Women's Study Interdisciplinary Studies Program

Eddy Hall, Room 210
(970) 491-6182
womensstudies.colostate.edu (http://womensstudies.colostate.edu)

Coordinated by the Director of the Center for Women's Studies and Gender Research

The Women's Study interdisciplinary studies programs prepare individuals for the needs and opportunities of an increasingly interconnected and interdependent world. Three distinct paths allow students to acquire Women's Study academic preparation. The Ethnic Studies concentration in Women's Studies allows students to engage the complex of intersections of gender race, sexuality, ethnicity, class, ability, religion, and nationality as analyzed within various disciplines. The interdisciplinary minor in Women's Study prepares individuals for the needs and opportunities of a changing world by building awareness of the range of human experience, potential, and accomplishment that place women and gender at the center of inquiry. The graduate-level program in Women's Study is for students who for professional and/or personal reasons wish to supplement their graduate programs of study. At the graduate level, the program presumes a background in Women's Studies courses or substantial work, paid or volunteer, in a Women's Studies applied area of work or service. Each path uniquely fills CSU's central mission and contributes to intersectional, interpersonal, intercultural, and international understandings. Women's studies transform traditional disciplinary assumptions and theories, creates innovative models for teaching and research, and develops practices for challenging systems of power and privilege.

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the program of study, students will demonstrate:

- Knowledge of academic disciplines from feminist and intersectional perspectives
- An understanding of the historic and contemporary contributions of women of all cultures
- Effective oral communication, writing, and research skills
- An increase in critical thinking, intellectual, and personal growth
- A critical ideological understanding regarding women and gender implicit in social institutions and structures

Potential Occupations

Contemporary career opportunities can be directly enhanced by students who have a women's studies background. Students acquire jobs in the non-profit sector, such as international relief agencies, domestic violence agencies, homeless shelters, after school programs, and children and family services. Other fields our students have entered include public relations, counseling, union organizing, public policy and research, victim advocacy, and human/civil rights. In several areas such as journalism, communication, business, law, education, and human services, it is now common to choose a career that has a direct focus on women and gender.

In areas that have not traditionally focused on women and gender, an awareness of the history and culture of feminisms, women and the intersections of gender, race, class, and sexism can enhance a person's ability to cope with dilemmas and issues related to gender and sex that arise in the workplace. In addition, students in women's studies have the unique opportunity to apply insights from course work to their own lives, helping them make more informed choices about careers, education, relationships, and community participation.

Students can take women's studies courses to satisfy university and disciplinary requirements as electives, and/or part of a women's studies program. Students interested in pursuing the undergraduate minor or graduate Women's Study interdisciplinary studies program should contact the Center for Women's Studies. Completion of requirements will be noted on the student's permanent record.

Effective Summer 2011

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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WS 692</td>
<td>Seminar in Women's Studies</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WS 695</td>
<td>Independent Study</td>
<td>3-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WS 699</td>
<td>Thesis</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
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Select one or more graduate-level courses approved by the Women's Studies Advisory Board. A current list of suggested courses is available to students in the Department of Ethnic Studies.

Select no more than one course from the upper-division Women's Studies undergraduate offerings as a supporting course.

Program Total Credits 9-15

1 Required.
2 Ordinarily interdisciplinary work in women's studies and the candidate's major discipline. The thesis is subject to Women's Studies Board oversight and is separate from departmental thesis/dissertation.
3 Colloquium meets twice a semester with faculty and students presenting on-going research and scholarship in women's studies.