

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
Core Courses		
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	
WGSS Elective courses		
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	

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

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.