

GENDER, SEXUALITY AND WOMEN'S STUDIES, BACHELOR OF ARTS (B.A.) WITH A CONCENTRATION IN HEALTH AND SCIENCE

Learning outcomes

Upon completing this program, students will know and know how to do the following:

- Be conversant in feminist epistemology
- Analyze through a feminist lens the social, cultural, artistic, literary, historical, economic, political and scientific forces and accomplishments that shape the lived experiences of women and people of diverse sexualities and genders
- Display a working knowledge of online databases and library resources requisite to conducting contemporary and archival research
- Analyze data, refute bias and exercise informed judgment in problem-solving related to the lives of diverse people and to issues of social justice
- Synthesize information and formulate clearly articulated arguments
- Integrate complex thoughts into written and spoken discourse
- Present clear, organized and coherent arguments as demonstrated through oral and written assignments
- Be conversant in the ethical dimensions of gender, sexuality and women's issues
- Critique civic engagement from a feminist perspective
- Display a working knowledge of social injustice and advocacy
- Understand feminist theorizing across disciplinary and cultural contexts for both methodology and epistemology and analyze and evaluate problems and questions by applying the intersection of knowledge, gender, race, class, culture, power and knower influence
- Identify and comprehend issues of social justice, and analyze their effects on gender and sexual minorities, and women and girls in the U.S. and around the world

Special requirements

A Bachelor of Arts in Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies requires a total of 120 credits with 30 credits in GSWS courses and at least 15 of these credits in upper-level courses. Students may choose a general interdisciplinary program or a health and science concentration.

All students must complete the general education requirements for the Bachelor of Arts in the College of Humanities and Sciences. All students also must complete core course requirements of GSWS 201 and GSWS 401.

Students in the health and science concentration must take GSWS 301 and GSWS 393, in addition to three credits from the diversity/international perspectives on gender, sexuality and women and nine credits from the health and science perspectives area. STAT 210 is recommended in this concentration, and an additional three credits (for a total of six credits) in a natural science are required.

The remaining credits in the major are electives, but must be GSWS courses or courses cross-listed with GSWS. These electives may include GSWS 391 and GSWS 492. Note, however, that an independent study is permitted only after the student has an agreement with a supervising faculty member and permission from the major's adviser.

Degree requirements Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies, Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) with a concentration in health and science

General education requirements

Course	Title	Hours
University Core Education Curriculum (minimum 21 credits)		
UNIV 111 Play course video for Focused Inquiry I	Focused Inquiry I	3
UNIV 112 Play course video for Focused Inquiry II	Focused Inquiry II	3
UNIV 200	Inquiry and the Craft of Argument	3
	Approved humanities/fine arts	3
	Approved natural/physical sciences	3-4
	Approved quantitative literacy	3-4
	Approved social/behavioral sciences	3-4
Total Hours		21-24

Course	Title	Hours
Additional College of Humanities and Sciences requirements (11-23 credits)		
HUMS 202	Choices in a Consumer Society	1
	Approved H&S diverse and global communities	3
	Approved H&S human, social and political behavior (fulfills University Core social/behavioral sciences)	
	Approved H&S literature and civilization (fulfills University Core humanities/fine arts)	
	Approved H&S science and technology (fulfills University Core natural/physical sciences)	
	Approved H&S general education electives	6-8
	Experiential fine arts ¹	1-3
	Foreign language through the 102 level (by course or placement)	0-8
Total Hours		11-23

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Course offered by the School of the Arts

Collateral requirements

Course	Title	Hours
Select one sequence from:		
BIOL 101 & BIOZ 101	Biological Concepts and Biological Concepts Laboratory (fulfills H&S science and technology)	0-4
BIOL 151 & BIOZ 151	Introduction to Biological Sciences I and Introduction to Biological Science Laboratory I	

Natural science: 200-level or higher biology course or 100-level or higher chemistry or physics course	3
Total Hours	3-7

Major requirements

Course	Title	Hours
GSWS 201	Introduction to Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies	3
GSWS 301 or GSWS 352	Feminist Social Theory Feminist Literary Theory	3
GSWS 393	Feminist Research and Methods	3
GSWS 401	Topical Senior Seminar (capstone)	3
GSWS diversity/international perspectives on gender, sexuality and women (200- to 400-level)		3
GSWS health and science perspectives (300- to 400-level)		9
GSWS electives		6
Total Hours		30

Open electives

Course	Title	Hours
Select 30-55 open elective credits		30-55

The minimum total of credit hours required for this degree is 120.

Perspective areas

Note: A course listed in two different areas may not be used to fulfill both area requirements for the major. Some courses may have prerequisites to meet before enrollment.

Course	Title	Hours
Diversity/international perspectives on gender, sexuality and women		
GSWS/AFAM/SOCY 305	African American Family in Social Context	3
GSWS/AFAM/POLI 318	Politics of Race, Class and Gender	3
GSWS 339/HIST 330	History of Women in Europe I	3
GSWS 340/HIST 331	History of Women in Europe II	3
GSWS/ENGL 353	Women Writers (when international writers)	3
GSWS/ENGL 354	Queer Literature	3
GSWS 366/INTL 368/ POLI 366	Women and Global Politics	3
GSWS/RELS 371	Women in Islam	3
GSWS/INTL/RELS 372	Global Women's Spirituality	3
GSWS 380	Lesbian and Bisexual Women	3
GSWS/AFAM/HIST 390	Africa and the Americas: Slavery, Gender and Race	3
GSWS/FLET/INTL 391	Topics in Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies (Topics in Foreign Literature in English Translation - when the topic is women Francophone writers)	3
GSWS 450	Black Feminist Thought	3

Humanities perspectives on women on gender, sexuality and women

GSWS/ENGL 236	Women in Literature	3
GSWS 339/HIST 330	History of Women in Europe I	3
GSWS 340/HIST 331	History of Women in Europe II	3
GSWS/HIST 341	History of Gender and Sexuality in America I	3
GSWS/ENGL 352	Feminist Literary Theory	3
GSWS/ENGL 353	Women Writers	3
GSWS/ENGL 354	Queer Literature	3
GSWS 355	Queer Cinema	3
GSWS 356	Open Minds	3
GSWS/RELS 371	Women in Islam	3
GSWS/INTL/RELS 372	Global Women's Spirituality	3
GSWS/RELS 373	Gender and the Bible	3
GSWS/AFAM/HIST 390	Africa and the Americas: Slavery, Gender and Race	3
GSWS 391/ENGL 410	Topics in Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies (Medieval Studies: _____ - when the topic is women)	3
GSWS 391/ENGL 411	Topics in Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies (Early Modern Studies: _____ - when the topic is women)	3
GSWS 391/ENGL 412	Topics in Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies (18th-century Studies - when the topic is women)	3
GSWS 391/ENGL 491	Topics in Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies (Topics in Writing - when the topic is women)	3
GSWS/FLET 391	Topics in Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies (Topics in Foreign Literature in English Translation - when the topic women Francophone writers)	3
GSWS/PHIL 391	Topics in Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies (Topics in Philosophy - when the topic is women and science)	3
GSWS 450	Black Feminist Thought	3
GSWS/ENGL/LING 452	Language and Gender	3
GSWS 457/ ARTH 357	Women, Art and Society	3
Social science perspectives on women on gender, sexuality and women		
GSWS 301	Feminist Social Theory	3
GSWS/ANTH/SOCY 304	Sociology of Families	3
GSWS/AFAM/SOCY 305	African American Family in Social Context	3
GSWS/POLI 316	Women and the Law	3
GSWS/POLI/AFAM 318	Politics of Race, Class and Gender	3
GSWS/POLI 319	Women and American Politics	3
GSWS/SOCY 333	Gender in Society	3
GSWS/SOCY 334	Sociology of Women	3
GSWS/PSYC 335	Psychology of Women	3
GSWS/SOCY 336	Violence Against Women	3

GSWS/POLI 366/ INTL 368	Women and Global Politics	3
GSWS 380	Lesbian and Bisexual Women	3
GSWS/CRJS 382	Gender, Crime and Justice	3
GSWS/POLI 391	Topics in Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies (Topics in Political Science - when the topic is gender politics in popular culture)	3
GSWS 391	Topics in Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies (Topics in Political Science - when the topic is contemporary issues in feminist theory)	3
GSWS/POLI 391	Topics in Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies (Topics in Political Science - when the topic is women and health care policy)	3
GSWS/POLI 391	Topics in Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies (Topics in Political Science - when the topic is reproductive technologies, ethics and policies)	3
GSWS 450	Black Feminist Thought	3
GSWS/AFAM 491	Topics in Women's Studies (when the topic is anthropological and international perspectives on women and health)	3
Health and science		
GSWS/SOCY 333	Gender in Society	3
GSWS/PSYC 335	Psychology of Women	3
GSWS/SOCY 336	Violence Against Women	3
GSWS 391/ENVS 491	Topics in Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies (Topics in Environmental Studies - when the topic is women, nature and the environment)	3
GSWS/FLET 391	Topics in Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies (Topics in Foreign Literature in Translation - when the topic is women and madness in Francophone literature)	3
GSWS 391/ MASC 491	Topics in Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies (Topics in Mass Communications - when the topic is women and technology)	3
GSWS/PHIL 391	Topics in Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies (Topics in Philosophy - when the topic is women and science)	3
GSWS/POLI 391	Topics in Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies (Topics in Political Science - when the topic is women and health care policy)	3
GSWS/POLI 391	Topics in Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies (Topics in Political Science - when the topic is reproductive technologies, ethics and policies)	3
GSWS 392	Women's Health Care Across the Life Span	3
GSWS 393	Feminist Research and Methods	3

GSWS/AFAM 491	Topics in Women's Studies (when the topic is anthropological and international perspectives on women and health)	3
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What follows is a sample plan that meets the prescribed requirements within a four-year course of study at VCU. Please contact your adviser before beginning course work toward a degree.

Freshman year

Fall semester		Hours
STAT 208	Statistical Thinking (or other approved quantitative literacy course)	3
UNIV 101	Introduction to the University	1
UNIV 111	Focused Inquiry I	3
Play course video for Focused Inquiry I		
Approved H&S general education elective		3-4
Approved H&S human, social and political behavior		3-4
Term Hours:		13-15

Spring semester

BIOL 101	Biological Concepts ¹	4
& BIOZ 101	and Biological Concepts Laboratory (fulfills H&S science and technology) ¹	
or		
BIOL 151	Introduction to Biological Sciences I	-
& BIOZ 151	and Introduction to Biological Science Laboratory I	
GSWS 201	Introduction to Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies (fulfills H & S diverse and global communities)	3
HUMS 202	Choices in a Consumer Society	1
UNIV 112	Focused Inquiry II	3
Play course video for Focused Inquiry II		
Approved H&S literature and civilization		3
Term Hours:		14

Sophomore year

Fall semester		Hours
GSWS 301	Feminist Social Theory	3
UNIV 200	Inquiry and the Craft of Argument	3
Approved H&S general education elective		3-4
Foreign language (101-level)		4
Natural science (200-level or higher biology, or 100-level or higher chemistry or physics) (CHEM 110 or PHYS 103 fulfills H&S science and technology or H&S general education elective, if needed)		3
Term Hours:		16-17

Spring semester

GSWS diversity/international perspectives on gender, sexuality and women (200- to 400-level)	3
GSWS health and science perspectives (300- to 400-level)	3
Experiential fine arts	1-3

Foreign language (102-level)	4
Open elective (or approved H&S science and technology if not satisfied above)	3
Term Hours:	14-16
Junior year	
Fall semester	
GSWS 393 Feminist Research and Methods	3
GSWS health and science perspectives (300- to 400-level)	3
Open electives	9
Term Hours:	15
Spring semester	
GSWS elective	3
GSWS health and science perspectives (300- to 400-level)	3
Open electives	12
Term Hours:	18
Senior year	
Fall semester	
GSWS 401 Topical Senior Seminar (capstone)	3
Open electives	12
Term Hours:	15
Spring semester	
GSWS elective	3
Open electives	12
Term Hours:	15
Total Hours:	120-125

The minimum total of credit hours required for this degree is 120.

GSWS 201. Introduction to Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. An interdisciplinary and cross-cultural introduction to the perspectives and core concerns pertaining to gender, sexuality and women's studies.

GSWS 202. Introduction to Trans Studies. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Introduces students to the field of transgender studies. Introduces students to trans identities, communities and politics and explores the historical and contemporary production of gender norms and the institutions and mechanisms that police those norms.

GSWS 205. Introduction to LGBT+ and Queer Studies. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Stresses intersectional approaches to LGBT+ and queer studies. Introduces students to a broad field of study across disciplines, cultures and historical periods.

GSWS 236. Women in Literature. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: UNIV 112 or both ENGL 295 and HONR 200. An introduction to literature by and/or about women. Crosslisted as: ENGL 236.

GSWS 291. Topics in Women's Studies. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. May be repeated with different topics for a total of 6 credits. An in-depth examination of specialized areas of interest in women's studies. See the Schedule of Classes for specific topics to be offered each semester.

GSWS 301. Feminist Social Theory. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Pre- or corequisite: UNIV 200 or HONR 200. This course examines the major theoretical traditions and thinkers of feminist theory from the works of early liberal feminists like Wollstonecraft to the present thought of postmodern and lesbian feminists like Wittig. It examines arguments about human nature, the origins and effects of patriarchy, the conflict between equality and gender difference and feminist critiques of traditional theories of knowledge.

GSWS 302. Trans Theory and Activism. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: GSWS 202. Examines the production and policing of gender norms, both historically and in the contemporary moment. Offers students the opportunity to delve more deeply into the field of trans studies, reading key new works in the field and developing their own substantive research projects.

GSWS 304. Sociology of Families. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: SOCY 101 or ANTH 103/INTL 103. The family in its social and cultural context. Analysis of child rearing, marriage, kinship, family crises and family change in various societies around the world. Crosslisted as: ANTH 304/ SOCY 304.

GSWS 305. African American Family in Social Context. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: SOCY 101. A socio-historical examination of the development of the family system of Americans from Africa. Focuses on large-scale (macro level) processes such as changes in the major mode of economic production and in political systems and the corresponding changes in black family structure and functioning. Presents the theoretical material on African-American families and social change that prepares students for further study of the family as a social institution and for the study of family policy. This course is designed to meet the needs of upper-division social science majors. Crosslisted as: AFAM 305/SOCY 305.

GSWS 309. Gender and Global Health. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Examines how health policies produce and regulate gendered bodies and sexualities. Topics may include how colonial medicine and health policies of detection, diagnosis, surveillance, quarantine and confinement were implemented as methods of social control. Analyzes continuities between colonial medicine and more contemporary interventions that in the name of individual and communal health attempt to shape proper sexualities and gendering. Crosslisted as: AFAM 309/ANTH 309/INTL 309.

GSWS 316. Women and the Law. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. This course will introduce students to the history, politics and status of women under the American legal system. Topics to be covered may include equal protection, sexual violence, the particular rights of women of color and lesbians, reproductive rights of women of color and lesbians, reproductive rights, women criminals and women in the legal profession. Crosslisted as: POLI 316.

GSWS 318. Politics of Race, Class and Gender. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. A study of the racial, class and gender influences on the history and development of political values, conflicts, processes, structures and public policy in the United States. Crosslisted as: AFAM 318/POLI 318.

GSWS 319. Women and American Politics. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. This course analyzes the participation of women in American politics. Attention is given to both women's historical and contemporary roles in politics, their participation as voters and citizens, and their behavior as candidates and office holders. Additional topics may include workplace, family and education issues and reproductive rights. Crosslisted as: POLI 319.

GSWS 333. Gender in Society. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: SOCY 101 or permission of instructor. Explores different theoretical approaches to gender and its intersections with other sources of inequality, including sexuality, race, class and age. Possible topics include masculinities, gender and the body, and how gender operates in various institutional settings, such as the economy and the family. Crosslisted as: SOCY 333.

GSWS 334. Sociology of Women. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: SOCY 101 or consent of instructor. This course will examine the position and status of women across societies and the social forces that maintain existing patterns and arrangements. The integration of family and work in women's lives will be emphasized. Crosslisted as: SOCY 334.

GSWS 335. Psychology of Women. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: PSYC 101. Overview of issues in psychology relevant to women. Topics include: research methods of women's issues; sex-role socialization; women and hormones; psychological androgyny; personality theory and counseling strategies for women; women and language; women and violence; and rape and abuse. Crosslisted as: PSYC 335.

GSWS 336. Violence Against Women. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: SOCY 101 or GSWS 201. An examination of violence against women from a global and local perspective with a primary focus on violence perpetrated against women in the U.S. Requires a minimum of 20 hours of community service. Crosslisted as: SOCY 336.

GSWS 339. History of Women in Europe I. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. A survey of European women from antiquity to the Enlightenment. A major focus will be primary sources by and about women. Crosslisted as: HIST 330.

GSWS 340. History of Women in Europe II. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. A survey of European women from the French Revolution to the present. A major focus will be primary sources by and about women. Crosslisted as: HIST 331.

GSWS 341. History of Gender and Sexuality in America I. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Analyzes historical changes in gender and sexuality from the first colonial settlements through the Civil War. Explores the changing relation of femininity and masculinity to families, economics, politics, religions, race and culture for the wide variety of peoples who inhabited, immigrated to or were forced to migrate to America and the subsequent United States. Crosslisted as: HIST 365.

GSWS 352. Feminist Literary Theory. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: ENGL 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 211, 215, 236, 291 or 295. The study of contemporary feminist thought and feminist approaches to analyzing literature and culture. This course examines the history and development of feminist theory as a methodology in the humanities, explores several of the major theoretical trends of the past 30 years and examines applications of feminist theory to specific works of literature. Crosslisted as: ENGL 352.

GSWS 353. Women Writers. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. May be repeated once when a different group of writers is studied. Prerequisite: ENGL 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 211, 215, 236, 291 or 295. A study of selected literature written by women and about women writers. Crosslisted as: ENGL 353.

GSWS 354. Queer Literature. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: ENGL 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 211, 215, 236, 291 or 295. A study of queer literature. Considers issues of history, theory, aesthetics, politics, authorship and interpretive communities and examines the intersection of social identities with particular attention to race/ethnicity, sex, sexual orientation, gender expression, class and/or nationality. Crosslisted as: ENGL 354.

GSWS 355. Queer Cinema. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: UNIV 200 or HONR 200. Theoretical focus on cinematic works about and/or by those identifying as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or queer. Examines concepts of gender, sexuality and women's studies through analysis of selected works in the medium of film as well as engages with theoretical texts in the field.

GSWS 356. Open Minds. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: UNIV 200 or HONR 200. Experiential seminar held at a local correctional institution that connects students to inmates as learning partners. Examines the history and development of American prisons in context, supplementing theoretical studies with the lived experiences of inmates.

GSWS 366. Women and Global Politics. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. A study of women and global politics, providing both a feminist re-examination of traditional international-relations theories and a comparative analysis of the political, legal and economic status of the world's women. The impact of women on global political institutions such as the United Nations will be addressed as well as other feminist and grass roots means of taking political action. Crosslisted as: POLI 366/INTL 368.

GSWS 371. Women in Islam. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: UNIV 200 or HONR 200, RELS 108, GSWS 201 or ENGL 215. Critical study of the roles and rights of women in Islam. Crosslisted as: RELS 371.

GSWS 372. Global Women's Spirituality. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Explores the spiritual writings of women in various cultures and religious traditions. Crosslisted as: RELS 372/INTL 372.

GSWS 373. Gender and the Bible. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisites: RELS 108 or GSWS 201 or RELS 301 or RELS 302; and ENGL 215 or UNIV 200 or HONR 200. Studies the Hebrew and Christian scriptures with emphasis on gender. Attention to traditional, feminist, womanist and postcolonial interpretation. Crosslisted as: RELS 373.

GSWS 380. Lesbian and Bisexual Women. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. This course examines the lives of contemporary lesbian and bisexual women from psychological, sociological, developmental, political and cultural perspectives. The intersection of race, class, ethnicity, religion, age, disability and locale with lesbian/bisexual identity will be explored.

GSWS 382. Gender, Crime and Justice. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: CRJS 181 or permission of instructor. Examines the role of gender as it relates to crime and justice. Special attention will focus on the gendered experiences of practitioners, offenders and victims within the criminal justice system in terms of processing, adjudication and institutional responses. Crosslisted as: CRJS 382.

GSWS 390. Africa and the Americas: Slavery, Gender and Race. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Examines various aspects of slavery in Africa and selected parts of the African diaspora, including the United States, Canada and the Caribbean, with special emphasis on the role played by race and gender. Topics will include African conditions of servility, the trans-Atlantic trade in enslaved Africans, and chattel slavery, demography, labor, law, discipline, abuse, resistance and status. Crosslisted as: AFAM 390/HIST 380.

GSWS 391. Topics in Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. May be repeated with different topics for a maximum of 12 credits. An in-depth examination of specialized areas of interest in gender, sexuality and women's studies. See the Schedule of Classes for specific topics to be offered each semester.

GSWS 392. Women's Health Care Across the Life Span. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. This course is intended for upper-level undergraduate students. Introduces students to the health issues that affect women throughout the life span. The impact of physiological, psychological, cultural and political factors upon women's well-being will be addressed.

GSWS 393. Feminist Research and Methods. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Completion of STAT 210 (or equivalent) is strongly recommended. Explores the implications of feminist theorizing across disciplinary and cultural contexts for both methodology and epistemology. Examines how knowledge and power intersect, how gender theory and feminist politics influence research, how the knower influences knowledge production and how social location shapes inquiry.

GSWS 401. Topical Senior Seminar. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: 21 credits in gender, sexuality and women's studies or permission of the instructor. Students are required to produce a senior research project on a topic related to the theme of the seminar.

GSWS 409. LGBTQ Health and Wellness. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisites: GSWS 201; and UNIV 200 or HONR 200. Examines LGBTQ health and wellness, broadly defined. Examines core health issues, such as physical and mental health disparities, health care access, wellness practices and policy/care systems dimensions. Focuses on multiplicative marginalization and how race, ethnicity, class, gender, rurality, poverty, immigration and adolescence, among other factors, impact core health issues.

GSWS 414. Psychology of Women's Health. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Overviews the psychological research on women's health. Topics include health behavior change, personality and individual differences, cognitive factors, disease-specific behaviors and interventions. Crosslisted as: PSYC 414.

GSWS 450. Black Feminist Thought. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: UNIV 200 or HONR 200. Theoretical focus on black feminist thought, spanning the first wave of feminism in the U.S. from the late-19th and early 20th century onward. Though primarily U.S.-focused, this course examines black feminist thought globally, as well as that of lesbians, transgendered or queer individuals, foregrounding topics such as race, gender, class, sexuality, activism, liberation, labor and social movements. Also examines the history and development of black feminist thought, considers it as a methodology in the humanities and social sciences, explores several of its major theoretical trends of the past 100 years and examines its applications to cultural phenomena and current events.

GSWS 452. Language and Gender. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisite: UNIV 200 or HONR 200. A study of relationships between gender and language focusing on such issues as differences between the ways women and men use language, relationships between language and power and ways in which language reflects and reinforces cultural attitudes toward gender. May not be used to satisfy the literature requirement of the College of Humanities and Sciences. Crosslisted as: ENGL 452/LING 452.

GSWS 453. Western Religions, Women and Social Justice. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisites: UNIV 200 or HONR 200; and RELS 108, GSWS 201 or WRLD 210. Explores the experience and portrayal of women in the three Abrahamic traditions: Judaism, Islam and Christianity. Study focuses on how these religions and their texts bear upon the social, economic, political and spiritual lives of women. Special attention is given to the impact of globalization and religious fundamentalism on women. Crosslisted as: INTL 453/RELS 453.

GSWS 457. Women, Art and Society. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. Prerequisites: ARTH 103, ARTH 104, and UNIV 200 or HONR 200. Enrollment is restricted to School of the Arts majors. A re-examination of a variety of issues concerning women, art and society: the position assigned women within the history of art as it relates to historical place and the aesthetic values of the canon, the gendering of style, patronage, audience, and gaze. Through a survey of images of and by women, as well as through an analysis of art historical and critical texts, this course addresses the question: "How are the processes of sexual differentiation played out across the representations of art and art history?" Crosslisted as: ARTH 357.

GSWS 491. Topics in Women's Studies. 3 Hours.

Semester course; 3 lecture hours. 3 credits. May be repeated with different topics for a total of 12 credits. An in-depth examination of specialized areas of interest in women's studies. See the Schedule of Classes for specific topics to be offered each semester.

GSWS 492. Independent Study. 1-4 Hours.

Semester course; variable hours. Variable credit. Maximum of 4 credits per semester; maximum total of 4 credits in all independent study courses. Open generally to students of only junior and senior standing who have acquired at least 12 credits in women's studies courses. Determination of the amount of credit and permission of the instructor and coordinator must be obtained prior to registration for the course.

GSWS 493. Internship. 1-3 Hours.

Semester course; variable hours. 1, 2 or 3 credits. May be repeated for a maximum total of 6 credits. Prerequisites: internship credit is limited to students with a minimum grade point average of 3.0 and junior or senior status. Directed internship, local or abroad, or other approved study-abroad experience with the objective to provide real-life experience. Determination of the amount of credit (based on hours or effort required) and permission of departmental internship coordinator must be obtained prior to registration for the course. Graded pass/fail.