

WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES

SPRING 2013 REGISTRATION/ADVISING NEWSLETTER

We urge you to please see your advisor prior to registration. It is especially important that you receive appropriate advisement and that we keep your records updated. WGS faculty will be posting sign-up sheets outside their offices. Be sure to sign up!

- * Registration for the Spring 2013 semester begins on Tuesday, November 6, 2012 and runs through Friday, November 16, 2012. You can find the date and time at which you become eligible to register on PAWS. If you have yet to do so, please familiarize yourself with the PAWS system.
- * If you don't know who your advisor is, then find out. Your advisor should be listed on your PAWS account. If your advisor is not listed, please call the Women's and Gender Studies Department office at 609-771-2539.
- * Prior to your advisement appointment, retrieve all the necessary information you will need.
- * Review the WGS Department Advising Syllabus at: <http://wgs.pages.tcnj.edu/for-students/advising/>
- * Review the requirements for your program. Check the courses offered. Devise a tentative schedule for the Fall including back-up courses in case your preferred choices are filled. Put desired courses in your PAWS shopping cart.
- * Bring your updated Academic Requirement Report to your advisement meeting.
- * If you are a double major with the School of Education as your first major, you must also make an appointment to see your Education advisor.

WGS MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

Section I: Five Core courses

WGS 200 Women, Culture and Society
 WGS 325 Feminist Theories
 WGS 398 Field Study in Women's Studies
 WGS 495 or 496 Senior Seminar
 Gender in Global Perspectives - choose from:
 WGS 260/AAS 280 Women of African Descent in Global Perspective
 WGS 360/LIT 334 Lit by Latinas and Latin American Women*
 WGS 375 Transnational Feminisms
 WGS 376/LIT 316 Global Women Writers *
 WGS 380/HON 338 Gender & Democracy
 WGS 381/ANT 311 Woman & Migration

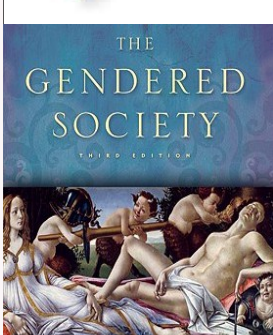
* Elementary Education and Early Childhood majors must choose:
 WGS 376/LIT 316 Global Women Writers or
 WGS360/LIT 334 Lit by Latinas and Latin American Women

Section II: Women's & Gender Studies Options Five additional WGS courses. *

* Elementary Education and Early Childhood majors must choose:
 WGS 225 Gender and Children's Literature
 Three WGS/HIS courses
 One additional WGS/English courses

Section III:

Five courses of the ten in the major must be at a level of 300 or above.



WGS MINOR REQUIREMENTS

- * WGS 200 Women, Culture and Society
- * Four additional WGS courses

CONCENTRATIONS IN WOMEN'S & GENDER STUDIES

See the Women's and Gender Studies website for details about possible concentrations:
<http://www.tcnj.edu/~wgst/>

Women and Gender

Core: WGS 200 Women, Culture and Society
Options: Take 4 additional WGS courses as described on the Women's and Gender Studies website.

Gender, Nation Democracy

Core: Choose at least 1 from the following:
 WGS 380/HON 338 Gender and Democracy
 WGS 375 Transnational Feminisms
 WGS 310/HON 337/HIS 324 Women in Eastern Europe: 1848-present
Options: Take 4 additional WGS courses as described on the Women's and Gender Studies website.

Sexualities

Core: WGS 250 Politics of Sexuality
Options: Take 4 additional WGS courses as described on the Women's and Gender Studies website.

Women in Learning and Leadership

Core: WGS 200 Women, Culture and Society – Leadership section
Options: Take 4 additional WGS courses as described on the Women's and Gender Studies website.

Gender and Violence

Core: WGS 235 Gender and Violence & Internship (see website)
Options: Four additional WGS courses – 2 in Arts and Humanities and 2 in Social Sciences and History. See website for complete list of options.

WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES – SPRING 2013

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

WGS 170 - Topics In Women's and Gender Studies: Gender, History and Film (LL: Social Change in Historical Perspective; Gender)

Movies and the film industry have had an important role in shaping 20th century life and culture, influencing everything from fashion to perceptions of war. Americans learned how to interact with one another, what to wear, how to perceive military conflicts and just about everything else from the movies. Through the twentieth century, gender representations on the screen illustrated the relationship between social, cultural, economic and political events. This course explores these relationships by treating motion pictures as primary sources that, juxtaposed with other types of historical evidence, reveal the intricacies of US work, leisure, sexuality, family life, and politics.

WGS 200 - Women, Culture, and Society (LL: Behavioral, Social or Cultural Perspectives; Gender)

Women, Culture and Society serves as the preliminary course to the interdisciplinary field of Women's and Gender Studies. It will provide students with an introduction to the literature and the historical evolution of the discipline, as well as an understanding of how scholars and students in the field analyze women, gender, and feminist theories. It will use an interdisciplinary approach to do this. This introductory course encourages students to rethink and reevaluate much of what they have experienced and learned and to gain the critical vocabulary and analytic skills to question the gendered world in which they live.

WGS 210 - Women and Health: Power, Politics, & Change (LL: Behavioral, Social or Cultural Perspectives, Gender)

This course concerns the domain of women's bodies and the on-going struggle for sovereignty therein. Students will examine how in addition to pathophysiology, women's health is impacted by social constructs, specifically history, politics, economics, and research. As a result of this exploration, students will enhance their ability to care for themselves and for others, to use and understand power and empowerment of self and others, and to advocate and be an activist for themselves and for others.

WGS 220 – Gender and Popular Culture (LL: Literary, Visual & Performing Arts; Gender)

This course offers a critical examination of the messages and “knowledge” that popular culture employs, disseminates and constructs about men and women, masculinity and femininity. We will take our objects of study from a wide range of sources including advertisements, magazines, television, film, cyberspace, hip hop, and sports. Be ready to watch TV, go to the movies, and listen to music as a scholar of gender.

WGS 225 – Gender and Children's Literature (LL: Literary, Visual & Performing Arts; Gender)

Our purpose in this course will be to develop a critical appreciation of the roles of children's literature in the social construction of gender--not only how it prescribes or resists normative gender roles, but how it represents the subjective experience of growing up gendered. With a grounding in gender theory and critical texts, we will explore the early beginnings of children's literature in collections of folklore and fairy tales, then move on to modern classics and contemporary favorites, limiting our scope to works for young children and pre-teens.

WGS 240 – Introduction to Gay and Lesbian Studies (LL: Gender; Behavioral, Cultural or Social Perspective)

Introduction to Gay and Lesbian Studies provides students with an introduction to a quickly evolving field of study that is focused on gay and lesbian identity, politics, culture. Although focused primarily on the categories of “gay” and “lesbian,” this course situates its titular focus within a larger exploration of queer studies, gender analysis, and sexuality studies.

WGS 250 - Politics of Sexuality (LL: Behavioral, Social or Cultural Perspectives; Gender; Community Engagement)

The political nature of personal life is a central critical concept of Women's and Gender Studies. Politics of Sexuality introduces students to implications of this concept through the study of contested topics concerning sexuality, such as gendered sexual socialization, sexual violence, family structures, poverty and welfare, sexual identities, transgenderism, commodification, risky sexual behaviors, AIDS, sexual exploitation, pornography, prostitution, and the traffic in women. Students learn how social norms, political currents, economic practices, and state policies construct their lived realities, governing choices they may have considered natural, private, and individual. They learn to articulate what is at stake in these issues from a variety of standpoints as preparation for making their own informed judgments.

WGS 260/AAS 280 - Africana Women in Historical Perspective (LL: Gender; Race & Ethnicity; Behavioral, Social or Cultural Perspectives)

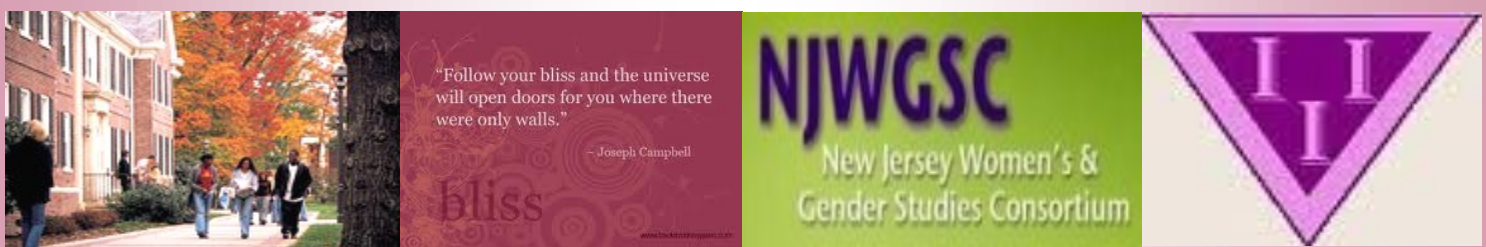
Africana Women in Historical Perspective is a global, cross-cultural survey of the lives and contributions of women of African ancestry. Emphasis will be placed upon shared elements of African culture that, when impacted by colonialism and/or the Atlantic slave trade, resulted in similar types of resistance to oppression, and analogous cultural expression among the women of four locales- Africa, South America and The Caribbean, North America and Europe. Theoretical methodologies, historical narrative, literature, demographic data, material culture, representations of self, and representations by others will be explored to illuminate/explain the: history, cultural artifacts, cultural retentions, and self-concept.

WGS 302/HIS 385 Women in the US to 1900 (LL: Social Change in Historical Perspective; Gender)

This course will examine the history of women in the United States from the colonial era to 1900. We will explore the diverse ways in which women have lived, worked and contributed to the history of the US. While we will be looking at some of the “great women” of American history, the course will focus more on the aspects of the general experiences of women and their political, social, cultural and familial relationships. The course examines the experiences and contributions of women to the development and growth of America, which necessitates an examination of their subordinate position in American politics, culture and society.

WGS 303/HIS 384 Women in the 20th Century US (LL: Social Change in Historical Perspective; Gender)

An examination of the history of women in the United States in the 20th century with special emphasis on their roles in political and social movements. The course will focus more on the aspects of the general experiences of women and their political, social, cultural, and familial relationships.



WGS 307 Gender, Sexuality, and Pop Music in the 1980's (LL: Literary, Visual & Performing Arts,; Gender)

The focus of this course is on the ways in which select music artists who were in the popular spotlight in the 1980s constructed, conformed to, problematized, critiqued, and/or subverted traditional categories of gender and sexuality. Major themes include the presentation (and representation) of masculinities, misogyny, compulsory heterosexuality, articulations of feminism(s), queer(ing) strategies, and the intersection of race, gender, and sexuality. Our primary texts will be album releases, music videos, and live performance footage from the 1980s, drawn from an array of artists: Pat Benatar, Bon Jovi, the Eurythmics (featuring Annie Lennox), the Go-Go's, Whitney Houston, Michael Jackson, Cyndi Lauper, L.L. Cool J, Madonna, the Pet Shop Boys, Poison, Prince, Queen Latifah, Salt 'N Pepa, Bruce Springsteen, and Tina Turner.

WGS 320/LIT 315 - Men and Masculinities: Literary Perspectives (LL: Literary, Visual & Performing Arts,; Gender)

This course focuses on representations of men and masculinity in literary texts, although we may also look at film, video, television, advertising, and music. Some of the issues we will be thinking about include: the construction of modern male identities, the diversity of men's lives, the complex dynamics of men's relationships, and questions of power and social justice within the contemporary gender order.

WGS 325 - Feminist Theories (Prerequisite: at least one WGS course) (LL: World View; Gender)

This course explores the diverse ways in which feminist theorists conceptualize women's status in society, systems of inequality and the category of "woman" itself. Students will gain an understanding of evolving ideas and debates in feminist theory, relate those to feminist practices, and develop their own theoretical abilities. The course will address the social construction of gender, the relation between feminist theory and activism, and how feminists have responded to issues of race, class, gender, and sexuality in current feminist thinking, as well as the classic feminist texts.

WGS 343 Queer Studies (LL: Behavioral, Social, and Cultural Perspective; Gender)

This course examines the interdisciplinary field of queer studies, an approach to thinking about sexuality that emerged in academic and activist contexts in the early 1990s as a critique of normative models of sex, gender, and sexuality. From this perspective, the concept "queer" challenges any number of normalizing tendencies—e.g., "clear cut" identity categories (such as gay or heterosexual), sex and gender binaries (such as male/female, masculine/feminine), and assimilationist forms of politics, to name a few—that limits how we can think about questions of gender and sexuality, as well as other categories of social difference.

WGS 361/HIS 365/AAS 376 - African American Women's History (LL: Gender, Social Change in Historical Perspective, Race & Ethnicity)

African American Women's History examines the lives of women of African descent in the U.S. The Course explores the experiences and contributions of African American women to the development and growth of the United States. Students will learn about African American women's roles in the church, social movements, and social reproduction, and the legacy of forced migration and slavery, and will be able to understand the relationship between African American women and the institutions, movements, individuals, ideas and values of the major eras of U.S. history.

WGS 373/REL 373 - Women and Spirituality (LL: Gender, World Views/Ways of Knowing)

This course examines the concept of a gender-specific way of experiencing spirituality. We will examine the idea of "women's spirituality" and explore questions of : whether the spirituality of women differs from that of men; how women connect to, critique, remember, and transform spiritual experience across cultures.

WGS 376/LIT 316 - Global Women Writers (LL: Literary, Visual & Performing Arts; Gender; Global Perspectives)

This course will explore various literatures from around the world, encouraging students to examine the politics of gender, culture, and nation as well as the intersections of those systems of power. The explorations will cover a large range of topics, from arranged marriages to women in war in a variety of geographical areas around the world, particularly focusing on non-Western literatures. Common themes include feminist politics, post and neo/colonialisms, reproductive rights, translation, globalization, and activism.

WGS 398 - Feminism in the Workplace: Field Study in Women's and Gender Studies (Prerequisite: Two WGS courses. Non-majors should consult Instructor) (LL: Gender; Community Engagement)

This internship course is a chance for students to consolidate and enrich their undergraduate learning while building the transition to life beyond college. A WGS education trains students to think critically and act strategically on issues of social inequity, particularly relating to gender and sexuality. Graduates enter a wide variety of careers. Feminism in the Workplace therefore focuses not on the nature and demands of particular worksites, but on work itself and organizational practices that arise from feminist theory and scholarship. The course is designed for students of junior or senior standing who are WGS majors or minors, as well as for WILL students.

WGS 495 – Senior Seminar: Methods and Theories (LL: Gender) Prerequisite: WGS 325

This course is the capstone courses for the Women's and Gender Studies major. Students are expected to use expertise gained from their previous WGS courses to research and write their senior theses. Drawing on the methodologies and theories learned in previously taken courses, students work in a small focused seminar that emphasis not only their own work, but also critiquing the work of their peers. Students will produce a research paper applying feminist theories and methodologies. In addition, they will share their work with other students, providing analysis and critiques of one another's papers in progress.

WGS 496 - Women's Leadership and Social Change (Prerequisite: WGS 200 Women, Culture and Society and WGS 325 Feminist Theories) (LL: Behavioral, Social or Cultural Perspective, Community Engagement, Gender)

In this W.I.L.L. capstone seminar course, students will experience the interfaces between empirical knowledge and social policies through selecting, organizing, and implementing a class activism project. This course is the culmination of the W.I.L.L. Program in which students will expand and enhance their leadership skills using acquired strategies and tactics to influence social, political, or economic change.

