BACHELOR OF ARTS AND BACHELOR OF GENERAL STUDIES IN WOMEN, GENDER, AND SEXUALITY STUDIES

Why study women, gender and sexuality studies?
Because much of what people think they know about women, gender, and sex is myth.

Undergraduate Admission

Admission to KU
All students applying for admission must send high school and college transcripts to the Office of Admissions. Unless they are college transfer students with at least 24 hours of credit, prospective students must send ACT or SAT scores to the Office of Admissions. Prospective first-year students should be aware that KU has qualified admission requirements that all new first-year students must meet to be admitted. Consult the Office of Admissions (http://admissions.ku.edu) for application deadlines and specific admission requirements.

Visit the Office of International Student and Scholar Services (http://www.iss.ku.edu) for information about international admissions.

Students considering transferring to KU may see how their college-level course work will transfer on the Office of Admissions (http://credittransfer.ku.edu) website.

Admission to the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Admission to the College is a different process from admission to a major field. Some CLAS departments have admission requirements. See individual department/program sections for departmental admission requirements.

First- and Second-Year Preparation
It is recommended that students complete WGSS 101, the introductory course, and consult the undergraduate advisor.

Requirements for the B.A. or B.G.S. Major

Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Major Course Requirements

Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Core Knowledge and Skills (18)

Majors must complete a course in each of the following areas:

WGSS 101 Introduction to Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. Satisfied by:

- or WGSS 102 Introduction to Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, Honors

Social Science Core. Satisfied by 1 course (3 hours) chosen from the following:

- WGSS/ANTH 389 The Anthropology of Gender: Female, Male, and Beyond
- WGSS/PSYC 468 Psychology of Women
- WGSS 521 Women and Violence
- WGSS/POLS 562 Women and Politics
- WGSS/POLS 640 Politics of Reproductive Policy
- WGSS/POLS 653 Gender, War, and Peace (S (Int))
- WGSS/ANTH 660 Human Reproduction: Culture, Power, and Politics
- WGSS/PSYC 689 Conceptual Issues in Human Sexuality

Humanities Core. Core satisfied by 1 course (3 hours) chosen from the following: 3

- WGSS 311/AMS 323/HIST 332 Sex in History
- WGSS/AAAS/AMS/HIST 317 African American Women: Colonial Era to the Present
- WGSS/HIST 320 From Goddesses to Witches: Women in Premodern Europe
- WGSS/HIST 321 From Mystics to Feminists: Women's History in Europe 1600 to the Present
- WGSS 327 Perspectives in Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Studies
- WGSS 330/AAAS 340 Women in Contemporary African Literature
- WGSS 430 Skin, Sex, and Disease
- WGSS/AMS 510/HIST 530 History of American Women: Colonial Times to 1870
- WGSS/AMS 511/HIST 531 History of American Women: 1870 to Present

Theory. Satisfied by 1 course (3 hours) chosen from the following: 3

- WGSS/ENGL/AAAS 344 Black Feminist Theory
- WGSS/PHIL 381 Feminism and Philosophy
- WGSS 549/HIST 649 History of Feminist Theory
- WGSS/AAAS 560 Race, Gender, and Post-Colonial Discourses
- WGSS/ANTH 580 Feminism and Anthropology
- WGSS/POLS 600 Contemporary Feminist Political Theory
- SOC 601 Introduction to Feminist Social Theory

International focus. Satisfied by 1 course (3 hours) chosen from the following (not satisfying requirement above): 3

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
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<th>Hours</th>
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<tr>
<td>WGSS 301</td>
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Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of General Studies in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

**Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of General Studies in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies**

WGSS/HIST 320 From Goddesses to Witches: Women in Premodern Europe

WGSS/HIST 321 From Mystics to Feminists: Women’s History in Europe 1600 to the Present

WGSS 330/AAAS 340 Women in Contemporary African Literature

WGSS/ANTH 389 The Anthropology of Gender: Female, Male, and Beyond

WGSS/AAAS 560 Race, Gender, and Post-Colonial Discourses

WGSS/POLS 562 Women and Politics

WGSS/POLS 653 Gender, War, and Peace

WGSS/ANTH 660 Human Reproduction: Culture, Power, and Politics

**Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Required Electives (9)**

**Humanities Elective.** Satisfied by any core humanities course not already satisfying core requirement above or any of the approved humanities electives (see catalog).

WGSS/AAAS/AMS/HIST 317 African American Women: Colonial Era to the Present

WGSS/HIST 320 From Goddesses to Witches: Women in Premodern Europe

WGSS/HIST 321 From Mystics to Feminists: Women’s History in Europe 1600 to the Present

WGSS 327 Perspectives in Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Studies

WGSS 330/AAAS 340 Women in Contemporary African Literature

WGSS 335 History of Jewish Women

WGSS/AMS 510/HIST 530 History of American Women: Colonial Times to 1870

WGSS/AMS 511/HIST 531 History of American Women: 1870 to Present

WGSS/AAAS 345 Popular Culture in Africa: Spiritual Thrills, Romance and Sexualities

WGSS/AMS 512/HIST 532 History of Women and Work in Comparative Perspective

WGSS 513 Modern American Women in Film and Literature

WGSS 549/HIST 649 History of Feminist Theory

WGSS/AAAS 560 Race, Gender, and Post-Colonial Discourses (if not already used)

WGSS/AAAS/AMS 565 Gender, Culture, and Migration

WGSS/HUM 570 Men and Masculinities

WGSS/HUM 575 Body, Self and Society

WGSS/HIST 646 Witches in European History and Historiography

AAAS 434 African Women Writers

AMS 515 American Women and World War II

EALC 575 Love, Sexuality and Gender in Japanese Literature

ENGL 572 Women and Literature: _____

**Social Sciences Elective.** Satisfied by any core social science course not already satisfying core requirements above or any approved social science elective.

WGSS/ANTH 389 The Anthropology of Gender: Female, Male, and Beyond

WGSS/PSYC 468 Psychology of Women

WGSS/PSYC 521 Women and Violence

WGSS/POLS 562 Women and Politics

WGSS/POLS 640 Politics of Reproductive Policy

WGSS/POLS 653 Gender, War, and Peace

WGSS/ANTH 660 Human Reproduction: Culture, Power, and Politics

WGSS/PSYC 689 Conceptual Issues in Human Sexuality

WGSS 333 The Politics of Physical Appearance

WGSS 351 Women and Leadership: The Legislative Process

WGSS/ANTH/EALC 363 Gendered Modernity in East Asia

WGSS/ANTH 580 Feminism and Anthropology (if not already used)

WGSS/ANTH 583 Love, Sex, and Globalization

WGSS/POLS 600 Contemporary Feminist Political Theory (if not already used)

WGSS/AAAS 662 Gender and Politics in Africa

WGSS/ANTH/LAA 665 Women, Health, and Healing in Latin America

WGSS/ANTH 789 Anthropology of Gender: Advanced Seminar in the Four Fields

AAAS 388 The Black Woman

AAAS 415 Women and Islam

COMS 440 Communication and Gender

COMS 552 The Rhetoric of Women's Rights

HP&M 620/SOC 617 Women and Health Care

PSYC 465 Stereotyping and Prejudice Across Cultures

SOC 273 Women in Society

SOC 352 Sociology of Sex Roles

SOC 617 Women and Health Care

SOC 780 Advanced Topics in Sociology: _____

WGSS 498 Independent Study (may be petitioned to satisfy a social science or humanities elective)
Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies Electives. Choose one additional elective from either the social science or humanities that is not yet satisfying another requirement. Courses designated with * may be used as Social Science or Humanities Electives, by petition.

Capstone Experience. Seminar in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (to be taken in the student’s final year), satisfied by: (3)

Note: Courses with a blank (___) at the end of their titles are typically topics or seminar courses that may be repeated for credit. Usually these courses offer different topics each time they are taught. Students should check with the course instructor about the requirements to take the course and what the topic will be when it is offered.

### Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Major Hours & Major GPA

While completing all required courses (above), majors must also meet each of the following hour and grade-point average minimum standards:

| Major Hours | Required by 30 hours of major courses. |
| Major Hours in Residence | Satisfied by a minimum of 15 hours of KU resident credit in the major. |
| Major Junior/Senior (300+) Hours | Satisfied by a minimum of 18 hours from junior/senior courses (300+) in the major. |
| Major Junior/Senior (300+) Graduation GPA | Satisfied by a minimum of a 2.0 KU GPA in junior/senior courses (300+) in the major. GPA calculations include all junior/senior courses in the field of study including F’s and repeated courses. See the Semester/Cumulative GPA Calculator (http://clas.ku.edu/undergrad/tools/gpa). |

A sample 4-year plan for the BA degree in Women, Gender, & Sexuality Studies can be found here: Women, Gender, & Sexuality Studies (http://catalog.ku.edu/liberal-arts-sciences/women-gender-sexuality-studies/ba-bgs/ba), or by using the left-side navigation.

A sample 4-year plan for the BGS degree in Women, Gender, & Sexuality Studies can be found using the left-side navigation.

### Departmental Honors

**Departmental Honors in the Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Major**

**Summary**

- 3.25 GPA KU overall & 3.5 GPA in the WS major
- A senior honors thesis related to WGSS written over two semesters (two three-credit courses)
- Double majors: earn Honors in both majors with one thesis that is relevant to both programs.

### GPA Requirements

Students need a 3.25 GPA overall and a 3.5 GPA in their Women’s Studies major.

### Honors Thesis

Student write an honors thesis that is pertinent to Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies. An honors thesis is a piece of original research or other project supervised by a faculty member of any department. In most cases, the result will be a written document of some length, but this could vary depending on the topic and what the student and thesis advisor agree on. A single thesis can be submitted to WGSS and to another department for Honors in both programs, if both programs agree.

The senior honors thesis or honors project must be approved by a three-member thesis committee (the thesis advisor and two other faculty members, at least one of whom must be either in WGSS or on the WGSS Advisory Board).

Students take 6 credit hours of honors thesis work (3 hours per semester for 2 semesters, earning a A or B in the first semester and a A the second. For these 6 hours, students can enroll in:

- WGSS 499—Honors in WGSS
- and/or
- WGSS 498—Independent Study in WGSS
- and/or
- Two Honors Research courses or two Independent Studies in any department

The last option would be especially relevant if the student plans to submit one honors thesis to both WGSS and another department in order to receive honors in both programs, or if the student’s research advisor is not a member of the WGSS core faculty.

### Typical Timeline

**Junior Year (or very early in the first semester of the student’s last year):**

Select a topic for a thesis; talk to professors about ideas; find a professor willing to supervise the thesis. **Inform the WGSS Honors Coordinator!**

**First Semester of the Last Year:** Enroll in 3 credit hours of WGSS 498 or WGSS 499 or in an Independent Study of another department. Begin researching the thesis topic. The student and thesis advisor should form a three-person faculty committee (the thesis advisor and two other faculty members, at least one of whom must be either in WGSS or on the WGSS Advisory Board). **Submit an Honors Intent Form by 1 March to College Student Academic Services, 109 Strong.**

**Second Semester of the Last Year:** Enroll in 3 credit hours of WGSS 498 or WGSS 499 or in an Independent Study of another department. Finish the thesis. Have the thesis committee read the thesis and vote to award Honors (or not). If the thesis is passed, the thesis advisor needs to sign the **Honors Certification Form**, which can be obtained by the student in the College Student Academic Services office, 109 Strong; after the advisor signs this form, it is then submitted back to the College Student Academic Services, 109 Strong, at least a week before the end of the graduation term. The thesis advisor should also notify the Honors Coordinator of the result.

**Double Majors:** Students who are satisfying double majors and pursuing Honors in both majors may use one honors thesis for both majors if they get approval from both departments. The thesis must be related to both majors, and the thesis committee must include faculty members from
both departments. Students must fulfill both departments’ requirements for honors.