What is Women’s Studies?
Women’s studies offers an interdisciplinary curriculum that looks at issues of women and gender in the United States and around the world, taking into account significant social and historical variables. Women’s studies also seeks to transform traditional fields of study by incorporating new data, methods, theories, and frameworks developed by feminist scholars.

The undergraduate curriculum offers five subfield concentrations: Methods of Inquiry; Biology, Psychology, and Social Perspectives; Literature, Language, Film, and the Arts; Comparative and Global Studies; and Civic and Community Studies. In addition to the faculty in Women’s Studies, several departments lend their interdisciplinary teaching and advisory expertise to Women’s Studies students. Among these are the Departments of African American and African Studies; American Studies; American Indian Studies; Chicano Studies; Comparative Studies in Discourse and Society; English; German, Scandinavian, and Dutch; History; Philosophy; Sociology; Spanish and Portuguese; and Speech-Communication. Affiliated programs include the School of Nursing; the Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs’ Center on Women and Public Policy; the MacArthur Interdisciplinary Program on Global Change, Sustainability, and Justice; the Tucker Center for Research on Girls and Women in Sport; and the Center for Advanced Feminist Studies.

What are the major requirements?
Go to [www.catalogs.umn.edu/programs.html](http://www.catalogs.umn.edu/programs.html) and select “Undergraduate majors.”

How do I declare an Women’s Studies major?
You will be required to declare a major by the time you have completed 60 credits.
1. Talk with someone from the department: an adviser, a professor, or a teaching assistant, to learn more about the major and its requirements.
2. When you decide upon a Women’s Studies major, meet with a women’s studies undergraduate adviser to complete a Major Program form. They can be contacted at wost@umn.edu or 624-6809, in 419 Ford Hall.
3. Bring a copy of the form to your CLA student community.
4. If you decide to change your major, contact your CLA student community for information on the new major’s declaration process.

What can I do with a major in Women’s Studies?
Skills
Women’s Studies majors develop skills that are applicable to a wide variety of careers. These skills include:
- Analyzing and critical thinking skills—ability to think “outside the box” and problem solve from many different (interdisciplinary) approaches
- Development of new ideas—awareness of women’s abilities to create social change
• Verbal and written communication skills
• Listening, clarifying, questioning and responding skills
• Ability to work well with diverse groups

Employment
Common areas of employment for this major include but are not limited to:
• Nonprofit—organizing, fundraising, programming, management
• Social Services—public health, development, social work, programming, advocacy
• Government—public information, campaigns, research, lobbying, policy making
• Education—teaching, research, advising, student affairs, administration, admissions
• Arts and Entertainment—writing, editing, performing, managing, development, announcing
• Business—marketing, human resources, sales, consulting, recruiting

Today’s workplace requires individuals with interpersonal skills, the ability to communicate effectively, an ability to solve problems, and adaptability. CLA graduates find that they are well-prepared in all these areas and that their education—especially when combined with experience gained through internships, volunteer positions, past jobs, and other collegiate involvement—makes them competitive.

The Career & Community Learning Center provides students with the tools to identify and pursue potential careers. An extensive resource room, career courses and workshops, and a helpful staff are just some of the ways we can help.

Remember!
You have not declared a major until you have:
• completed a Major Program form with your major adviser,
• filed a copy with the major department,
• and filed a copy with your CLA student community.

Don’t forget: keep a copy for yourself!