

## GENDER AND SEXUALITY STUDIES

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Gender and Sexuality Studies (GSS) is an interdisciplinary minor that investigates the significance of sex and gender in all areas of human experience. Grounded in the notion that sexuality and gender are crucial factors in understanding human experience, the Gender and Sexuality Studies minor features courses that investigate and reevaluate the meanings of "male" and "female," while also focusing on progressive gender-identities that challenge these traditional binaries, such as gay, queer, and transgender. The GSS minor includes courses that reevaluate the assumptions at work in traditional disciplines and expand the study of individuals, cultures, social institutions, social policy and other areas of scholarly inquiry. The GSS minor is designed to encourage students to critically interrogate and actively engage in social processes related to gender and sexuality. The GSS minor is the academic and research arm of the Center for Gender Equity (CGE), the mission of which is to support gender equity through dialogue, programming, service, research, education, and advocacy in order to facilitate collaborative, humane, and sustainable University, local and global communities.

The Gender and Sexuality Studies minor has as its framework 1) the introductory course, 2) the "GSS in Practice" requirement, and 3) topics courses. 1) The introductory course lays the groundwork for the minor by exposing students to the guiding questions, frameworks and theories in Gender and Sexuality Studies. 2) The "GSS in Practice" requirement allows students to apply, outside the classroom, the theoretical constructs covered in GSS courses. The "GSS in Practice" options are mentoring students, working on the staff of the Center for Gender Equity, and engaging in an independent artistic/research project. 3) Elective topics courses concentrate on contemporary issues and provide a multidisciplinary approach to the study of gender and sexuality.

The GSS minor requires students to take a breadth of electives. Students must not take more than 8 elective credits within one of the three schools (Social Sciences, Art & Humanities, and Natural Sciences). Students should plan to take GSS 201 in the spring semester of either their freshman or sophomore year. GSS 201 will be taught only in the spring. Students who wish to declare the Gender and Sexuality Studies minor are advised to do so by the spring of their sophomore year.

### Program Learning Outcomes

- The Gender and Sexuality Studies minor includes courses that evaluate the assumptions at work in traditional disciplines and expand the study of individuals, cultures, social institutions, social policy and other areas of scholarly inquiry.
- The minor also encompasses courses that examine the roles of people of all genders, the nature of work and the family, and the importance of race, ethnicity, class, and culture through the study of sexuality and gender.
- The Gender and Sexuality Studies minor is designed to encourage students to critically interrogate and actively engage in social processes related to the construction of gender.

### Gender and Sexuality Studies: Requirements for the Minor

GSS 201	Intro to Gender & Sexuality Studies	4 credits
<b>OR</b>		
GSS 303*	Advanced Gender & Sexuality Theory	4 credits
GSS in Practice		4 credits
GSS 341	Service for Gender Equity (2 credits)	
GSS 453	Creative Work/Research (2 credits)	
GSS 456	Mentoring in GSS (2 credits)	
GSS Electives:		12 credits

For GSS course electives that are cross-listed, students may not take more than 8 credits in one school; at least 4 should be upper division. GSS 303 may count as an elective if not taken in place of GSS 201. Students may take a third GSS in Practice for elective credit.

TOTAL: 20 credits

\* Students who have taken at least two upper division GSS courses may substitute GSS 303 for GSS 201

## COURSES

### GSS-113 Islamic Mid-East: 570-1300

This is a survey of the history of the Islamic Middle East from the birth of Muhammad in 570 to the rise of the Ottoman Turks in 1300. The course concentrates on political developments and institutions as well as the growth and evolution of Islam and Islamic cultures. The course includes a segment on the roles, prerogatives, and challenges of Muslim women in the past and contemporary societies. A field trip to a Mosque and several speakers, including Muslim women, are integral to the course. Counts toward core requirement: Diverse Perspectives and/or International Perspectives. Also listed as HIST 113. 4 credits.

### GSS-200 Introduction to Queer Studies

This course will provide an overview of queer communities through an interdisciplinary approach including a focus on the intersections of ethnicity, class, culture, sex and gender among gay, lesbian, bisexual, trans and other sexual and gender identities. Theoretical, political, historical, and social frameworks will inform the basis of learning how queer communities negotiate identities outside of the hegemonic mainstream concepts of sexuality and gender. Counts toward core requirement: Humanities and Diverse Perspectives. 4 credits.

### GSS-201 Introduction to Gender & Sexlty Studies

This introductory level course explores the various foundations of gender and sexuality studies with an interdisciplinary focus. The course aims to explore several issues of gender and sexuality in the media, cinema, literature, and theory. Students review and critique the construction of gender and sexuality under patriarchy in the past and study similar yet different structures of power in current discourse. The course consists of two components: a

classroom experience with an emphasis on the breadth of literature on feminism, queer theory, and masculinities, and field work in the community. Counts toward core requirement: Humanities and Diverse Perspectives. 4 credits.

**GSS-206 Sex, Gender, Culture**

In all societies, people organize social relationships and identities, ideologies and symbolic systems, in terms of gender and sexuality, but they do so in different ways. In this course, we will examine the ways in which individuals and societies imagine, experience, impose and challenge gender and sexuality systems in a diversity of cultural contexts, including those of the United States, Oceania, Africa, and Asia. One of the aims throughout the course will be to explore other societies as a means of better understanding and critiquing our own. Also listed as ANTH 206. Prerequisites: GSS 201, ANTH 101, SOC 101, SOC 102, SOC 110, SOC 120, or SOC 130. Counts toward core requirement: Diverse Perspectives and International Perspective. Offered triennially. 4 Credits.

**GSS-211 Preparation for Travel in India**

This is a course that will prepare students for Travel in India: Gender, Culture and Service, a Winter III course sponsored by the Center for Gender Equity. This course will provide students with the information necessary to help them get the most of their WIII experience. The content will cover the basic history, religion, culture, geography, and politics of India. Also listed as HUM 211. Counts toward core requirement: International Perspectives. 2 credits.

**GSS-212 Theatre for Gender Equity**

This workshop course will devise new work or engage with existing texts to present theatrical performance on a given theme and in accord with the mission of the Center for Gender Equity. Also listed as THEA 212. May be repeated once for credit. 2 credits.

**GSS-220 Literature and Human Concerns**

See the Gender and Sexuality Studies department for the course description. May be repeated for credit. 4 credits.

**GSS-247 Gender & Sexuality in Victorian America**

This course treats the development and spread of Victorian culture in the United States during the nineteenth century, particularly as it defined ideas about gender and sexuality. Focus is on the creation of "women's sphere" and ways in which women accommodated themselves to domesticity, rebelled against it, or used it themselves to discipline their husbands and sons. Also listed as HIST 247. Counts towards core requirement: Diverse Perspectives. 4 credits.

**GSS-255 Special Topics**

Go to <https://www.pacificu.edu/about-us/centers-institutes/advising-center/new-topics-travel-class-descriptions> or see the Advising Center.

**GSS-265 Gender, Sexuality, & Sport**

This course examines the intersection of culturally-based gender ideologies within the systems of sport and physical activity across various competitive levels. Sport continues to be an expression of dominant masculinity and shapes the (hetero)gender binary system. This course will examine and investigate the intersections between gender, race, and sexuality using a variety of theoretical frameworks (e.g., feminism, critical race theory, queer theory) while considering the history of sport and Title IX, relative to women's emergence into athletics, and the commonalities and differences of men's and women's experiences in sport. Counts toward Diverse Perspectives core requirement. 2 credits.

**GSS-275 Internship**

See department for details. Internship contract required. 1-4 credits.

**GSS-280 Women in Art**

This course is designed to explore the place of women in art. The course investigates both the image of women in art and women as artists. The course will be thinking about women's relationship to art at different times and in different cultures. The goal of the class is to shine light on material that has often been overlooked by the traditional art history canon. Feminist theory class desirable. Also listed as ARTHI 280. Meets Gender & Sexuality Studies minor requirement. 4 credits.

**GSS-295 Independent Study**

See department for details. Independent study contract required.

**GSS-300 Special Topics in Gender & Sexuality**

This is a special topics course focusing on the specific interests of the faculty and students in the Gender and Sexuality Studies minor program. Topics addressed in the course will be derived from a variety of disciplinary standpoints, and may involve interdisciplinary collaboration. Some examples of topics that may be offered through this course are: "The Development of Gender," "Women and Film," and "Feminist Epistemology" to name a few. Prerequisite: GSS 201. May be repeated for credit. 4 credits.

**GSS-302 Multi-Media for Sexual Health Promotion**

This course provides students with skills and experience in planning and executing a multi-media health campaign as applied to contemporary sexual health issues. The course includes the development of useful sexual health messages based on community needs, exploration of various mass communication strategies, technical experience in the use of various media sources, a critical understanding of the theoretical foundations for intervention methods, as well as media-based intervention evaluation. Students will have an opportunity to take an active role in creating their own interventions as well as exploring personal attitudes and values surrounding sexual health messages. Content areas may include public service announcements, film and drama, web-based and social media (Blogs, website, YouTube, Facebook, and Twitter), one-on-one education via tabling events, print, radio, or podcast. Particular attention will be paid to the practical application of communication and learning theories, collaborative relationships, and strategies for dealing with potential challenges. Prerequisite: Junior Standing or above (60 or more completed credits). 4 credits.

**GSS-303 Advanced Gender and Sexuality Theory**

This course will expand upon, and develop a more advanced understanding of, the academic discourses and theories of gender and sexuality introduced in GSS 201. We will draw on a range of theoretical frameworks, including post-Marxism, poststructuralism, psychoanalytic criticism, feminism, and queer theory, in order to address social concerns and analyze gender themes in the media, cinema, and literature. We will explore the ways in which the concept of gender is socially constructed through institutional power arrangements, popular culture representations, and everyday social dynamics, and examine how contemporary feminist theory differs from the early feminist movement. Discussions will address questions such as: what does it mean to "queer" cultural norms or political traditions and how does queer and feminist theory enable a more broad and inclusive discussion of politics in contemporary society. Also listed as PSJ 303. Prerequisite: GSS 201. Counts toward core requirement: Humanities (2010 catalog) and Diverse Perspectives. 4 credits.

**GSS-309 Families**

The primary emphasis is on the relationship between the familial institution and the society in which it is being studied. Attention is given to trans-historical and cross-cultural data and how social change impacts the institution. Additional areas of investigation include definitions of the family, socialization, cohabitation, courtship, marriage, divorce, gender and sex roles, sexuality, socio-economic forces, family violence, alternative forms, and the future of the family. Also listed as SOC 309. Prerequisite: SOC 101, SOC 102, SOC 110, SOC 120, SOC 130, or SOC-150. Counts toward core requirement: Social Sciences (2010 catalog). 4 credits.

#### **GSS-310 Travel in India: Gender Society Service**

Travel in India: Gender, Culture and Service is a Winter term course sponsored by the Center for Gender Equity. It consists of two and a half weeks travel in southern India during the month of January. The bulk of the course is conducted at Lady Doak College, a small liberal arts women's college in Madurai, India in Tamilnadu. The course consists of lecture and discussion by Lady Doak faculty, service learning, discussion with local service agencies, fieldwork on a topic of the student's choice, and travel to sites of cultural and historic importance. The participant is required to register for HUM 211 the fall semester prior to the travel portion of the class. Also listed as HUM 310. Prerequisite: HUM 211. Counts toward core requirement: Civic Engagement and/or International Perspectives. 2 credits.

#### **GSS-311 Medicine, Body and Culture**

This course is an introduction to critical areas of inquiry in medical anthropology. By examining the socio-cultural dimensions of sickness and healing cross-culturally, we will explore how anthropologists have approached historical and contemporary problems in the global field of medicine. While our course trajectory will lead us to treat Western biomedicine as only one among many systems of meaning and authority, we will also spend some time deconstructing the often unspoken assumptions that govern this field, thereby complicating the notion that the latter is somehow insulated from the reach of culture. We will also focus on issues of power, inequality, and gender and health. Pre-requisite: ANTH-101, GSS-201, SOC-101, ANTH-140, SOC-217 OR PH-101. Counts towards core requirement: International Perspectives, Diverse Perspectives, Civic Engagement. 4 credits.

#### **GSS-316 Gender & Sexuality**

An introduction to the theories and methods used by sociologists to study gender and sexuality as social performances and historical constructions. Topics include masculinities, intersectionality, sexual culture, pornography, and gender inequality in the workplace. Also listed as SOC 316. Prerequisite: SOC 110, SOC 120, SOC 130, or SOC 150. Must be 18 years of age. Counts toward core requirement: Diverse Perspectives. Course offered biennially. 4 credits.

#### **GSS-321 Women's Writing in Francophone World**

Survey of women's writing in the Francophone world throughout the 20th Century. Special focus on the novel and the development of alternate prose forms. Authors from France, Switzerland, Belgium, Quebec, the French Caribbean, Senegal, and Algeria may be included. Taught in French. Also listed as FREN 320. Prerequisite: FREN 202 or placement. Counts toward core requirement: International Perspectives. Offered intermittently. 4 credits.

#### **GSS-341 Service for Gender Equity**

This course entails designing, organizing, and carrying out service projects and programming for The Center for Gender Equity (CGE). Students will be expected to place their work within an analytical context informed by service learning and "civic engagement" theory. Instructor's consent required. Counts toward core requirement: Civic Engagement. May be repeated once for credit. 2 credits.

#### **GSS-342 Studies in Fiction**

A study of the development of the short story and novel, with an emphasis on exploring interpretive models. Also listed as ENGL 342 when content allows. Prerequisite: 2 credits of 200-level ENGL. Offered every year. 4 credits.

#### **GSS-343 Food, Fat, and Fitness**

The United States is a culture obsessed with food, fat, and fitness. As efforts to reduce obesity increase, rates of obesity actually increase. Why is that? This anthropology course depends heavily on interdisciplinary perspectives to explore the connections between body size and culture, examining food, fat, and fitness not just as public health issues but as culturally and historically constructed categories related to gender, race, sexuality, and class. While we will explore biocultural approaches to obesity, this course is not a biomedical study of the "obesity epidemic." Instead we examine the discourses and vocabulary used to describe this current "crisis." Also listed as GSS 343 and ANTH 343. Prerequisites: ANTH 101, GSS 201, SOC 101, ANTH 140, SOC 217, or PH 101. Offered alternate years. 4 credits.

#### **GSS-344 Studies in Criticism & Theory**

Ranging from Structuralism and Deconstruction to Psychoanalysis, Gender and Sexuality Studies, Post-colonialism, and Film Theory, this course explores some of the most important and influential schools of thought in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries and their impact on literary criticism, literature, art and culture. Class discussions will draw on different critical approaches, such as psychoanalysis, post-humanism, and gender and sexuality theory, to interpret an array of subjects ranging from novels to films to current political affairs and cultural trends. Also listed as ENGL 343 and PHIL 343. Prerequisite: 2 credits of 200-level ENGL. Offered alternate years. 4 credits.

#### **GSS-355 Special Topics**

Go to <https://www.pacificu.edu/about-us/centers-institutes/advising-center/new-topics-travel-class-descriptions> or see the Advising Center.

#### **GSS-361 Psychology of Gender**

Psychology of gender will provide students with a survey of psychological theory and research on the influence of gender, gender identity, and gender labels on the cognitive, social, physical states of humans across the lifespan. Course materials will include intersections of gender with other key social identities including race/ethnicity, socioeconomic status, ableness, ageism, and sexual orientation. Prerequisite: Junior standing (60 or more completed credits), PSY 150 with a minimum grade of C, and one of the following: PSY 350, PSY 348, SOC 301, SOC 300, ANTH 301, SOCWK 310, or PH 300. Counts towards core requirement: Diverse Perspectives. 4 credits.

#### **GSS-363 Gender, Sexuality, & Performance**

This course examines gender in and as performance, bringing feminist and queer studies lenses and contemporary theories of gender construction to a variety of performances and texts. Topics will include representations of gender and sexuality within the canon; construction of gender through performances on stage and in everyday life; and the challenging of roles and assumptions through dynamic choices in playwriting, directing, acting, and design. Also listed as THEA 363. Prerequisite: Sophomore standing or above (30 or more completed credits). Counts toward core requirement: Diverse Perspectives. 4 credits.

#### **GSS-365 Advanced Gender, Sexuality, & Sport**

This course examines the intersection of culturally-based gender ideologies within the systems of sport and physical activity across various competitive levels. Sport continues to be an expression of dominant masculinity and shapes the (hetero)gender binary system. This course will examine and investigate the intersections between gender, race, and sexuality using a variety of theoretical frameworks (e.g., feminism, critical race theory, queer theory) while considering the history of sport and Title IX, relative to women's emergence into athletics, and the commonalities and differences of men's

and women's experiences in sport. Course material for this advanced section will extend beyond the introductory level. Students will be required to complete additional assignments to those of GSS 265. Counts toward core requirement: Diverse Perspectives. 2 credits.

**GSS-395 Independent Study**

See department for details. Independent Study contract required.

**GSS-400 Medieval Women**

This course is a seminar on the attitude towards, roles, work, and responsibilities of women in the period from the first century to the fifteenth century. Women in their roles as nuns, witches, prostitutes, brewers, mothers, queens, and consorts are discussed. The course is thematic as well as chronological, and investigates anthropological, feminist, and political theories and paradigms associated with the study of women generally. Assigned reading consists of primary sources, secondary monographs, and journals. Also listed as HIST 400. Prerequisite: Junior standing or above (60 or more completed credits). 4 credits.

**GSS-421 Women's Writing in Francophone World**

Survey of women's writing in the Francophone world throughout the 20th Century. Special focus on the novel and the development of alternate prose forms. Authors from France, Switzerland, Belgium, Quebec, the French Caribbean, Senegal, and Algeria may be included. Students taking the course at the 400-level must complete more elaborate assignments in French that require more expertise in French. Taught in French. Also listed as FREN 420. Prerequisite: Two 300-level FREN courses or 12 upper-division credits earned overseas in a French-speaking country. Counts toward core requirement: International Perspectives. Offered intermittently. 4 credits.

**GSS-425 Studies/20th Cent Lit**

Intensive studies in major writers of the period. Prerequisite: Junior standing or above (60 or more completed credits), GSS 201, and two courses (minimum 2 credits each) from 200-level ENGL or above. 4 credits.

**GSS-430 Major Writers**

A detailed study of the works of selected writers: for example, Chaucer, Milton, Dickens, Blake, Yeats, Thoreau, Woolf. Also listed as ENGL 430 when content allows. Prerequisite: Junior standing or above (60 or more completed credits), GSS 201, and 2 courses (minimum 2 credits each) from 200-level ENGL or above. May be repeated for credit when content varies. Offered intermittently. 4 credits.

**GSS-453 Creative Work or Research in GSS**

This course is designed to allow students an opportunity to conduct creative work or research in the area of Gender and Sexuality Studies; including individual research studies, creative projects or participation in organizing and/or conducting the annual GSS interdisciplinary conference. The project will be developed in consultation with the chair of GSS. Prerequisite: GSS 201 and two GSS electives. May be repeated for credit. Offered Fall and Spring. 2 credits.

**GSS-455 Special Topics**

Go to <https://www.pacificu.edu/about-us/centers-institutes/advising-center/new-topics-travel-class-descriptions> or see the Advising Center.

**GSS-456 Gender & Sexuality Studies Mentoring**

This course is designed to allow advanced GSS minors to guide students new to GSS. Students enrolled in this course will mentor students enrolled in GSS 201. The specific duties and assignments will be developed in consultation with the professor of GSS 201. Prerequisite: Junior standing or above (60 or more completed credits), GSS 201, and 2 additional courses from GSS. May be repeated for credit. 2 credits.

**GSS-475 Internship**

See department for details. Internship contract required.

**GSS-495 Independent Study**

See department for details. Independent Study contract required.