PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Women’s Studies provides students with a disciplinary and interdisciplinary model for the study of women’s contributions to culture, knowledge and society. A critique of the social conditions creating women’s oppression is integral to the program.

Women’s Studies promotes teaching and research in the service of eliminating sexism, racism, and classism, as well as other forms of oppression. The program is committed to change and to the integration of community activism and academic study. The program is based on a mixed model of course offerings, combining Women’s Studies courses with service courses taught in other departments and approved for the Women’s Studies Program. The mixed model allows Women’s Studies to fulfill a dual role, i.e., expanding and developing women’s studies as a bona fide field of inquiry tied to the women’s movement, while at the same time infusing feminist scholarship into other disciplines.

Women’s Studies affirms the Preamble and Purpose of the National Women’s Studies Association which states:

“Women’s Studies owes its existence to the movement for the liberation of women; the women’s liberation movement exists because women are oppressed... Feminist aims include the elimination of oppression and discrimination on the basis of sex, race, class, religion, disability, and sexual orientation.”

SPECIAL MAJOR

The special major in undergraduate and graduate programs allows for specially designed patterns of study leading to a degree when academic and professional aims are not adequately accommodated by standard degree majors. This provision is used to assist students in areas where courses already available allow completion of multidisciplinary programs, particularly in areas such as Women’s Studies. A student interested in a special major should contact the Women’s Studies Coordinator. Details concerning application for the special major can be found through the index.

MINOR

The minor in Women’s Studies emphasizes the position and achievement of women in various fields of study. It requires 21 units; all must be upper division courses.

A. Required Courses (9 units)

- WOMS 110 Introduction to the Women’s Movements in Contemporary Society
- WOMS 115 Introduction to Women’s Studies
- WOMS 180 Seminar in Feminist Theory (WOMS 110)

B. Electives (12 units)

Twelve units of electives are required. At least one course must be taken from each of the following categories:

1. Contemporary Issues and Women Crossculturally
   - EDTE 165 Sex Role Stereotyping in American Education
   - ETHN 132 La Mujer Chicana
   - ETHN 172 Black Women in America
   - GOVT 166 Women & Politics in Contemporary America
   - JOUR 172 Women in Mass Media
   - OBE 151 The Roles of Women & Men in Management
   - SWRK 134 Crimes Without Victims
   - SWRK 278 Family Violence
   - WOMS 120 Mother, Woman, Person
   - WOMS 121 Women of the Middle East
   - WOMS 132 Society of Women
   - WOMS 136 Gender, Race & Class
   - WOMS 137 Women of Color
   - WOMS 139 Violence Against Women
   - WOMS 147 International Feminist Trends
   - WOMS 170 Topics in Feminism
WOMS 186  American Women in the Media & the Arts
WOMS 195  Fieldwork in Women’s Studies
WOMS 196  Experimental Offerings in Women’s Studies
WOMS 199  Special Problems

2. Humanities: Art and Literature
  ART 234  Women Studio Artists Seminar
  ENGL 185A  Women Poets
  ENGL 185B  20th Century Fiction by Women
  ENGL 185C  British Women Novelists
  ENGL 185D  American Women Writers
  ENGL 185E  Chicana/Latina Women Writers
  ENGL 185F  Feminist Literary Criticism
  ENGL 185G  African-American Women Writers
  HRS 185  Women in Film & American Culture
  WOMS 144  Women & Theatre: Staging Diversity
  WOMS 145  Feminism & the Spirit
  WOMS 146  Women in Art

3. Social Sciences
  ANTH 183  Women Crossculturally
  CRJ 157  Women & the Criminal Justice System
  ECON 184  Women & the Economy
  EDC 212  Gender Roles & Sexuality in Counseling
  EDTE 266  Women & Education
  HIST 122A  History of Women in Western Civilization, Prehistory-Middle Ages
  HIST 122B  History of Women in Western Civilization, Renaissance to Present
  HIST 167  History of American Women
  FACS 158  Topical Seminar in Family & Child Development
  PE 110  Women in Sport
  PSYC 134  Psychology of Human Sexuality
  PSYC 157  Psychology of Women
  WOMS 138  Women & Work
  WOMS 181  Seminar in Gender Roles

Descriptions of individual courses may be obtained by consulting the listings under the appropriate departments. Please consult the Women’s Studies program for any new courses added to these categories. The minor in Women’s Studies is planned in advance and approved for graduation by the Women’s Studies Coordinator.

COURSE OFFERINGS

To meet the feminist goals of Women’s Studies, two types of courses are offered. Women’s Studies courses taught by Women’s Studies faculty and funded by Women’s Studies; and service courses taught within the traditional disciplines. Service courses are funded by their respective departments.

WOMEN’S STUDIES COURSES

110. Introduction to the Women’s Movements in Contemporary Society. An examination of women’s issues in the current women’s movement. Emphasis is on detailed examination of feminist topics important to women today. 3 units.

115. Introduction to Women’s Studies. Introduction to the origins and models of Women’s Studies. Explores the significance of a new field of study, and examines the methods of interdisciplinary study. Provides an opportunity to read a number of Women’s Studies “classics” and to trace the development of feminist theory. 3 units.

120. Mother/Woman/Person. An application of feminist analyses to the role of mother in this culture. Focuses on the evolution of the institution of motherhood and its effects upon our lives. 3 units.

121. Women of the Middle East. Students will be introduced to historical and contemporary conditions affecting women’s lives and contributions to Middle Eastern society. Modules on women in the family, on religious thought and law, on political life, on social movements, on economic activity, and on the arts provide a framework for the course. Cross-listed as HIST 121; only one of these courses may be counted for credit. 3 units.

132. A Society of Women. Examines the theoretical concepts and topics relevant to the issues of bonding between women. Topics include an in-depth analysis of lesbian cultures and politics, historical examples of women-loving-women, kinship bonds, friendship between women, and barriers to bonding such as racism, classism, and homophobia. 3 units.

136. Gender, Race, and Class. Course is designed to examine the effects of the dynamic interaction of gender, race, and class on women. The social construction of gender, race, and class will also be examined. Other topics to be discussed and researched are the effects of sexism, racism, and classism on institutions such as academia, business, government, religion, and social movements. The course also provides an analysis of effective techniques to end sexism, racism, and classism. Prerequisite: passing score on the WPE. 3 units.

137. Women of Color. Examines the social, economic, and cultural uniqueness of various ethnic groups in the United States. Includes discussion of definitions of sexism, racism, economic exploitation, feminism, and the nature and evolution of the women’s movement in relation to women of color. 3 units.

138. Women and Work. Explores topics basic to discussion of women’s paid and unpaid work from historical and crosscultural perspectives. Consideration is given to popular conceptions and stereotypes of work and “women’s issues” in the industrialized world; the private and public lives of women and men with emphasis on work and social realities; and the maintenance of patriarchy under capitalism, socialism and communism, with some possible feminist “solutions.” Prerequisite: passing score on the WPE. 3 units.

139. Violence Against Women. This course will consider from a feminist perspective the forms of violence directed at women. It will also look at contemporary attitudes towards women, children, power, aggression and sexuality in order to examine how these attitudes affect the rates and types of crimes directed at women. Topics include sexual assault; child abuse; medical violence; psychiatric violence; economic violence; suicide and self-hatred, pornography, violence in the media; etc. The course will also examine the ways in which women are individually and collectively combating violence. 3 units.

144. Women and Theatre: Staging Diversity. A class that includes study of recent feminist performance theory and criticism and its application to acting, directing, and writing for the theatre. Students will participate in both lecture/discussion and activities, including the creation of a final performance. Lecture two hours; lab two hours. Cross-listed as DRAM 144; only one of these courses may be counted for credit. 3 units.

145. Feminism and the Spirit. Provides a critique of traditional patriarchal religions and traces women’s participation in the evolution of the human spirit. Consideration is given to the history of Goddess religion and its resurgence in the contemporary world; sexism in institutionalized religions and the current advances women are making in the churches; and dimensions of womanspirit incorporated in the art, music and literature of today’s feminist artists. 3 units.
146. **Women in Art.** A study of the unique and important contributions of women to the visual arts (Renaissance to present) and their personal struggle toward success and recognition. The Women's Art Movement and its impact on education, museums and women's status in the arts are important topics of this class. 3 units.

147. **International Feminist Trends.** This course provides a historical overview, as well as in-depth studies of the similarities and differences in feminist developments from an international perspective. Examples will be drawn from industrialized democracies, centrally planned socialist states, and third world countries. Pluralistic trends in feminist development within countries will also be examined with a view to understanding the differential impact of gender-based discrimination on different categories of women. 3 units.

166. **Women and Politics in Contemporary America.** An examination and evaluation of several approaches to moment's equality in America today. A brief historical examination of the political aspects of the women's movement. A more thorough examination of the various factions; moderate, radical and revolutionary. Such approaches as community projects, electoral politics, consciousness raising, separatism and violent revolution will all be individually considered. Open to both sexes. Cross-listed as GOVT 166; only one of these courses may be counted for credit. 3 units.

170. **Topics in Feminism.** Current topics relevant to women's lives will vary widely from semester to semester. Emphasizes current developments in feminist scholarship as well as current socio-political changes relevant to women. May be repeated for credit provided topic is not repeated. 3 units.

180. **Seminar in Feminist Theory.** An advanced course providing detailed inquiry into specific feminist theories, including their conceptual framework and development, relationship to other political theories and application to the current practices of feminism. **Prerequisite:** WOMS 110 or permission of instructor. 3 units.

181. **Seminar in Gender Roles.** An advanced seminar designed to help students understand women's and men's behaviors by studying their historical and contemporary roles. Students will learn and apply a critical approach towards social institutions, beliefs, customs, social trends and socio-economic conditions and their effect on women and men. Critically examines research results and statistics and assesses multidisciplinary theories and methodologies used in the study of gender roles. **Prerequisite:** SOC 1 or WOMS 115. 3 units.

186. **American Women in Media and the Arts.** Studies the impact of change upon the images, roles, and perceptions of women in selected examples of American art, literature, music, advertising, television, film, comics, and other areas of popular culture. The arts and media are studied in relation to each other in the light of feminist theory and in their social and cultural context. Designed for students who want a more advanced interdisciplinary approach to women's issues and images. Cross-listed as COMS 186 and HRS 186; only one of these courses may be counted for credit. **Prerequisite:** one course in Women's Studies (code or service) and one course in message analysis of media or the arts (such as COMS 100B, HRS 180 or 185, WOMS 146, etc.) 3 units.

195A. **Fieldwork in Women's Studies.** Supervised experience in selected women's organizations and projects in the Sacramento area; for example, the Rape Crisis Center, Women Escaping a Violent Environment (WEAVE), Sacramento Women's Center. **Prerequisite:** permission of instructor. 1-3 units.

196. **Experimental Offerings in Women's Studies.** Several courses are offered under this number. Some are small seminars, some regular lecture-discussion classes. They are designed to study a subject of particular interest to an instructor, to students and to allow exploration of a topic of timely concern. Students may take any number of these courses, provided they differ in subject. The Class Schedule each semester will show the classes and the topics covered at that time. Course descriptions will be available in the department office before the semester begins. 3 units.

199. **Special Problems.** Supervised individual research projects or directed reading specifically related to Women's Studies topics. Should be taken by students who can work on an individual basis. **Prerequisite:** WOMS 115 and permission of the instructor. 1-3 units.

299. **Special Research Problems.** Supervised research projects and directed study specifically related to Women's Studies and taken on an individual basis by Graduate students in the Special Major Graduate Program. 1-3 units.

## APPROVED SERVICE COURSES

Women's Studies courses are offered in many departments including: Anthropology, Art, Teacher Education, Business Administration, Counselor Education, Economics, English, Ethnic Studies, Family and Consumer Sciences, Government, History, Humanities and Religious Studies, Criminal Justice, Journalism, Physical Education, Psychology, Sociology, and Social Work. A complete listing of semester courses may be obtained from the Program Office, Amador Hall 561B.

Listed below are the regularly offered service courses, approved for the Women's Programs, although many experimental offerings are taught in departments each semester. Please refer to departmental listings for a complete description of these courses.

- **ANTH 183** Women Crossculturally
- **ART 234** Women Studio Artists Seminar
- **COMS 186** American Women in Media & the Arts
- **CRJ 137** Women & the Criminal Justice System
- **ECON 184** Women & the Economy
- **EDT 163** Sex Role Stereotyping in American Education
- **EDT 266** Women & Education
- **EDC 212** Gender Roles & Sexuality in Counseling
- **ENGL 180** Studies in Literature of Ethnic Minority Groups
- **ENGL 185** Studies in Women's Literature
- **ETHN 132** La Mujer Chicana
- **ETHN 172** Black Women in America
- **GOVT 166** Women & Politics in Contemporary America
- **HIST 122A** History of Women in Western Civilization: Prehistory-Middle Ages
- **HIST 122B** History of Women in Western Civilization: Renaissance-present
- **HIST 167** History of American Women
- **HRS 185** Women in Film & American Culture
- **HRS 186** American Women in Media & the Arts
- **FACS 158** Topical Seminar in Family & Child Development
- **JOUR 172** Women in the Mass Media
- **OBE 151** Diversity & Management
- **PE 110** Women & Sport
- **PSYC 134** Psychology of Human Sexuality
- **PSYC 157** Psychology of Women
- **SWRK 134** Crimes Without Victims
- **SWRK 278** Family Violence