

## What is Gender, Women, and Sexuality Studies?

Gender, Women, and Sexuality 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 Gender, Women, and Sexuality Studies, several departments lend their interdisciplinary teaching and advisory expertise to Gender, Women, and Sexuality 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 a Gender, Women, and Sexuality 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 Gender, Women, and Sexuality Studies major, meet with a Gender, Women, and Sexuality studies undergraduate adviser to complete a Major Program form. They can be contacted at [wost@umn.edu](mailto: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.

## For more information:

### About the Gender, Women, and Sexuality Studies major:

Undergraduate Advising  
419 Ford Hall  
(612) 624-6809  
<http://gwss.umn.edu/>

### About CLA requirements, graduation, and other information about majors:

CLA Society and Culture  
Student Community  
122 Johnston Hall  
(612) 624-2549  
<http://sandc.class.umn.edu/>

### or

CLA Martin Luther King, Jr.  
Program  
19 Johnston Hall  
(612) 625-2300  
<http://www.class.umn.edu/mlk/mlk@class.cla.umn.edu>

### About careers, internships, and community learning opportunities in this major and others:

Career and Community  
Learning Center  
135 Johnston Hall  
(612) 624-7577  
[www.cclc.umn.edu/](http://www.cclc.umn.edu/)  
[cclc@class.cla.umn.edu](mailto:cclc@class.cla.umn.edu)

### About graduation with honors:

CLA Honors Division  
20 Nicholson  
(612) 624-5522  
[www.honors.class.umn.edu/](http://www.honors.class.umn.edu/)  
[honors@class.cla.umn.edu](mailto:honors@class.cla.umn.edu)

## What can I do with a major in Gender, Women and Sexuality Studies?

### Skills

Gender, Women, and Sexuality 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!**