

Women's *and* Gender Studies



2016-2017 GRADUATE SPECIALIZATION OR GRADUATE MINOR

The Women's and Gender Studies Program offers two degree options for graduate study. Both options provide students with a challenging opportunity to extend their graduate education in gender, sexuality, and diversity by drawing on the innovative interdisciplinary perspectives of Women's and Gender Studies.

Successful completion of the specialization will be indicated on the student's official transcript in parentheses following the name of the academic discipline. In those departments that already have internal specializations, students will pursue the Women's and Gender Studies minor. Requirements are the same for both.

Women's and Gender Studies graduate courses strengthen students' qualifications for advanced graduate programs and for employment in their primary discipline or in a variety of occupations.

The graduate specialization and the graduate minor offer:

- a simultaneous focus on gender, race, ethnicity, class, ability, global feminism, and sexual orientation;
- an historical perspective on Women's and Gender Studies as an area of scholarly inquiry, teaching, and activism both across and within disciplines;
- a challenge to the traditional separation of academic theory from political and professional practice;
- feminist perspectives and scholarship that challenge disciplinary barriers and paradigms;
- models of scholarship, pedagogy, and professional activity that prepare students for employment in a variety of professions related to women's and gender issues;
- mentoring by faculty recognized for interdisciplinary research and teaching in subjects related to women and gender.

For information about how to apply for the WGS graduate specialization/minor and a list of courses eligible for credit, see <http://www.unl.edu/wgs/graduate-specialization-and-graduate-minor-requirements>. For more information about the WGS program, including faculty, see <http://www.unl.edu/wgs/>.

Master's Degree Program Requirements:

1. A master's degree in another UNL department.
2. Nine credit hours of graduate courses on women, gender, and/or sexuality. Of these, six must be outside the student's major department. The WGS minor or specialization may be gained through any combination of 4/800, 800, or 900 level courses. Under Graduate College rules, both Options I and II offer possibilities for completing the graduate specialization or minor without adding additional hours of course work.
3. If option I (thesis) is chosen, the thesis must address some issue(s) relevant to Women's and Gender Studies. The student must deposit a copy of the thesis with Women's and Gender Studies.
4. Confirmation to the Women's and Gender Studies office that all requirements for the specialization or minor have been met by the middle of the final semester.

Doctoral Degree Program Requirements:

1. A doctoral degree in another UNL department.
2. Twelve* credit hours of courses on women, gender, and/or sexuality. Of these, nine must be outside the student's major department. The WGS minor or specialization may be gained through any combination of 4/800, 800, or 900 level courses. Under Graduate College rules, both Options I and II offer possibilities for completing the graduate specialization or minor without adding additional hours of course work.
Transfer Courses: Transferred courses accepted by the major department may be used toward this total upon approval of the WGS Director and Advisory Board. Contact the Director for information on the documentation required for this approval. Transferred courses may count for up to three hours of the total twelve.
3. A PhD student who has already done an MA graduate specialization in WGS at UNL is required to take only six credits (two additional classes) outside her/his department in addition to the nine hours already completed in pursuit of the MA.
4. The dissertation should address some issue(s) relevant to Women's and Gender Studies. The student must deposit a copy of the dissertation with Women's and Gender Studies.
5. Confirmation to the Women's and Gender Studies office that all requirements for the specialization or minor have been met by the middle of the final semester.

*Although most PhD minors require 15 credit hours, the WGS minor, like the specialization, requires only 12.