

## The Women's Studies Program

Women's Studies is an innovative interdisciplinary academic program devoted to the critical analysis of gender and the pursuit of knowledge about women. Combining methods and insights of traditional academic disciplines with the special insights of feminist scholarship, our courses yield fresh perspectives that illuminate the origins of, and changes in, diverse cultural and social arrangements.

During the past quarter century, scholarship on women, gender, and feminism has been increasingly influential in reshaping the academic world. Women's Studies scholars have opened up the canon in almost every field to new works, subjects, and approaches that have stretched the boundaries of academic inquiry. At the same time, Women's Studies has punctured the pretensions of objectivity by demonstrating the role of gender--as well as class and race--in shaping ideas and social practices. Women's Studies has brought fresh insights with new empirical data and theoretical perspectives to virtually every discipline.

Gender is a common thread in all our course offerings, but it always interweaves race, class, and other factors that contribute to the diversity of women's lives. The Program prepares students to utilize critical learning in their private lives as well in their public roles as citizens thus opening the way to a wide variety of professional careers.

Because an increasing number of academic positions seek applicants with expertise in the study of women and gender, the addition of Women's Studies courses can be a powerful addition to your graduate education.



## Women's Studies Graduate Certificate Program

In virtually every field of university study, scholarship on women and gender has become increasingly influential because of its path-breaking theoretical perspectives and empirical findings. The programs of virtually every professional association testify to the vitality and presence of feminist research.

The Women's Studies Graduate Certificate can be earned by students enrolled in a Graduate Degree Program, or as a stand-alone certificate for those who have completed their undergraduate degree.

Although feminist scholarship may be available in other disciplines, Women's Studies offers a concentrated perspective and in-depth analysis. The graduate certificate enables students to pursue interdisciplinary study in this flourishing field while enhancing their educational background by encouraging the integration of personal, academic and political experiences and ideals.

Because the program is interdisciplinary and students will approach the certificate from a range of home fields and with widely varying preparation, all certificate plans of study will be individualized. Each certificate candidate combines the study of Women's Studies theory and methodology, either through current study or prior preparation. The core faculty of the Women's Studies Program will act as advisors to certificate students; careful advising will ensure that each student's program has the appropriate interdisciplinary breadth and fits appropriately with her/his other course work and professional needs.

All WS certificate plans of study must include work in more than one department and must be approved by the Program Director or her designee, who will coordinate the certificate program.

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**PLEASE NOTE:** the dual course numbers listed in this brochure fall into two categories - the 3-digit course numbers apply to classes prior to Fall 2008; 4-digit course numbers apply to classes Fall 2008 onward. The class content remains the same regardless of the number.

## Course Offerings

The courses below may be applied towards the WSGC. As course offerings continue to expand, there are often classes other than those listed below - WS keeps a list of all applicable classes on a semester by semester basis. Special-topic courses are offered through WS and other departments each semester. Courses may be counted simultaneously toward a UCONN degree program and the WSGC. A maximum of one 200/4000 level course may be applied to the Certificate.

<b>WOMEN'S STUDIES</b>	
315/5315	Gender & Culture (Also ANTH 315/5315)
333/5333	Topics in the History of American Women (Also HIST 333/5333)
344/5344	Psychology of Women & Gender
365/5365	WS Research Methodology *
390/5390	Independent Study for Graduate Students
395/5395	Special Topics Seminar in WS
<b>ANTHROPOLOGY</b>	
315/5315	Gender & Culture
341/5341	Analysis of Rituals
<b>ENGLISH</b>	
496/6496	Seminar in Major Authors***
497/6497	Special Topics Language and Literature***
<b>HISTORY</b>	
302/5302	Special Topics in American History***
333/5333	Topics in the History of American Women
<b>PHILOSOPHY</b>	
352/5352	Seminar in Feminist Theory **
<b>POLITICAL SCIENCE</b>	
397/5397	Special Topics in Political Science***
<b>PSYCHOLOGY</b>	
344/5102/W	Psychology of Women
<b>SOCIOLOGY</b>	
356/5356	Gender & Society

\***mandatory** if no other research method class taken

\*\*one feminist theory course is **mandatory**

\*\*\***with consent** of WSGC Advisor or WS Director

## Women's Studies Certificate for MA/Ph.D. Candidates

### Requirements:

- Current enrollment in an MA/Ph. D. course of study
- Separate acceptance by Graduate School for pursuit of WS Graduate Certificate\*\*
- 12 hours of course work, of which 9 hours must be at the 300/5000/6000 level or above
- No more than one Women's Studies 390/5390 course may be applied to the certificate
- Except for WS courses, no more than two classes (6 hours) can be taken from any one department - this ensures the interdisciplinarity of this certificate

### Application Procedure:

- Written acceptance from Graduate School for pursuit of WS Graduate Certificate
- Written approval from your major advisor
- Essay on the relationship of the WSGC to your degree program
- Official UCONN Transcript
- Meeting with the Director of Women's Studies or the Faculty Advisor of the WSGCP

Submit all Women's Studies materials to the **Women's Studies Program office, Beach Hall Room 422**. Applications will be considered on a case-by-case basis. There is no application deadline. For further information, contact: **The Women's Studies Program, 354 Mansfield Road, Unit 2181, Storrs, CT 06269-2181; Phone: (860) 486-3970; Fax: (860) 486-4789; email: [wsinfo@uconn.edu](mailto:wsinfo@uconn.edu)**

### For both Degree and Non-Degree students, this Certificate will:

- Increase ability to think critically
- Systematically add interdisciplinary breadth to the student's program and knowledge base
- Develop expertise in feminist theory and methodology
- Offer focused study of the scholarship on women & gender
- Foster new strengths in both teaching and research
- Provide a solid credential for future employment and academic opportunities

## Women's Studies Certificate for Non-Degree Students

### Requirements:

- Acceptance by Graduate School for pursuit of WS Graduate Certificate\*\*
- A Bachelor's Degree
- 12 hours of course work in Women's Studies, of which 9 hours must be at the 300/5000/6000 level or above
- No more than one Women's Studies 390/5390 course may be applied to the certificate
- Except for WS courses, no more than two classes (6 hours) can be taken from any one department - this ensures the interdisciplinarity of this certificate

### Application Procedure:

- Written acceptance from Graduate School for pursuit of WS Graduate Certificate
  - Essay on the relationship of the WSGC to the applicant's career/academic goals (max. 2 single spaced pages)
  - Official Transcripts (undergraduate, and graduate, if applicable)
  - Three letters of recommendation, at least one of which should address the applicant's academic preparation, skills and potential
- Meeting with the Director of Women's Studies or the Faculty Advisor of the WSGCP. Call (860) 486-3970 to schedule an appointment.

\*\* All students applying to the WS Graduate Certificate Program must first apply to and be accepted by the UConn Graduate School as a student pursuing the WS Graduate Certificate. All University applications should be sent to: **Graduate Admissions, 438 Whitney Road Extension, Unit 1006, Storrs, CT 06269-1006; Phone: (860) 486-3617; Fax: (860) 486-6739**. More information and application forms can be found at the Grad School website, <http://www.grad.uconn.edu>.

**After** students are accepted to the Graduate School, the appropriate Women's Studies Program application materials as listed above (top and left) should be submitted to the WS Office in Beach Hall.

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## The Women's Studies Graduate Certificate Program

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Visit our website at:

[www.womens.studies.uconn.edu](http://www.womens.studies.uconn.edu)