

Global Gender Studies

Department of Transnational Studies

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Overview

Global Gender Studies offers today's women and men courses in three areas: Cultures and Identities, Women and Global Citizenship, and Gender and Public Policy. The courses within each area recognize developing trends in studies of gender in Asia, Africa, the Caribbean, Latin America, Europe, and the United States. Our objective is to link local and global knowledge so as to prepare students with the capacity to link gender and history, literature and policy, and to be able to apply these to graduate work and practical employment.

About our Degrees

Acceptance Criteria

Minimum GPA of 2.0 overall.

The global gender studies curriculum offers courses across three inter-related areas in Cultures and Identities, Women and Global Citizenship, and Gender and Public Policy. Our objective is to provide female and male students with the critical thinking skills to link local and global knowledge, so as to prepare them with the capacity to link gender and history, literature and policy, and to be able to apply these understandings to graduate work and their future employment and careers.

Degree Requirements

Please see [Degrees and Policies](#).

About our Courses

Global Gender Studies courses enjoy the use of fully equipped, technology rooms to enhance learning, incorporating the use of computer systems with web access and multi-media systems. **GGG 101** Introduction to Gender and Women's Studies is a good overview of what global gender studies offers students; however, for more advanced students, a discussion with the Director of Undergraduate Studies may help to place the student in a higher level course that addresses their current interests and academic focus.

For course descriptions, please see [Courses](#).

About our Faculty

Professor Alexis De Veaux has a PhD in American Studies with a Concentration in Women's Studies. A prominent, award-winning writer of fiction and nonfiction whose work is internationally known, she is the author of several books, plays, short stories, children's books, two collections of poetry, and a biography of jazz legend Billie Holiday. Her biography, *Warrior Poet, A Biography of Audre Lorde* (W.W. Norton) has earned multiple prestigious awards, including the Zora Neale Hurston/Richard Wright Foundation Legacy Award for Nonfiction (2005) and the Lambda Literary Foundation Award for Biography (2004). In 2005, she was named Best Literary Artist by Buffalo's cultural newspaper, Artvoice, and in 2006, she was the recipient of a Milton Plesure Award Excellence in Teaching. She was awarded a Literary Legacy Award in November 2007, by Just Buffalo Literary Center, for outstanding service to the literary arts. At the undergraduate level, Professor De Veaux teaches courses on black women's diasporic literatures, women and speculative fiction, feminist studies, global women's voices, gender and popular culture.

Professor LaKisha Simmons specializes in African American gender history, history of sexuality and cultural geography. She has secondary interests in affect studies and childhood studies. Dr. Simmons is currently working on a manuscript that explores black girls' coming of age in Jim Crow New Orleans. She is also the author of articles published in *American Quarterly* and *Gender & History* (forthcoming). Dr. Simmons received her PhD from the University of Michigan in the Joint Program in History & Women's Studies. She taught African American history at Davidson College before coming to UB. She will be on leave for the 2011-2012 academic school year and a fellow at the Center for the Study of the American South at UNC Chapel Hill.

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Professor Gwynn Thomas is an Associate Professor in the Global Gender Studies Program at the University at Buffalo. She received her doctorate in Political Science with specialties in Latin American Politics and Feminist Theory from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Professor Thomas is interested in the intersection of gender and politics in Latin America, and in particular, how gender ideology has influenced beliefs about citizenship, national identity and state legitimacy. Professor Thomas teaches courses on issues of women and gender in Latin America, on feminist theory, and on issues of nationalism, citizenship and state development. At the undergraduate level, she routinely teaches [GGGS 247 Women in Latin America](#), and [GGGS 228 Introduction to Feminist Theory](#). Professor Thomas' recently published book titled *Ties that Bind and Break: The Uses of Family in the Political Struggles of Chile, 1970-1990*, examines how the family was used to define the relationship between the state and its citizens in the major political struggles of Chile from 1970-1990. She is also working on a series of articles that analyze the uses of gender in the election of Michelle Bachelet as president in Chile. She was awarded the Elsa Chaney Award given for the best paper on women and gender by the Gender and Feminist Section for her paper entitled *What No Tie? Political Campaigns, Gender and Redefining Political Leadership in Chile*, presented at the Latin American Studies Association 27th International Congress in 2007. Her work has been supported by the Social Science Research Council, the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation and the Tinker Foundation.

Professor Barbara Wejnert, a multi-lingual native of Poland, has recently joined the University at Buffalo faculty as an Associate Professor by way of the Department of Sociology at Cornell University. Dr. Wejnert specializes in the effects of globalization and democratization on the lives and status of women. She currently serves on the editorial board for *Marriage and Family Review* and as a reviewer for a number of social sciences journals including the *American Sociology Review* and *Social Forces*. Her research projects have received funding from the Soros Foundation, Ford Foundation, and National Endowment for the Humanities, among others. Her projects - the culmination of five years of work featured in the last edition of *American Sociological Review* - taps a database she created encompassing 200 years' worth of information relating to more than 120 political, economic, and social indicators of 177 countries, many of them former communist countries. This database is a web interactive database and is published with the Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research in Ann Arbor. Her theoretical work associated with this project was published in the *Annual Review of Sociology* and the *American Sociological Review*. Her recent projects, forthcoming as books and journal papers, on issues of safe motherhood in globalized world, on effects of democratization on health and well being of women globally, as well as in impoverished cities in the United States, constitute an extension of prior research involvements. Professor Wejnert's biography was included in *Biographical Record of Contemporary Achievement*, published by Cambridge Press, *Polonia: Słownik Biograficzny (Polish Immigrants Who is Who Biographical Dictionary)* published in Warsaw and *Trimesteriel Biographique de la Polonia* published in Paris. Professor Wejnert is a recipient of two distinguished teaching awards; Distinguished Teacher at Cornell University, 2002; and Distinguished Teacher at Cornell University, 2004.

See a list of our [Undergraduate Faculty](#).

Extracurricular Activities

Undergraduate students are encouraged to meet together in the Global Gender Studies lounge to develop a sense of community.

Practical Experience and Special Academic Opportunities

Internships

Internships are possible for academic credit in consultation with the Director of Undergraduate Studies and the supervising faculty member.

Independent Study

Independent study is available for academic credit in consultation with the Director of Undergraduate Studies and the supervising faculty member.

Career Information and Further Study

Graduates of the program are prepared for graduate work in gender studies, law, counseling, public advocacy, and social sciences. They are qualified for positions in such areas as social work, community agencies, and education. Global Gender Studies challenges students to do their best thinking, teaches them critical reasoning and writing skills, and gives them perspectives unavailable as a by-product of traditional disciplinary fields of study. A program in Global Gender Studies is, in the best tradition of education in the liberal arts, well suited to careers requiring skill in thinking, writing, planning, analyzing, and innovating.

Skills gained in this program include:

- Interpreting policy
- Directing individuals to resources that can assist them
- Organizing community action, and collecting funds to support an action
- Analyzing policymaking processes, behaviors, and power struggles
- Interacting effectively with individuals or groups to obtain information
- Using surveys and interview techniques for research

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- Writing clear and concise reports
- Predicting the impact of change on quality of life
- Supplying historical perspective with information on past experiences
- Recommending measures to deal with social problems
- Predicting how groups will react to new institutions or social changes/pressures
- Adapting approaches used in public relations, marketing, and politics to different populations
- Applying knowledge of human relationships

Sampling of Transferable Skills: Organizing and meeting deadlines, analyzing, critical thinking, researching, compiling and analyzing data, teaching, interpreting policy, communicating, persuading/influencing, selling, coordinating, counseling, planning, and helping people.

Career Choices

Global Gender studies is valuable for any career choice, because it provides an atmosphere in which intellectual inquiry and high vocational goals are encouraged; it acknowledges and promotes confidence and competence; and it prepares individuals directly for jobs in affirmative action, public policy, and professional and community organizations and social service agencies. It is also excellent preparation for graduate school and other forms of continuing education.

Graduates have pursued some of the following careers:

- Admissions counselor
- Affirmative action worker
- Biographer
- Business manager
- Career counselor
- Community service agency director
- Consultant
- Educator
- Financial planner
- Health policy planner
- Hospital administrator
- Human service worker
- Investment counselor
- Job developer
- Journalist
- Lawyer
- Legal advocate
- Market research analyst
- Planned parenthood counselor
- Psychologist
- Public relations specialist
- Social worker
- Women's rights advocate

Work Settings include:

- Advertising agencies
- Book publishers
- Chambers of commerce
- Childcare/adoption agencies
- College alumnae associations
- Community organizations
- Economic development councils
- Economic research foundations
- Educational institutions
- Health organizations
- Judicial system
- Labor unions
- Management consulting firms
- Market research firms
- Newspapers/magazines
- Public relations firms
- Scouting organizations
- Social service agencies
- Television and radio stations
- Women's rights organizations

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Government Agencies

- Civil Rights Commission
- Consumer Affairs Office
- Consumer Product Safety Commission
- County Probation departments
- Department of Commerce
- Department of Health and Human Services
- Department of Labor
- Environmental Protection Agency
- Federal Communications Commission
- National Telecommunications Information Administration
- Small Business Administration

Career Hints

Employers are seeking candidates with experience and those who have developed their skills from that experience. Internships, part-time work, summer employment, and/or further education can enhance a graduate's employability in their chosen career area.

Salary Information

Salaries range greatly from one occupation, position, and work setting to another.

Degree Options

Cultures and Identities. This area links examinations of culture, creativity, and popular media to broad perspectives on the discourses of difference (such as race, ethnicity, class, sexuality, subjectivity and geographic location) in the construction of global women's identities. It recognizes the ways in which artifacts, practices and texts work to construct identity.

Women and Global Citizenship. This area exposes students to key areas of research and knowledge: the regional transnational mobilizations of women's labor, the alignment of women's movements with new postcolonial histories, international organizations, human disaster, international migration, world-wide democratization and gender, contemporary globalization and gender issues, and environmental issues. Students study individual's lives in the United States, East Asia, the Caribbean, and Africa and participate in our research agenda, which incorporates labor struggles, immigration, and women's engagement in national and transnational movements.

Gender and Public Policy. This area introduces Global Gender Studies students to new visions of policy intervention at the community, regional, and global levels of action. Students study the ways in which gender and social discourses help pattern social conflicts and their resolution, incarceration and war, and new ways of thinking about women's health and effective development and implementation of human rights.

Degrees Offered

Undergraduate: BA (Major, Double Major, and Joint Major), Minor

Areas: Cultures and Identities, Gender and Public Policy, Women and Global Citizenship

Graduate: MA

Links to Further Information About this Program

- [Undergraduate Catalog](#)
- [Undergraduate Admissions](#)
- [Graduate Admissions](#)
- [Global Gender Studies Program](#)
- [College of Arts and Sciences](#)

Global Gender Studies - B.A.

Acceptance Criteria

Minimum GPA of 2.0 overall.

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Required Courses

Major and Double Major Requirements

Core Curriculum

[GGG 101](#) Introduction to Gender and Women's Studies

[GGG 205](#) Women in the Global System OR [GGG 241](#) Women in Developing Countries: Socio-economic and Political Perspectives

[GGG 228](#) Introduction to Feminist Theory

[GGG 330](#) Global Women's Voices OR [GGG 414](#) Contemporary Global and Gender Issues

[GGG 490](#) Senior Thesis OR [GGG 497](#) Honors Thesis OR [GGG 498](#) UG Research and Creative Activities

The global gender studies program offers courses across three inter-related areas. Students must complete one course in each of the three areas. Choose from the following:

Cultures and Identities

[GGG 265](#) Sexuality and Orientation

[GGG 308](#) Images of Women and Men in the Changing World

[GGG 379](#) Sex: Gender and Popular Culture

[GGG 415](#) Media and Gender

Women and Global Citizenship

[GGG 240](#) Women in Contemporary Asia

[GGG 247](#) Women in Latin America

[GGG 350](#) Gender Issues in Contemporary Africa

[GGG 421](#) Democracy and Gender

[GGG 425](#) Women's Movement

[GGG 466](#) Women Work and Social Change

Gender and Public Policy

[GGG 225](#) Violence in a Gender World

[GGG 260](#) Women's Health: Problems and Practices

[GGG 353](#) Law Interprets Gender

[GGG 487](#) International Organizations, Gender and Development

Students are required to take an additional 12 credit hours of electives in global gender studies. Students must get permission from the director of undergraduate studies to substitute elective courses taken outside of the program. In addition, 15 of the 36 total credit hours needed for the GGS major/double major must be upper-level (i.e., 300 or 400 level). These 15 credits may include courses taken in fulfillment of the major requirements.

Summary

Total required credit hours for the major...36

See [Baccalaureate Degree Requirements](#) for general education and remaining university requirements.

Joint Major Requirements

Core Curriculum

[GGG 101](#) Introduction to Gender and Women's Studies

[GGG 205](#) Women in the Global System OR [GGG 241](#) Women in Developing Countries: Socio-economic and Political Perspectives

[GGG 228](#) Introduction to Feminist Theory

[GGG 330](#) Global Women's Voices OR [GGG 414](#) Contemporary Global and Gender Issues

One course from each area (Cultures and Identities, Women and Global Citizenship, and Gender and Public Policy) and one additional elective.

Summary

Total required credit hours for the joint major...24

See [Baccalaureate Degree Requirements](#) for general education and remaining university requirements.

Global Gender Studies - Minor

Acceptance Criteria

Minimum GPA of 2.0 overall.

Required Courses

Global Gender Studies

WS 101 Introduction to Gender and Women's Studies
WS 205 Women in the Global System OR WS 241 Women in Developing Countries: Socio-economic and Political Perspectives
WS 228 Introduction to Feminist Theory
WS 330 Global Women's Voices OR WS 414 Contemporary Global and Gender Issues
Electives: Two additional Global Gender Studies courses required.

Summary

Total required credit hours for the minor.....18

GGG 101: Introduction to Gender and Women's Studies

Credits: 3

Type: LEC

Introduces students to basic concepts in women's studies. Covers the history of the women's movement and its relation to the rise of women's studies as a discipline. Examines and discusses a multiplicity of 'recurring themes' affecting differing women's lives; including the social construction of gender, the impact of race, sexuality, reproduction, work, education, media, material condition (class), and women's agency. Discusses current controversies among feminists, and the broader political arena. Discovers how studying women's history challenges traditional notions of women and traditional notions of history.

GGG 126: Topics in Arts and Culture

Credits: 3

Type: SEM

The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The [University Grade Repeat Policy](#) does not apply.

Topics vary according to faculty/instructors.

GGG 149: Special Topics

Credits: 3

Type: SEM

The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The [University Grade Repeat Policy](#) does not apply.

Topics vary according to faculty/instructors.

GGG 167: Cross Cultural Topics

Credits: 3

Type: SEM

The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The [University Grade Repeat Policy](#) does not apply.

Topics vary according to faculty/instructors.

GGG 205: Women in the Global System

Credits: 3

Type: LEC

Explores how the current expansion of the world market is overturning the seclusion of women in traditional societies and looks at the consequences of globalization on the lives of women throughout the world. Women in developing countries share common patterns of location and differentiation within the international division of labor. Examines how women are struggling to represent their identities in the midst of rapid changes in their societies. Examines why more and more women are becoming active in the international human rights movement. Looks at how women are attempting to shape the discourse of development in different regions of the world economy. Intended to develop a multidisciplinary approach to gender and more specifically, to understand how gender is constructed by political, economic, and cultural discourses in industrialized and industrializing societies, and to understand the differences between the lived experiences of women in these societies, the heterogeneous nature of women based on class, race, religion, and nationality, and how women's lives are changing in the context of the global economy.

GGG 213: Women in Contemporary Society

Credits: 3

Type: SEM/REC

Explores the roles, functions, practices, and consciousness of women cross-culturally based in various U.S. communities. Focuses on the socio-cultural history of women's movements, issues and multiple oppressions. By understanding and examining race, class, gender, sexuality and nationality, students will learn how to think, read, and write in a critical and creative framework. Students will discover the importance of "re-claiming and education."

GGG 222: Special Topics

Credits: 3

Type: SEM

The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The [University Grade Repeat Policy](#) does not apply.

Topics vary according to faculty/instructors.

GGG 225: Violence in a Gendered World

Credits: 3

Type: SEM

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Surveys components in the spectrum of gender-based violence, in the U.S. and in some other countries. Historical, legal, sociological, psychological, literary and first person accounts comprise the course readings. Students will gain an understanding of the dynamics of violence against women and children, social movements that attempt to ameliorate it, and how gender, race, class and theoretical grounding influence local, national and global efforts to end violence and empower women.

GGG 228: Introduction to Feminist Theory

Credits: 3
Type: SEM

Introduces to the complexity of feminist thought and theorizing through a discussion of many of the major schools of feminist thought and past and present debates within feminist theorizing as it has developed both within the United States, and abroad. A solid grasp of the core theories, their fundamental approaches, their insights into social phenomenon and the key criticisms of each, will allow the student to enter into and participate in the ongoing conversations that characterizes feminist thought. Feminist theory has always developed in tandem with feminist movements and activism. Thus, throughout the course, students will not only learn about feminist theories, but also apply the tenets of different theories to current issues and modern problems. Theories are not meant to be passive ideas unrelated to our everyday reality, but are meant to be used as tools to analyze the world around us. As a critical theory, feminist theory aims not only to produce knowledge, but also to provide a base for action. Feminist theories ask us to rethink what we mean by sex and gender, how we understand our sexuality, the roles, status, and ideals assigned to men and women in our societies and how we reward and punish individuals that question, challenge or deviate from these roles. Feminist theory engages with issues of social inequality, oppression, and sexism, and invites us to imagine strategies for creating a world where there is more equality and liberation.

GGG 234: Women in the Middle East

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Roles of women in Iran, Iraq, and Turkey; women's emancipation movements in these countries; and the impact of Islamic tradition.

GGG 238: Women, Work, and Family in the Twentieth Century

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Explores the experience of women of different race, class, and ethnic groups regarding changes in women's responsibilities in the family, participation in the labor force, and the development of new family forms. Illuminates contemporary issues regarding work, marriage, and family from a historical perspective.

GGG 240: Women in Contemporary Asia

Credits: 3
Type: SEM

Surveys contemporary issues for women in East Asia and South East Asia namely, Taiwan, Japan, South Korea, Thailand, Indonesia Malaysia. One of the main objectives is to analyze the

impact of development on various aspects of social life of women in Asia. Examines women's roles and opportunities in the process of development, including women of poor and working class households as well as women from middle class and professional backgrounds.

GGG 241: Women in Developing Countries, Socio-Economic and Political Perspectives

Credits: 3
Type: SEM

Survey of women's socio-economic and political status in developing countries. Examination of policies and practices that shape their lives, as well as discourses that construct their experiences. Analyzes women's organizing, advocacy and social mobilization to engender change and equity. Introduction to a broad, interdisciplinary and international literature focusing on current and emerging issues related to women's work and globalization; poverty and inequality; displacement and environmental degradation; social practices such as female genital mutilation; and HIV/AIDS, within national, regional, and global contexts. Course will dwell on a variety of teaching material such as videos, life histories, case studies and policy documents combined with authoritative scholarly sources. The course will combine lectures and discussions, as well as creative projects to promote an interactive learning environment, and to encourage critical thinking among students in analyzing salient issues and theories pertinent to women's conditions in developing countries, and strategies to effect social change.

GGG 247: Women in Latin America

Credits: 3
Type: SEM

Women's political mobilization and its effects in Latin American countries. Explores how women in Latin America and the Caribbean have participated in the national movements, revolutions, rebellions, and social movements that have dominated Latin America's political, social, and economic development. Readings cover the incredible variety of women's participation by examining women's activism across time, space and political position. Women's struggles to improve the quality of their lives and the lives of others are a central component of the course. However, to avoid romanticizing women's activism, the course also discusses women's actions on behalf of political projects designed to uphold the interests of the elite and the status quo. Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, as elsewhere, live complicated lives, have complicated political goals and commitments, and have different access to political, social, and economic power depending upon their position within the class, racial, ethnic, religious, age, and gender hierarchies of their societies. Over the semester, we will analyze why women have been involved in political movements, the effects of women's activism on women's position within these societies, the changing relationship between men and women, contested understandings of gender relations, and the overall impact of these struggles on the Latin American and Caribbean countries.

GGG 252: Social History of Women in United States, 1650-1875

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

History of women in the United States, emphasizing 'the common

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woman'; family life; industrialization; sex roles and sexuality; history of feminism. Reading involves autobiographies, popular fiction, and other firsthand historical accounts.

GGG 254: Women and Image in Fine Arts

Credits: 3
Type: SEM

Art is a part of the human civilization and it is influenced by the demands of society. Women always were the important art objects, but in different epochs artists treated them differently. By this difference we can see woman's role and place in the society. Discusses woman as art objects and artists.

GGG 260: Women's Health: Problems and Practices

Credits: 3
Type: SEM

Reviews the health care system in the U.S. and its treatment of women. Content includes a history of health care and the changing definition of "health", the current roles of women in this system, and the intersection of the legal system on women's bodies and women's health. Women in the 1970's and beyond started examining the politics of health care, which exploded into the millennium such as cost containment and reconstruction of services through managed care; newer and more expensive technologies; growing consumer dissatisfaction with the current system; and trends towards holistic and alternative care outside of the "mainstream" health care system. Develops an analysis of the current system with a rational plan for improving health care for all women. Addresses the roles that women have played in relation to health and health care, the history of women as healers, the shift to women as patients and consumers, and women as workers, both paid and unpaid, in the system of care.

GGG 265: Sexuality and Orientation

Credits: 3
Type: SEM

Examines the various constructions of women's sexualities: heterosexual, bisexual, and lesbian. Readings from literature, feminist theory, queer theory, psychology and sociology in order to develop an understanding of how sexuality is constructed. Examines the impact of violence, gender, health, media reproduction, class, and race on women's sexualities.

GGG 270: Asian American Studies: Asian American Women Writers

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Introduces students to some basic feminist critical theories, including French, Anglo-American, and "Third World" feminist assumptions and positions. Explores how women writers' and poets' creativity and technical strategies are related to the intersected issues of gender, race, ethnicity, sexuality, and class, through closely examining works by Asian American women.

GGG 301: Introduction to Indigenous Women

Credits: 3
Type: SEM

Focuses on Native American women, beginning with the creation story and ending with the modern-day role of Haudenosaunee women.

GGG 305: Gender and the Custodial State

Credits: 3
Type: SEM

Focuses on historical and cross cultural components informing contemporary issues of women's imprisonment. With respect to the contemporary scene, emphasizes the process by which women come to be incarcerated and differentials in treatment of incarcerated women. Examines institutional forces in contemporary corrections generally which may contribute to an understanding of women's imprisonment issues.

GGG 308: Images of Women and Men in a Changing World

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Examines the history and development of gender imagery, historically to the current age of globalized mass-mediated images. Examines how mass media has influenced gender representation, socialization, and identity construction, primarily in the United States but also abroad. Analyzes the ways these representations implicate and are implicated and negotiated by gender, racial, class, ethnic, and religious minorities.

GGG 312: Culture and Reproduction

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Explores the meanings and stratification of reproduction in our culture. Examines how culture constructs reproduction including controversial topics such as gay adoption, eugenics, reproductive technologies, teen sexuality and government's role in reproduction. Uses a variety of sources from the fields of public health, epidemiology, feminist criticism and the women's health movement to discover the history and current determinants of women's reproductive health and reproductive rights.

GGG 315: Cross-Cultural Study of Women

Credits: 3
Type: SEM

Analyzes the evolution and diversity of socially constructed gender differences and hierarchies viewed from comparative international and historical perspectives. The maintenance of gender inequalities in societal institutions, such as education, the family, politics and the economy will be explored. In addition, the course will focus on the prevailing cultural backlash of women and men in America in comparison to other societies. To explain gender differences and hierarchies, the course will consider a range of sociological, and other disciplinary perspectives including biological, psychological, and psychoanalytic. Course objectives will be achieved through lectures, readings, guest lecturers, films, and class discussions.

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GGG 323: Culture of Biology, Medicine, Gender and Race

Credits: 3
Type: SEM

Ideas about "scientifically" established differences between women and men, people of color and whites, gays and straights are prevalent in popular culture. Examines how popular culture makes sense of these differences and how science has been shaped by our culture and likewise, how cultural-biases are reinforced by scientific lines of inquiry.

GGG 324: Controlling Reproduction: Reproductive Rights, Policies, Practices, and Technologies

Credits: 3
Type: SEM

Explores questions such as: What constitutes women's reproductive lives? How do women's reproductive lives impact gender status in society? How do women's reproductive lives differ by age, race, nationality and sexual preference? Who controls reproduction and the cultural discourse regarding reproduction? What public policies and practices foster or undermine reproductive freedoms? Why are reproductive rights integral to human rights?

GGG 330: Global Women's Voices

Credits: 3
Type: SEM

The interplay between women's social movements and the flow of women's literature within and across national spaces recognizes the power of the word? as a critical feminist tool for elevating women's voices in an increasingly technology-oriented global economy. This reading intensive seminar will consider examples of contemporary fiction and nonfiction by representative women; for the purposes of comparing how women living/writing in industrial and developing countries succeed in disrupting the geographic boundaries imposed by culture and politics-specifically the myth of "them" and "us" that can frame discussions of social issues foregrounded by women in differing regions. By examining and, hopefully, exposing this myth and its contours, we hope to better understand why writing and literature remain crucial tools of global feminist activism.

GGG 335: Women and Literature

Credits: 3
Type: SEM

Examination of issues of "difference" such as race, gender, class, and sexuality as imagined and narrated by contemporary women writers of speculative (science) fiction. We hope to interrogate the impact of 20th century resistance/social movements in particular, the civil rights, feminist, lesbian and gay, and human rights movements on women writers who've chosen to "write against the box" of prevailing literary expectation. We also hope to consider (1) how women writers of speculative fiction subvert, or resist, the status quo; (2) notions of speculative fiction as "escapist" (meaning, "less serious") literature; (3) the uses of speculative fiction as blueprints for imagining new social orders. Students will demonstrate knowledge of the distinctive features of contemporary women's speculative fiction, the impact of specific fiction to larger feminist agendas. Students who successfully complete this course should be able to describe, explain and give examples of concepts

and terms such as "the fantastic imagination," "the politics of possibilities," and "imagined planets." Required reading will include works by Octavia Butler, Jewelle Gomez, Nalo Hopkinson, and Ursula K. Le Guin. Whenever appropriate, audio/visual aids may be deployed to enhance our appreciation of written texts.

GGG 337: Coming of Age

Credits: 3
Type: SEM

Contemporary adult literature has experienced an incredible boom in coming of age texts, especially in the popular memoir genre. What does it mean for girls to come of age in the U.S. and other countries? We will read a variety of adult coming of age texts in order to examine how girls from diverse backgrounds confront the social expectations of gender, race, class, culture, sexuality, and religion that determine their transitions from girlhood to womanhood.

GGG 350: Gender Issues in Contemporary Africa

Credits: 3
Type: SEM

How do African women and men construct and reorder their lives on a daily basis? How do they negotiate their positions, ascribed gender roles and identities in familial, communal, and national spheres? What are the salient and socio-economic and political issues facing them? How do they emerge as agents of social change? Examines current policy frameworks and agendas such as the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and public policy responses to poverty, gender inequalities in democratic participation and socioeconomic development. Interrogates human rights issues and the rights of the girl child as they pertain to social practices such as female mutilation and child soldiers. Analyzes the changing dynamics of households due to the combined effects of transnational migration, HIV/AIDS and conflicts and their gender implications. Revisits opportunities for social change in the face of an increased pressure from globalization, environmental degradation, a growing retrenchment of the state, and many threats to human security. Interposing several theoretical lenses and building on an interdisciplinary approach, this seminar analyzes the agency roles of women and men in particular African countries. The course objects are to inspire analytical and critical thinking in students, to develop research and problem solving skills, and to challenge students to integrate multiple analytic perspectives.

GGG 353: Law Interprets Gender: the United States Experience

Credits: 3
Type: SEM

Introduces upper-level students to a legal examination of language and issues regarding gender and the law.

GGG 356: Social History of Women, 1875-Present

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

The making of women's lives in modern America: work and family, sexuality and politics, race and class. Lectures and readings in autobiographies and historical fiction.

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GGG 375: Topics in Women's Studies

Credits: 3
Type: SEM

The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The [University Grade Repeat Policy](#) does not apply.

Topics vary according to faculty/instructors.

GGG 376: Special Topics

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The [University Grade Repeat Policy](#) does not apply.

Topics vary according to faculty/instructors.

GGG 379: Sex: Gender and Popular Culture

Credits: 3
Type: SEM

The advent of television in 1950s America, coupled with technological advances in filmmaking popularized visual culture as a primary means of both naming and interrogating the ways in which we understand the social constructions of race, sex, gender, and sexuality. Feminist perspectives are ways of examining how these social constructions (and expectations) are shaped by popular culture, mainly television programming and films; and thus shape our ideas about ourselves and others as "feminine" and "masculine" and "sexual" beings. We discuss texts on and view episodes of popular television shows such as "Sex and the City," "The L Word," "Buffy the Vampire Slayer," and "Will and Grace." We also view several short films (as time permits). We consider a number of questions including (1) how does "entertainment" act as a substitute for the transmission of social knowledge?; (2) what are the advantages and disadvantages of popular culture in the construction of contemporary American life?; (3) how does popular culture define "racialized" bodies?; and (4) how does popular culture impact the consumption of American socio-cultural values, globally? Students will demonstrate knowledge of a broader understanding of the terms "popular culture," "entertainment," "women's television," and "mediated lives." Students who successfully complete this course should be able to articulate verbal and written alternative critiques to contemporary popular culture.

GGG 382: Special Topics

Credits: 3
Type: SEM

The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The [University Grade Repeat Policy](#) does not apply.

Topics vary according to faculty/instructors.

GGG 387: Black Female in Literature

Credits: 3
Type: SEM

Literature from African American women writers that explore their

themes, images, and roles present in narratives, fiction, poetry, and plays. Our examination also includes selected works by African women.

GGG 392: Seminar for Majors

Credits: 3
Type: SEM

The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The [University Grade Repeat Policy](#) does not apply.

Topics will vary according to faculty/instructors.

GGG 400: Black Women Writers and the Reimagination of American Culture

Credits: 3
Type: SEM

In the 1970's, Black women writers established themselves as significant voices within contemporary American letters; marking what became known as "the second renaissance in Black women's literature." Since then, the impact of Black women writers has re-shaped the discourse defining Black women's lives and American culture. This seminar examines creative and critical literature written by major writers of poetry and fiction; illuminating the intersections of race, gender, sexuality, culture and class in the re-imagining of Black women's identities and American culture.

GGG 401: Special Topics

Credits: 3
Type: LEC/SEM

The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The [University Grade Repeat Policy](#) does not apply.

Topics vary according to faculty/instructors.

GGG 402: Special Topics

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The [University Grade Repeat Policy](#) does not apply.

Topics vary according to faculty/instructors.

GGG 409: Quantitative Methods in Social Research

Credits: 3
Type: SEM

Introduction to basic statistical methods and their application to social science research focusing on gender issues. Students will have the opportunity to learn how to conduct basic statistical analyses and apply them to research topics such as gender and global health, maternal health, gender and global development, and contemporary democratization and women. In addition, students will acquire knowledge of how to extract data from existing databases as well as be guided in the collection of their own empirical data. Two types of statistical analyses will be used to assess samples of

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data: a broad range of descriptive statistics, and correlation and regressions models. This course is a hands-on experience and is held in a computer lab; therefore, students will have a good opportunity to become skilled and experienced in understanding and conducting basic statistical research. This course will also teach students how to interpret published empirical papers that use quantitative research methods. We will be learning applications through the use of the SPSS and ActivStats programs.

GGG 414: Contemporary Global and Gender Issues

Credits: 3
Type: SEM

How is globalization (including capitalistic economic development) interconnected with gender? Surveys recent debates about global development and gender equality, examining current research in this important field. Assess the impact forces of global development have on gender relations; culture and cultural identity; women vs. men social, economic, and political opportunities; and maternal health. Using a broad scope of most current theoretical approaches from theoretical frameworks of diffusion, modernization, rational choice theory, the dependency and the world system theory, and cultural relativism perspective, this course examines current research in several pertinent areas of globalization through the lens of gender equality particularly the effects of global trends in culture, globalization of democracy and capitalist economy on national politics, economy and culture are analyzed in view of gender relations.

GGG 415: Media, Gender and Society

Credits: 3
Type: SEM

Looks at the history and development of gender imagery, from the age of oil painting to the current age of globalized mass mediated images. Examines the impact of mass media on gender representation, socialization, and identity construction in the United States as well as the rest of the world, and the way in which ethnic, geographic, cultural, racial, and religious differences affect the way gender images are received and used.

GGG 421: Democracy and Gender

Credits: 3
Type: SEM

How is democratization interconnected with gender? Survey recent debates about diffusing democracy, examining current research in this important field. We assess the impact the forces of democratic trends have on gender relations; culture and cultural identity; women vs. men's social, economic, and political opportunities; and maternal health. In particular, using broad scope of most current theoretical approaches from theoretical frameworks of diffusion, modernization, democracy and development theory, the dependency and the world system theory, and cultural relativism perspective, this course examines current research in several pertinent areas of democratic processes through the lens of gender equality. In particular, the effects of global trends in culture, democracy and capitalist economy, cultural McDonalization are analyzed in view of gender relations. This is to compare the impact of national politics as it effects the social position and roles of women in comparison to men.

GGG 425: Women's Movement, Contesting Identities and Global Change

Credits: 3
Type: SEM

Provides an overview of women's movements from a global perspective, specially emphasizing organizational and empowerment strategies used by women in local struggles that aim at social change. We look at women's movements, in particular sites across the developing world, and assess women's share in demanding self-determination through various forms of activism against exploitation. The goal of the course is to help students sharpen their analytical skills in thinking about the oppressive economic and political forces at the national and international levels while at the same time learning more about those feminist struggles that confront forms of oppression.

GGG 435: History of Working Women

Credits: 3
Type: SEM

Traces the changes in women's work in the home, in the family, and in the labor force in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Focusing on working class women's experiences in the labor force, we explore the impact of urbanization and industrialization on women in different ethnic and racial communities, their experiences and conflicts with unions, and their contributions to labor struggles.

GGG 447: Pedagogy and the Interrogation of Methodology

Credits: 3
Type: SEM

Introduces students to the basic concepts and practices of feminist pedagogy. Reviews the intellectual roots of feminist pedagogy and examines the ways in which feminist pedagogy has changed over the past twenty-five years. In addition, we explore the connection between feminist pedagogy and social movements, paying special attention to the way feminist pedagogy addresses issues of class, race, and gender. Since the course intends to be useful in training future teachers, it has a practical component in which students design a small unit for a class and attempt to teach it.

GGG 459: Television, Gender and Society

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Traces the rise of commercial television in the United States as a form, which has profoundly impacted upon the representation and social roles of women in the family and the workplace. We assume that television is a major cultural, social, and economic force in American society that has shaped and altered every aspect of our lives, and that as a social force it relies heavily on fixed notions of gender.

GGG 464: History of the United States Feminist Movement

Credits: 3
Type: SEM

Nineteenth- and twentieth-century feminist and womanist movements; sources of feminism; suffrage; women's clubs;

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temperance; womanism.

GGG 466: Women, Work, and Social Change

Credits: 3
Type: LEC

Introduction to the study of women, work and social change in developing countries, focusing not only on women workers in labor intensive manufacturing jobs but also on women engaged in other formal and informal sectors of the global economy. Examination of the many processes that generate and contribute to women's subordination, paying particular attention to the many ways in which women assert their own agency and autonomy, and have power to act on their own behalf. By utilizing a comparative cross-country framework, the class will address the larger issues of the feminization and globalization of poverty via the struggles of working women in relation to economic development and the struggles of women from all walks of life who are trying to effect social and political change in their own communities. The objective of this course is to provide a gendered perspective on work and social change in a localized context and to highlight the importance of women's agency through their experiences of work and living. We will learn how women can take responsibility, can struggle to make a difference, and can improve their own situations.

GGG 487: International Organizations, Gender, and Development

Credits: 3
Type: SEM

This seminar provides students critical frameworks of current and emerging theories, paradigms, and approaches on gender, development, and global change from an interdisciplinary perspective. Second, it provides students a forum to analyze and appraise development policies and practices from a gender perspective incorporating economic, social, cultural, and legal aspects of development. Third, it offers the opportunity to link theory and practice, as well as revisit the actual 'practice' of development through policy analysis, discursive analysis of development policies, project appraisal, critical assessment of international organizations agendas, and forms of resistance to globalization. This seminar emphasizes students' active participation and leadership in discussions and interactive scholarly groups. Students will gain exposure to the politics and economics of gender and development, the changing institutions and social context of development, and the mediating influence of international organizations such as the World Bank and the UN, to critically analyze and formulate strategies and actions plans for social change from a gender perspective.

GGG 490: Senior Seminar: Research Project

Credits: 3
Type: TUT

Provides majors with the opportunity to develop a research paper that addresses the foundational intersecting discourses within the discipline: race, gender, sexuality, class/material condition, culture, language, and other indices of difference. The research paper (generally 30-50 pages in length) should reflect these larger discourses through the lens of a more specific topic. Required for majors only and consists of two sequential semesters of work in the student's senior year.

GGG 494: Senior Capstone Course

Credits: 3
Type: SEM

Course for senior-level majors intended to provide a learning experience that integrates knowledge from lower-level courses. The course is designed to provide an opportunity for seniors to put into practice theories and concepts developed in their coursework. Topics may vary.

GGG 496: Women's Studies Internship

Credits: 1-16
Type: TUT

Hands-on experience in the field. Provides an opportunity for majors to put into practice feminist theories and concepts developed in their coursework. In addition to valuable experiential learning, an internship can be used as the first step towards a career, an excellent addition to a resume, and a source for job contacts and future references. Internships are available, for example, at Planned Parenthood, Erie County Commission of the Status of Women, Everywoman Opportunity Center, Inc., or in an area of the student's major concentration and interest. Department registration required. Permission of the internship and advisor required.

GGG 497: Departmental Honors Thesis or Project

Credits: 3
Type: TUT

The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The [University Grade Repeat Policy](#) does not apply.

The student and the faculty member agree to regular meetings during which they discuss the student's writing and progress toward completion of a specialized thesis or project. The student should expect to receive critical comments from the faculty member on her/his writing. The final product should be worthy of the designation of a thesis or project.

GGG 498: Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity

Credits: 3
Type: TUT

The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The [University Grade Repeat Policy](#) does not apply.

Students collaborate with faculty research mentors on an ongoing project in a faculty members' laboratory or conduct independent research under the guidance of a faculty member. This experience provides students with an inquiry-based learning opportunity and engages them as active learners in a research setting. Students will choose someone whose area of expertise is most suited to the student's interests, and student should discuss the possibility of working together prior to the semester.

GGG 499: Independent Study

Credits: 1-16
Type: TUT

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The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The [University Grade Repeat Policy](#) does not apply.

Individualized student work under the guidance of a faculty member, intended to pursue topics not ordinarily offered through regular coursework. Individualized student work under the guidance of a faculty member, intended to pursue topics not ordinarily offered through regular coursework.