

# Graduate Certificate in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

## Why study women, gender, and sexuality studies?

WGSS was built out of the dual goals of examining inequalities resulting from gender, race, sexual orientation, and class using an interdisciplinary lens and translating this research into meaningful, tangible knowledge that contributes to the betterment of communities. Our interdisciplinary faculty members are engaged in research that examines many of the cutting-edge issues vexing contemporary times, both domestically and internationally, such as discrimination, violence, human trafficking, health and inequality, and migration, to name a few. The common thread throughout these different areas of research is the focus on investigating the factors that create and contribute to vulnerability and power across time and geography.

WGSS students learn about the ways in which people's roles in society have been constructed and the ways in which these roles have changed and continue to change. WGSS courses will make you informed about, and sensitive to, issues of gender in relation to education, lifestyle, social roles and status, sexuality, legal status, and equity. You may face these issues at work, in society, and in your world; WGSS courses will help you to deal with them in an informed, responsible, and just manner.

## What will women, gender, & sexuality studies give me?

- Awareness of the issues facing people of all genders – and the world – today.
- Knowledge of many different academic fields.
- Critical thinking and problem-solving skills.
- Strong writing and researching abilities.
- A solid base on which to enter the workforce, pursue further education, and have an impact in the world.
- Graduates of WGSS go on to do many different things, and the possibilities are endless.

## Admission to Graduate Studies

### Admission Requirements

- All applicants must meet the requirements outlined in the Admission to Graduate Study (<https://policy.ku.edu/graduate-studies/admission-to-graduate-study/>) policy.
- Bachelor's degree: A copy of official transcripts showing proof of a bachelor's degree (and any post-bachelor's coursework or degrees) from a regionally accredited institution, or a foreign university with equivalent bachelor's degree requirements is required.
- English proficiency: Proof of English proficiency (<https://gradapply.ku.edu/english-requirements/>) for non-native or non-native-like English speakers is required. There are two bands of English proficiency, including Admission and Full proficiency. For applicants to online programs, Full proficiency is required.

## Graduate Admission

Any applicant seeking to pursue a graduate certificate in Women, Gender, & Sexuality Studies must submit an online application (<https://gradapply.ku.edu/apply/>). Applications are accepted on a rolling basis.

## New Applicants

Applicants who are not already enrolled in a KU graduate program should include the following materials in their application to the certificate program.

- Statement of purpose (no longer than one page, single spaced)
- Copy of official transcripts (<http://graduate.ku.edu/transcripts/>) from all colleges and universities attended
- Two letters of recommendation

Non-native speakers of English must meet English proficiency requirements (<https://gradapply.ku.edu/english-requirements/>).

## Current KU Graduate Students

Applicants already in a KU graduate program must be in good standing with their home department to be eligible for admission the certificate program. Current KU graduate students must provide the following materials in their online application.

- Statement of purpose (no longer than one page, single spaced)
- Letter of support from home academic department
- Current KU advising report

## Contact

Visit the Department of Women, Gender, & Sexuality Studies website for detailed information about graduate certificate admissions requirements (<https://wgss.ku.edu/graduate-admission-requirements/>).

## Graduate Certificate Requirements

Certificate students must complete the department's exit survey to graduate. At least 50% of coursework for the certificate must be taken at the 700 level or above.

| Code   | Title  | Hours |
|--|--|-------|
| <b>Core Courses</b>                                  |  |       |
| Satisfied by completion of two of the following:     |  | 6     |
| WGSS 800   | History of Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies   |       |
| WGSS 801   | Feminist Theory (or an alternate WGSS theory course with permission of the director of graduate studies) |       |
| WGSS 802   | Feminist Methodologies   |       |
| <b>WGSS Elective courses</b>                         |  |       |
| Satisfied by completing two of the following courses |  | 6     |
| WGSS 501   | Doing Feminist Research  |       |
| WGSS 502   | Human Sexuality  |       |
| WGSS 510   | History of American Women--Colonial Times to 1870  |       |
| WGSS 511   | History of American Women--1870 to Present   |       |
| WGSS 514   | Politics of Human Trafficking  |       |
| WGSS 515   | Gender and Sexuality in Greek Culture  |       |

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| WGSS 516 | Gender and Sexuality in Roman Culture                               |
| WGSS 517 | Policing the Womb   |
| WGSS 521 | Women and Violence  |
| WGSS 531 | LGBTQ Politics and Policy   |
| WGSS 533 | Rococo to Realism: Painting in Europe c. 1750-1848                  |
| WGSS 534 | Impressionism and Post-Impressionism: 1848-1900                     |
| WGSS 540 | Skin, Sex, and Disease  |
| WGSS 549 | History of Feminist Theory  |
| WGSS 552 | The Rhetoric of Women's Rights                                      |
| WGSS 553 | Making a Pandemic: The History and Politics of HIV/AIDS             |
| WGSS 562 | Gender and Politics   |
| WGSS 563 | Gender, Sexuality and the Law                                       |
| WGSS 565 | Gender, Culture, and Migration                                      |
| WGSS 567 | Native Feminisms  |
| WGSS 583 | Love, Sex, and Globalization  |
| WGSS 598 | Sexuality and Gender in African History                             |
| WGSS 600 | Feminist Contemporary Political Theory                              |
| WGSS 601 | Seminar in Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies                      |
| WGSS 650 | Service Learning in Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies             |
| WGSS 652 | Jazz and American Culture   |
| WGSS 653 | Gender, Peace, and Conflict   |
| WGSS 662 | Gender and Politics in Africa                                       |
| WGSS 696 | Studies in: _____   |
| WGSS 701 | Seminar in: _____   |
| WGSS 710 | History of American Sexuality                                       |
| WGSS 711 | Feminist Jurisprudence  |
| WGSS 713 | The Politics of Marriage  |
| WGSS 714 | Politics of Human Trafficking                                       |
| WGSS 717 | Policing the Womb   |
| WGSS 797 | Directed Readings   |
| WGSS 803 | Feminist Pedagogy   |
| WGSS 804 | Professionalization Seminar in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies |
| WGSS 811 | Black Feminist Theory   |
| WGSS 812 | Affect and Queer Theory   |
| WGSS 821 | Woman and Violence  |
| WGSS 835 | Colloquium in the History of Gender                                 |

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**Total Hours** **12**

At the completion of this program, students will be able to:

- Display Knowledge of the Field.
- Display Subject Area Expertise.
- Display Written and Oral Communication.
- Display Social Responsibility.
- Display Research Design.