Women's and Gender Studies

This section presents the requirements for programs in:

• M.A. Women's and Gender Studies
• M.A. Women's and Gender Studies with Collaborative Specialization in Accessibility
• M.A. Women's and Gender Studies with Collaborative Specialization in African Studies
• M.A. Women's and Gender Studies with Collaborative Specialization in Latin American and Caribbean Studies

Program Requirements

M.A. Women's and Gender Studies (5.0 credits)

Requirements - Thesis pathway (5.0 credits)

1. 0.5 credit in:
   - WGST 5900 [0.5] Program Seminar
2. 0.5 credit in:
   - WGST 5906 [0.5] Feminist Theory
3. 0.5 credit in:
   - WGST 5907 [0.5] Researching Women's and Gender Issues
4. 1.5 credit in additional course work chosen from available elective courses (see below)
5. 2.0 credits in:
   - WGST 5909 [2.0] M.A. Thesis

Total Credits 5.0

Requirements - Research essay pathway (5.0 credits)

1. 0.5 credit in:
   - WGST 5900 [0.5] Program Seminar
2. 0.5 credit in:
   - WGST 5906 [0.5] Feminist Theory
3. 0.5 credit in:
   - WGST 5907 [0.5] Researching Women's and Gender Issues
4. 2.5 credits in additional course work chosen from available elective courses (see below)
5. 1.0 credit in:
   - WGST 5908 [1.0] Research Essay

Total Credits 5.0

Requirements - Coursework pathway (5.0 credits)

1. 0.5 credit in:
   - WGST 5900 [0.5] Program Seminar
2. 0.5 credit in:
   - WGST 5906 [0.5] Feminist Theory
3. 0.5 credit in:
   - WGST 5907 [0.5] Researching Women's and Gender Issues
4. 3.5 credits in additional course work chosen from available elective courses (see below)

Total Credits 5.0

M.A. Women's and Gender Studies with Collaborative Specialization in Accessibility (5.0 credits)

Requirements - Thesis pathway (5.0 credits):

1. 1.0 credit in:
   - ACCS 5001 [0.5] Critical Disability Studies
   - ACCS 5002 [0.5] Accessibility and Inclusive Design Seminar
2. 0.5 credit in:
   - WGST 5900 [0.5] Program Seminar
3. 0.5 credit in:
   - WGST 5906 [0.5] Feminist Theory
4. 0.5 credit in:
   - WGST 5907 [0.5] Researching Women's and Gender Issues
5. 0.5 credit in additional course work chosen from available elective courses (see below)
6. 2.0 credits in:
   - WGST 5909 [2.0] M.A. Thesis (in the specialization)

Total Credits 5.0

Requirements - Research essay pathway (5.0 credits):

1. 1.0 credit in:
   - ACCS 5001 [0.5] Critical Disability Studies
   - ACCS 5002 [0.5] Accessibility and Inclusive Design Seminar
2. 0.5 credit in:
   - WGST 5900 [0.5] Program Seminar
3. 0.5 credit in:
   - WGST 5906 [0.5] Feminist Theory
4. 0.5 credit in:
   - WGST 5907 [0.5] Researching Women's and Gender Issues
5. 1.5 credits in additional course work chosen from available elective courses (see below)
6. 1.0 credit in:
   - WGST 5908 [1.0] Research Essay (in the specialization)

Total Credits 5.0

M.A. Women's and Gender Studies with Collaborative Specialization in African Studies (5.0 credits)

Requirements - Thesis pathway (5.0 credits):

1. 0.5 credit in:
   - AFRI 5000 [0.5] African Studies as a Discipline: Historical and Current Perspectives
2. 0.0 credit in:
   - AFRI 5800 [0.0] Scholarly Preparation in African Studies
3. 0.5 credit in:
   - WGST 5900 [0.5] Program Seminar
4. 0.5 credit in:
   - WGST 5906 [0.5] Feminist Theory
5. 0.5 credit in:
   - WGST 5907 [0.5] Researching Women's and Gender Issues
6. 1.0 credit in additional course work chosen from available elective courses (see below)

Total Credits 5.0

Requirements - Research essay pathway (5.0 credits):

1. 0.5 credit in:
   - AFRI 5000 [0.5] African Studies as a Discipline: Historical and Current Perspectives
2. 0.0 credit in:
   - AFRI 5800 [0.0] Scholarly Preparation in African Studies
3. 0.5 credit in:
   - WGST 5900 [0.5] Program Seminar
4. 0.5 credit in:
   - WGST 5906 [0.5] Feminist Theory
5. 0.5 credit in:
   - WGST 5907 [0.5] Researching Women's and Gender Issues
6. 1.0 credit in additional course work chosen from available elective courses (see below)

Total Credits 5.0

Requirements - Coursework pathway (5.0 credits):

1. 0.5 credit in:
   - AFRI 5000 [0.5] African Studies as a Discipline: Historical and Current Perspectives
2. 0.0 credit in:
   - AFRI 5800 [0.0] Scholarly Preparation in African Studies
3. 0.5 credit in:
   - WGST 5900 [0.5] Program Seminar
4. 0.5 credit in:
   - WGST 5906 [0.5] Feminist Theory
5. 0.5 credit in:
   - WGST 5907 [0.5] Researching Women's and Gender Issues
6. 1.0 credit in additional course work chosen from available elective courses (see below)

Total Credits 5.0
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7. 2.0 credits in:  
   WGST 5909 [2.0] M.A. Thesis

Total Credits 5.0

Requirements - Research essay pathway (5.0 credits)
1. 0.5 credit in:  
   AFRI 5000 [0.5] African Studies as a Discipline: Historical and Current Perspectives

2. 0.0 credit in:  
   AFRI 5800 [0.0] Scholarly Preparation in African Studies

3. 0.5 credit in:  
   WGST 5900 [0.5] Program Seminar

4. 0.5 credit in:  
   WGST 5906 [0.5] Feminist Theory

5. 0.5 credit in:  
   WGST 5907 [0.5] Researching Women's and Gender Issues

6. 2.0 credits in additional course work chosen from available elective courses (see below)
7. 1.0 credit in:  
   WGST 5908 [1.0] Research Essay

Total Credits 5.0

Selection of Courses - African Studies
The courses listed below are relevant to students of African Studies and could, with the approval of the specific requirements of the units involved, be used as courses to help fulfill degree requirements. There are also often graduate courses and 4000-level courses in a number of units at Carleton that are offered on an ad hoc basis that have significant content appropriate to African Studies. To have any such course count towards their degree requires approval of the Director of the Institute of African Studies when it is being offered.

African Studies
AFRI 5000 [0.5] African Studies as a Discipline: Historical and Current Perspectives
AFRI 5050 [0.5] Selected Topics in African Studies
AFRI 5100 [0.5] African Studies Abroad
AFRI 5700 [0.5] Directed Readings in African Studies
AFRI 5900 [0.5] Placement
AFRI 5800 [0.0] Scholarly Preparation in African Studies

Anthropology
ANTH 5109 [0.5] Ethnography of Gender
ANTH 5209 [0.5] Special Topics in Ethnography of Contemporary Africa
ANTH 5809 [0.5] Special Topics in the Anthropology of Development

English
ENGL 5008 [0.5] Studies in African Literature
ENGL 5010 [0.5] Studies in Caribbean Literature

French
FREN 5212 [0.5] Littératures francophones

International Affairs
INAF 5603 [0.5] Issues in Development in Africa

Law
LAWS 5007 [0.5] Race, Ethnicity and the Law
LAWS 5603 [0.5] International Law: Theory and Practice

Political Science
PSCI 5107 [0.5] Globalization, Adjustment and Democracy in Africa
PSCI 5202 [0.5] Development Theory and Issues
PSCI 5203 [0.5] Southern Africa After Apartheid

Sociology
SOCI 5404 [0.5] Race, Ethnicity and Class in Contemporary Societies

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M.A. Women's and Gender Studies
with Collaborative Specialization in Latin American and Caribbean Studies (5.0 credits)

Requirements - Thesis pathway (5.0 credits)
1. 0.5 credit in:  
   LACS 5000 [0.5] Interdisciplinary Approaches to Latin American and Caribbean Studies

2. 0.0 credit in:  
   LACS 5800 [0.0] Scholarly Preparation in Latin American and Caribbean Studies

3. 0.5 credit in:  
   WGST 5900 [0.5] Program Seminar

4. 1.0 credit in:  
   WGST 5906 [0.5] Feminist Theory
   WGST 5907 [0.5] Researching Women's and Gender Issues

5. 1.0 credits in electives
6. 2.0 credits in:  
   WGST 5909 [2.0] M.A. Thesis (in the specialization)

Total Credits 5.0

Requirements - Research essay pathway (5.0 credits)
1. 0.5 credit in:  
   LACS 5000 [0.5] Interdisciplinary Approaches to Latin American and Caribbean Studies

2. 0.0 credit in:  
   LACS 5800 [0.0] Scholarly Preparation in Latin American and Caribbean Studies

3. 0.5 credit in:  
   WGST 5900 [0.5] Program Seminar

4. 1.0 credit in:  
   WGST 5906 [0.5] Feminist Theory
   WGST 5907 [0.5] Researching Women's and Gender Issues

5. 2.0 credits in electives
7. 1.0 credit in:  

2 Women's and Gender Studies
Progress through the program

The first year of study is essentially the same for all full-time students entering the program regardless of whether their intention is to pursue the Thesis, Research Essay or Course work option (the schedule for program completion for part-time students is in consultation with the unit). All full-time students will be expected to complete the core feminist theory and methodologies courses in the first year.

At the end of the winter term of the first year of study, and in consultation with the Graduate Supervisor, full-time students will be required to declare their intention to pursue the Thesis, Research Essay, or Course work option. The deadline for this decision will normally be in writing on or before April 1st.

Thesis option

In the fall of the second year of study, all full-time students will be expected to submit a research proposal that has been approved by their Thesis supervisor. The deadline for submitting the proposal is September 15.

Research Essay option

In the fall of the second year of study, all full-time students will be expected to submit a research proposal that has been approved by their Research Essay supervisor. The deadline for submitting the proposal is September 15. Students pursuing the Research Essay option will also be required to complete two additional half-course electives. Typically, these courses will be completed in the fall term of the second year.

Coursework option

Students pursuing the coursework option will be required to complete four additional half-course electives. Typically, these courses will be completed over the fall and winter terms of the second year.

Regulations

See the General Regulations section of this Calendar.

Academic standing of B- or higher must be obtained in each course counted towards the fulfillment of the degree requirements. Candidates must also maintain a CGPA of 9.0 or higher and achieve Satisfactory or better on the M.A. thesis and its oral defence.

Admission

The minimum requirement for admission to the MA program in Women's and Gender Studies is a BA Honours degree in Women's and Gender Studies or related areas with high honours standing. Students who have completed a degree with a significant focus on gender and gender-related coursework from disciplines including Sociology, History, English, Philosophy, Anthropology, Canadian Studies and Political Science, for example, will be considered for admission to the program. Applicants without the requisite background may be required to take a maximum of 2.0 credits from designated courses at the undergraduate level in Women's and Gender Studies in addition to their normal MA program requirements.
Qualifying Year Program
Applicants without a B.A. Honours degree in Women's and Gender Studies but who have a three year degree with a Women's and Gender Studies major, minor or a degree in a related discipline with a minimum average of B+ will be required to complete successfully a qualifying year of full-time study, before proceeding to apply to the Master's program. At this time, the Institute will determine the student's eligibility to enter the program.

Accelerated Pathway
The accelerated pathway in Women and Gender Studies is a flexible and individualized plan of graduate study for students in their final year of a Carleton B.A Honours degree in Women and Gender Studies.

Students in their third year of study in the B.A Honours degree in Women and Gender Studies should consult with both the Undergraduate Advisor and the Graduate Advisor to determine if the accelerated pathway is appropriate for them and to confirm their selection of courses and Honours project supervisor for their final year of undergraduate studies.

Accelerated Pathway Requirements
1. Two courses at the 5000-level with a grade of B+ or higher.
2. Minimal overall CGPA of B+

Students may receive advanced standing with transfer of credit of up to 1.0 credit which can reduce their time to completion.

Women's and Gender Studies (WGST) Courses

WGST 5000 [0.5 credit]
Issues for Feminist Scholarship
Selected issues based on the research expertise of the Instructor, designed to provide students with a broad introduction to the diversity of women's experiences within that issue. Critical issues related to race, class, gender and ability.

WGST 5001 [0.5 credit]
Research Seminar in Women's and Gender Studies
An examination of the Instructor's research focus (topics will vary from year-to-year) with respect to issues of feminist methodologies and epistemology related to developing and conducting feminist or women-centred research. The focus is interdisciplinary.

WGST 5003 [0.5 credit]
Traversing Feminisms
Interdisciplinary overview of key historical concepts in Women's and Gender Studies in the areas of theory, epistemology, and research design. Topics will vary from year to year. The course provides additional background for students entering Women's and Gender Studies from other disciplines.
Prerequisite(s): permission of the Institute.
Also offered at the undergraduate level, with different requirements, as WGST 4003, for which additional credit is precluded.

WGST 5060 [0.5 credit]
African Feminisms
African feminisms as theoretical interventions and as political practice, and as diverse forms. Gender as a marker of power: status, hierarchy, social capability, and as a system of distribution of resources, responsibilities and solidarities.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity
Also listed as AFRI 5060.
Also offered at the undergraduate level, with different requirements, as WGST 4060, for which additional credit is precluded.

WGST 5102 [0.5 credit]
Queer Theory
A critical approach to gender and sexuality by engaging in key debates and texts in the field of queer theory and studies.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity
Prerequisite(s): Graduate student standing and permission of the institute.
Also offered at the undergraduate level, with different requirements, as SXST 4102, for which additional credit is precluded.

WGST 5900 [0.5 credit]
Program Seminar
MA candidates are required to take part in a seminar in which faculty members and students discuss new work in the field, analyze current issues in Women's and Gender Studies, and pursue topics of professional development. Students will prepare their thesis or research paper.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity
Precludes additional credit for WGST 5905 (no longer offered).
Prerequisite(s): Permission of the Institute.

WGST 5901 [0.5 credit]
Advanced Topics in Women's and Gender Studies I
The applications of gender to different fields of knowledge, cultural expression, and institutional regulation. Gender will be interrogated as it intersects with race, class, ethnicity, age, ability and cross-cultural perspectives.

WGST 5902 [0.5 credit]
Advanced Topics in Women's and Gender Studies II
Selected topics may include: gender, power and social inequalities; women's writing; gender history; gender, sexuality and music embodiment; race, gender and imperialism; gender, criminology and criminal justice; queer theory; transnational feminisms.

WGST 5906 [0.5 credit]
Feminist Theory
An analysis of contemporary feminist theoretical debates that provides students with competence in the application of a range of theoretical models, and an appreciation of their specific historical contexts and development.
WGST 5907 [0.5 credit]
Researching Women's and Gender Issues
Consideration of a range of research methodologies and approaches relevant to women's and gender studies. In particular, students will examine the impact of gender studies on epistemological and methodological issues in a variety of academic disciplines.

WGST 5908 [1.0 credit]
Research Essay
An examination of an approved topic in an area of specialization of either the Institute faculty or associated faculty from across the University. Students will have a supervisor and a second reader.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity

WGST 5909 [2.0 credits]
M.A. Thesis
A substantial investigation of a topic in Women's and Gender Studies that will be determined in consultation with the Institute. Students will have a primary supervisor selected from within the Institute or from associated Faculty across the University. The candidate will be examined orally on.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity

WGST 5910 [0.5 credit]
Directed Studies
Directed study on selected topics may be arranged with a faculty member or visiting scholar with the permission of the Institute. Students cannot accumulate more than 1.0 credit in directed studies towards their degree requirements.

WGST 5911 [0.5 credit]
Directed Studies
Directed study on selected topics may be arranged with a faculty member or visiting scholar with the permission of the Institute. Students cannot accumulate more than 1.0 credit in directed studies towards their degree requirements.

WGST 5920 [1.0 credit]
Internship in Women's and Gender Studies
Experience in applied feminisms through a combination of classroom seminars and internship. Each project will be negotiated individually as a contract between the student, instructor and institutional partner. Students must complete both the in-class and the internship portion of the course.
Includes: Experiential Learning Activity
Prerequisite(s): Enrollment in the M.A. Women's and Gender Studies program.
Also offered at the undergraduate level, with different requirements, as WGST 4801, for which additional credit is precluded.