WOMEN’S, GENDER, AND SEXUALITY STUDIES

Hibbard Humanities Hall 384
715-836-5717
Program Website (https://www.uwec.edu/academics/college-arts-sciences/departments-programs/womens-studies/)

The Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies program coordinates teaching, research, and scholarship in the field of Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. It is a mature academic field of inquiry that also draws from many other fields of study. Enacted as a discipline, the Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies program is a site of both scholarly inquiry and social change and activism. A unique academic program, Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies incorporates praxis—practice that is informed by feminist theory and gendered analyses. Courses in Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies are taught with feminist pedagogical techniques and from feminist theoretical perspectives, and they integrate theory with activism whenever possible.

Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies students learn to think critically about the intersections of race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, age, ability, and nationality as they interact with systems of power. Students also learn to make important connections between their learning, their own lives, and the globally interconnected world. As engaged citizens, Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies students advocate for gender and other forms of social justice both on campus and in the larger community.

All majors and minors participate in a final capstone experience, the “Social Justice Practicum” (WGSS 496), where they work closely with a community partner to develop and implement a plan of action or research. There are also internship and volunteer opportunities for Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies students on campus (e.g. Gender and Sexuality Resource Center, Center for Awareness of Sexual Assault) and in the local community (such as the Black and Brown Womyn Power Coalition, the Chippewa Valley LGBTQ+ Community Center, Family Support Center, Hmong Mutual Assistance Association, The Community Table, and Western Dairyland). In addition, Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies offers several courses conducted as domestic and international cultural immersion experiences.

The interdisciplinary and critical perspectives learned in the program enrich all fields of study, so graduates are well-prepared to do work in a variety of fields. Upon graduating, Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies majors pursue a range of careers in business, health care, community education, and in the private sector and in non-profit organizations. They are also well prepared for graduate studies in Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies and other fields.

Faculty
Rose-Marie Avin, Program Director
Josephine Kipgen
Rae Langes
Kong Pheng Pha

Minors
• Minor: Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, Liberal Arts (http://catalog.uwec.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/womens-studies/womens-gender-sexuality-studies-minor/)

Certificates
• Certificate: Women of Color Feminisms (http://catalog.uwec.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/womens-studies/women-of-color-feminisms-certificate/)
• Certificate: Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (http://catalog.uwec.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/womens-studies/womens-gender-sexuality-studies-certificate/)
• Certificate: LGBTQ Studies (http://catalog.uwec.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/womens-studies/lgbtq-studies-certificate/)

Majors
• Major: Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, Liberal Arts - B.A./B.S. (http://catalog.uwec.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/womens-studies/womens-gender-sexuality-studies-major-ba-bs/)