year.

To be considered for admission to the Accelerated Master of Arts in Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies program, students must:

- Complete an application for admission to the Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies Department's Master of Arts program (including transcripts, two letters of recommendation, a statement of purpose, and a writing sample) no later than the end of their junior year.
- Have a minimum overall grade point average (GPA) of 3.35, a Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies GPA of 3.35, and meet all other requirements for admission to the Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies Department's Master of Arts program.

General Education Requirements

The following courses are required by the program and satisfy the respective General Education Requirement(s):
- WGST 201 Women In American Culture - AH, D1

Additional coursework may satisfy program and General Education requirements (e.g., WGST 203 or WGST 207).

All degrees require the completion of the University-wide General Education Program (link provided above). Some General Education requirements may be met in the requirements for the major or supporting coursework, in which case additional electives may be required to complete the minimum hours for the degree.

College/School Requirements

Arts & Sciences Requirements
- GEN 100 Student Success Center First Year Experience 1
- GEN 101 Arts & Sciences First Year Experience
- Electives in Humanities, Social Sciences, or Natural Sciences at the 300 level or above 3
- Foreign Language 2 12
- WR - two approved courses at the 300 level or above 3

Minimum Total Hours 13
Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies (BA)

Elective in Women/Gender and Race

Select two of the following: 6

- WGST 342 Black Women Novelists - AH, D2, WR
- WGST 343 Faces of Global Poverty - WR
- WGST 344 Black Lesbian Lives
- WGST 339 Black Women and the Criminology System
- WGST 346 Women in Africa: Historical and Literary Perspectives
- WGST 347 Racism and Sexism - D1, SB
- WGST 348 African-American Women - WR
- WGST 349 Color Complex of Black Women
- WGST 380 African-American Women in Theatre - WR, AH, D1
- WGST 410 Black Feminism in Action
- WGST 512 Gender, Race, Work, and Welfare
- WGST 513 U.S. Social Justice Movements of the 20th Century
- WGST 582 Health and Social Justice

Elective in Women/Gender and History

Select one of the following: 3

- WGST 331 The History of Women, 1700 to the Present
- WGST 332 History of Childhood in America - D1, SBH, WR
- WGST 333 Women in Latin American History
- WGST 513 U.S. Social Justice Movements of the 20th Century
- WGST 509 Women and Medicine
- WGST 530 Feminism in Western Civilization, 1790-1920 - WR
- WGST 531 Women in the Twentieth Century in Europe and the U.S. - WR
- WGST 532 History of American Sexualities - WR
- WGST 533 Women in 19th-Century America - WR
- WGST 545 Southern Women: Black and White
- WGST 584 Women in East Asian History

Elective in Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies at the 300-level or above 3

Minimum Total Hours

36

Code | Title | Hours
---|---|---
WGST 337 | Motherhood and the Law | 3
WGST 339 | Black Women and the Criminology System | 3
WGST 343 | Faces of Global Poverty - WR | 3
WGST 344 | Black Lesbian Lives | 3
WGST 347 | Racism and Sexism - D1, SB | 3
WGST 348 | African-American Women - WR | 3
WGST 349 | Color Complex of Black Women | 3
WGST 380 | African-American Women in Theatre - WR, AH, D1 | 3
WGST 410 | Black Feminism in Action | 3
WGST 512 | Gender, Race, Work, and Welfare | 3
WGST 513 | U.S. Social Justice Movements of the 20th Century | 3
WGST 542 | African American Women and the History of Reproductive Justice | 3
WGST 540 | Women's Health in Africa - WR | 3
WGST 543 | Black Women's Voices - WR | 3
WGST 545 | Southern Women: Black and White | 3
WGST 547 | Language, Race, Class, and Gender | 3
WGST 582 | Health and Social Justice | 3

Supporting Courses

Select either an approved A&S minor OR one of the concentration options below 27-30

Minor Options (Choose one of the following)

1. Minor in a Social Science discipline (18-21 hours) with 9 hours of electives at 300+ level in Humanities or Natural Sciences
2. Minor in a Natural Science discipline (18-21 hours) with 9 hours of electives at 300+ level in Humanities or Social Sciences
3. Minor in a Humanities discipline (18-21 hours) with 9 hours of electives at 300+ level in Social Sciences or Natural Sciences

Concentration Options (Choose one of the following)

1. Concentration in Social Sciences (18 hours of Social Science electives) with 9 hours of electives at 300+ level in Natural Sciences or Humanities
   - At least 9 hours in a single Social Science discipline
   - At least 12 hours must be 300+ level
   - Up to 6 hours in the concentration can double-count in the major
2. Concentration in Natural Sciences (18 hours of Natural Science electives) with 9 hours of electives at 300+ level in Humanities or Social Sciences
   - At least 9 hours in a single Natural Science discipline
   - At least 12 hours must be 300+ level
   - Up to 6 hours in the concentration can double-count in the major
3. Concentration in Humanities (18 hours of Humanities electives) with 9 hours of electives at 300+ level in Natural Sciences or Social Sciences
   - At least 9 hours in a single Humanities discipline
   - At least 12 hours must be 300+ level
Students should consult a Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies advisor about how topics and independent study courses count in the major (see list below).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WGST 500</td>
<td>Senior Seminar in Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies: Social Sciences - CUE, WR</td>
<td>3</td>
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**Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies Topics/Independent Study courses**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WGST 390</td>
<td>Topics in Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies: Humanities</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>WGST 391</td>
<td>Topics in Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies: Social Sciences</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGST 392</td>
<td>Topics in Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies: Social Sciences - WR</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGST 393</td>
<td>Topics in Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies: Humanities - WR</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGST 490</td>
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<td>WGST 491</td>
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<td>WGST 492</td>
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<td>WGST 493</td>
<td>Topics in Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies: Humanities - WR</td>
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<tr>
<td>WGST 498</td>
<td>Senior Honors Thesis: Social Sciences - WR</td>
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<td>WGST 499</td>
<td>Senior Honors Thesis: Humanities - WR</td>
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<td>WGST 589</td>
<td>Independent Study: Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies-Humanities</td>
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<td>WGST 590</td>
<td>Independent Study: Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies-Social Sciences</td>
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<td>WGST 591</td>
<td>Topics in Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies: Social Sciences</td>
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<td>WGST 592</td>
<td>Topics in Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies: Social Sciences - WR</td>
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<tr>
<td>WGST 593</td>
<td>Topics in Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies: Humanities</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGST 594</td>
<td>Topics in Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies: Humanities - WR</td>
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1. In addition to the Humanities courses required in the Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies Core
2. Completion of the intermediate level of a single foreign language
3. May be incorporated into other degree requirements
4. Students who satisfy General Education Requirements by courses defined by the program will require additional electives to complete the minimum hours for the degree.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General elective</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Hours</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Spring</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>WGST 500</td>
<td>Senior Seminar in Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies: Social Sciences - DUE, WR</td>
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<tr>
<td>Course in minor or focus</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Course in minor or focus (if needed) or general elective</td>
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<tr>
<td>General elective</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies Social Science elective (400 level or above)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Hours</strong></td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Minimum Total Hours</strong></td>
<td>122-125</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Degree Audit Report**

Degree Audit reports illustrate how your completed courses fulfill the requirements of your academic plan. What-if reports allow you to compare the courses you have completed in your current academic plan to the courses required in another academic plan. Should you have questions about either report, please consult with your academic advisor.

**To create either report:**

1. Log into your ULink account.
2. Click on the Academic Progress tile.
3. Next, click on "View my Degree Audit" to run a Degree Audit report in the Undergraduate Advising area.
4. To create a What-if report, click on "Create a What-if Advisement Report."

Click here to run a Degree Audit report, or create a What-if report. (https://ulink.louisville.edu)

**Flight Planner**

Based on your major, the Flight Planner tool may be available for you to create a personalized Flight Plan. The Flight Planner can be found in the ULink Student Center. Consult with your advisor for assistance with the Flight Planner.