

# WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES - BS

Women's and Gender Studies is a flexible interdisciplinary program devoted to the critical analysis of gender and the pursuit of knowledge about women throughout history and around the world. Combining the methods and insights of traditional liberal arts disciplines with the special insights of scholarship on women's and gender studies, our courses yield fresh perspectives on the nature of gender as it intersects with race, ethnicity, class, religion, and nation, and encourage students to look beyond their own culture and era in examining gender's role in shaping society. Through interdisciplinary breadth and an emphasis on critical thinking, women's and gender studies prepares students to employ critical learning in their private lives as well as in public roles as citizens and members of a diverse and complex workforce.

Majors in Women's and Gender Studies receive training in both humanities and social sciences approaches and are required to complete coursework that focuses on material beyond dominant U.S. culture. Core courses in Women's and Gender Studies have both theoretical and applied focuses; upper-division core courses in Women's and Gender Studies emphasize writing and research skills. Students enrolled in the BS are directed to complete several science and social science-focused courses in Women's and Gender Studies, while also selecting their coursework in social sciences or humanities for their electives within their major. Students in the WGST BS also complete numerous science courses in their degree, allowing them to compare traditional perspectives with feminist critiques of science.

Because gender has far-reaching influence on daily life, world culture, and public policy, this major equips students to enter a wide range of fields. As a liberal arts degree, women's and gender studies is attractive to employers looking for recruits trained in critical thinking, organizational skills, reading, writing, and presenting in a wide range of subject areas. Expertise in women's and gender issues is increasingly important to businesses, governmental agencies, and other organizations dealing with matters such as sexual harassment, flextime, parental leave, and pay equity. The BS in Women's and Gender Studies is particularly useful for students interested in science-oriented fields such as health and medicine, environmental studies, urban planning, food security, or data science, and also excellent preparation for engaging in public policy, law, and education in science fields.

## Program Requirements

### First Year

| Fall   |  | Semester Credit Hours |
|--|--|-----------------------|
| ENGL 104   | Composition and Rhetoric <sup>1</sup>      | 3                     |
| WGST 200   | Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies | 3                     |
| American history ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#american-history">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#american-history</a> )                       |  | 3                     |
| Life and physical sciences ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#life-physical-sciences">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#life-physical-sciences</a> ) |  | 3                     |

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Mathematics ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#mathematics">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#mathematics</a> ) | 3 |
|---|---|

**Semester Credit Hours 15**

### Spring

|  |   |
|--|---|
| American history ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#american-history">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#american-history</a> )                       | 3 |
| Communication ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#communication">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#communication</a> )                                | 3 |
| Mathematics ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#mathematics">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#mathematics</a> )                                      | 3 |
| Life and physical sciences ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#life-physical-sciences">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#life-physical-sciences</a> ) | 3 |
| WGST elective <sup>2</sup>   | 3 |

**Semester Credit Hours 15**

### Second Year

#### Fall

|   |                                       |   |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|
| WGST 320  | Feminist Inquiry and Research Methods | 3 |
| WGST 100-499 ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/wgst/">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/wgst/</a> )  |                                       | 3 |
| Government/Political science ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#government-political-science">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#government-political-science</a> )            |                                       | 3 |
| Life and physical sciences ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#life-physical-sciences">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#life-physical-sciences</a> )                          |                                       | 3 |
| Social and behavioral sciences ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#social-behavioral-sciences">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#social-behavioral-sciences</a> ) <sup>4</sup> |                                       | 3 |

**Semester Credit Hours 15**

#### Spring

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| WGST 100-499 ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/wgst/">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/wgst/</a> )   |  | 3 |
| Government/Political science ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#government-political-science">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#government-political-science</a> ) |  | 3 |
| Science elective <sup>3</sup>  |  | 3 |
| WGST elective <sup>2</sup>   |  | 3 |
| General elective <sup>5</sup>  |  | 3 |

**Semester Credit Hours 15**

### Third Year

#### Fall

|   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| WGST 100-499 ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/wgst/">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/wgst/</a> )  |  | 3 |
| Creative Arts ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#creative-arts">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#creative-arts</a> ) <sup>4</sup>  |  | 3 |
| Language, philosophy and culture ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#language-philosophy-culture">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#language-philosophy-culture</a> ) <sup>4</sup> |  | 3 |
| Science elective <sup>3</sup>   |  | 3 |

|  |            |
|--|------------|
| General elective <sup>5</sup>  | 3          |
| <b>Semester Credit Hours</b>   | <b>15</b>  |
| <b>Spring</b>  |            |
| WGST 401 Feminist Theory   | 3          |
| WGST 100-499 ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/wgst/">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/wgst/</a> )   | 3          |
| Social and behavioral sciences ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#social-behavioral-sciences">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#social-behavioral-sciences</a> ) <sup>4</sup>                      | 3          |
| Literature directed elective ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/arts-and-sciences/">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/arts-and-sciences/</a> ) <sup>4</sup>  | 3          |
| General elective <sup>5</sup>  | 3          |
| <b>Semester Credit Hours</b>   | <b>15</b>  |
| <b>Fourth Year</b>   |            |
| <b>Fall</b>  |            |
| WGST 481 Senior Seminar  | 3          |
| Literature directed elective ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/arts-and-sciences/">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/arts-and-sciences/</a> ) <sup>4</sup>  | 3          |
| Science elective <sup>3</sup>  | 3          |
| General elective <sup>5</sup>  | 3          |
| General elective <sup>5</sup>  | 3          |
| <b>Semester Credit Hours</b>   | <b>15</b>  |
| <b>Spring</b>  |            |
| Select one of the following:   | 3          |
| WGST 484 Internship in Women's and Gender Studies  |            |
| WGST 485 Directed Studies  |            |
| WGST 491 Research  |            |
| Language, philosophy and culture or creative arts ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#language-philosophy-culture">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#language-philosophy-culture</a> ) <sup>4</sup> | 3          |
| Science elective <sup>3</sup>  | 3          |
| General elective <sup>5</sup>  | 3          |
| General elective <sup>5</sup>  | 3          |
| <b>Semester Credit Hours</b>   | <b>15</b>  |
| <b>Total Semester Credit Hours</b>   | <b>120</b> |

this requirement. The required 6 hours may be met by courses satisfying other areas of a degree program. See your academic advisor for further information.

33 hours of WGST coursework required for the BS degree.

A minimum 2.0 GPA and a minimum grade of C for a course to count in the major.

At least 12 semester hours in the major must be completed in advanced courses (300- and 400-level), and at least 12 semester hours in the major field must be completed in residence at Texas A&M.

#### College and University Requirements

Students must complete a minimum of 36 hours of 300- or 400-level course work at Texas A&M University.

<sup>1</sup> A minimum grade of C is required.

<sup>2</sup> Select from POLS 317; WGST 300/PBSI 300, WGST 303, WGST 316/ SOCI 316, WGST 367/POLS 367, WGST 404/ANTH 404, WGST 407/ COMM 407, WGST 410/SOCI 410, WGST 420/COMM 420.

<sup>3</sup> See WGST program advisor for list of additional science courses.

<sup>4</sup> WGST course may not be used to fulfill this requirement.

<sup>5</sup> Only 14 hours of KINE 199; AERS 100-499 (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/aers/>); MLSC 100-499 (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/mlsc/>); NVSC 100-499 (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/nvsc/>); SOMS 100-499 (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/soms/>) may be used for General Electives

Graduation requirements include 3 hours of International and Cultural Diversity (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/degree-information/international-cultural-diversity-requirements/>) courses and 3 hours of Cultural Discourse (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/degree-information/cultural-discourse-requirements/>) courses. A course satisfying a Core category, a college/department requirement, or a free elective can be used to satisfy