

Women's and Gender Studies

253.535.7397

www.plu.edu/~womenstu

womenstu@plu.edu

At the core of the Women's and Gender Studies (WMGS) program at PLU is a vibrant, diverse, and supportive community of feminist women and men, working to enhance and reinforce the individual goals and strengths of each student. This multiplicity of resources and talents allow our courses to draw upon many different academic areas, explore themes such as gender and sexual identity, emphasize critical examination of racism, classism, and other forms of inequity and discrimination, and focus on the pursuit of social justice.

Women's and Gender Studies courses offer critical analysis of traditional social institutions, such as religion, arts, science, law, education, medicine, and the family, and their relationship to each person's gender, sexual identity, class, and race. Reflecting the importance of dialogue and collaboration in feminism, classroom activities include a rich mix of group-based projects, discussion, and other forms of inquiry. The multidisciplinary nature of our program invites Women's and Gender Studies students to sample many topics and learn through a variety of intellectual and life experiences, from reading the literatures of under-represented communities to creating visual artwork, visiting a prison for women, and learning how to initiate, mediate and engage in an ongoing discourse about challenging issues.

The Women's and Gender Studies senior capstone exemplifies our program's emphasis on combining inquiry with experience. For the capstone, each Women's and Gender Studies major works with faculty mentors to design an internship or service learning project that fits creatively her or his unique vocational and academic interests. One student with a background in nursing or biology, for example, might work in a program that offers pre-natal care for low-income women, while another student with expertise in social work and public policy might assist an organization working to reduce domestic violence, or a student interested in feminist theater could work with the Women's Center to shape PLU's annual production of "The Vagina Monologues"!

The Women's and Gender Studies program gives students the important tools, resources, and language needed for personal empowerment, especially useful since it is easy to feel overwhelmed and resigned in the face of injustices. Upon completion of this program, each PLU Women's and Gender Studies graduate is prepared to creatively and effectively pursue social justice in her or his own way. As teachers, scientists, volunteers, artists, writers, entrepreneurs, or family members, our graduates are making positive changes in the way gender and sexual identity are understood globally in the 21st century. We invite you to join our community of scholars and agents of social change.

Faculty: Women's Studies Executive Committee: Gregson, Chair; Barot, Ciabattari, Hughes, Kraig, Lisosky, Marcus, Mathews, Simic-Muller, Sklar, Taylor, Urdangarain.

MAJOR

The Women's and Gender Studies major is a multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary complementary major. Conferral of a

baccalaureate degree with a major in Women's and Gender Studies requires completion of a second major from any discipline in the university. Students are encouraged to declare both majors simultaneously and to plan a program aware of the possibilities for applying individual courses to both majors. The Women's and Gender Studies major allows application of courses from the second major and for general university requirements to the Women's and Gender Studies major.

32 semester hours, including:

- WMGS 201 (four semester hours)
- Two courses each from the Women/Feminism approved program core course list (eight semester hours)
- Two courses each from the Gender/Sexuality approved program core course list (eight semester hours)
- Two elective courses approved by the WMGS program chair or from the list of approved WMGS courses
- Completion of the Women's and Gender Studies and Vocation Capstone Experience (WMGS 495 or WMGS 491, four semester hours)
- Students are required to complete a minimum of four upper-division courses in the program core and electives.

A. WMGS 201: Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies
Four semester hours

B. Program Core Courses **16 semester hours**

Students must take one class each from the following four areas (one each from Group A and Group B under both Women & Feminism and Gender & Sexuality):

• **Women and Feminism**

Group A:

- ENGL 232: Women's Literature (4)
- ENGL 341: Feminist Approaches to Literature (4)
- RELI 368: Feminist & Womanist Theologies (4)

Group B:

- HIST 359: History of Women in the U.S. (4)
- PHIL 220: Women and Philosophy (4)
- PSYC 375: Psychology of Women (4)

• **Gender & Sexuality**

Group C:

- ANTH 350: Women & Men in World Cultures (4)
- PSYC 370: Gender and Sexuality (4)
- SOCI 440: Sex, Gender & Society

Group D:

- COMA 303: Gender & Communication (4)
- PHED 315: Body Image (4)

C. Electives

Eight semester hours

Students must complete two additional courses beyond the core courses required. These may be selected from:

Additional WMGS core courses not taken to satisfy the Program Core Courses requirement

Courses from an approved list published in the Women's & Gender Studies section in class schedules

Courses from any discipline for which at least 60% of the assignments center on women, feminism, gender, and/

or sexuality. This allows the integration of Women's and Gender Studies perspectives into courses that are not explicitly or entirely structured around those perspectives. Consent of the instructor is required. Students should consult the Women's and Gender Studies chair about this option before the course begins (when possible) and will be assignments to the Women's and Gender Studies Executive Committee for approval upon completion of the course.

D. Capstone Experience: Women's and Gender Studies and Vocation

Four semester hours

This requirement can be satisfied in three ways:

1. WMGS Service Learning

Four semester hours of WMGS 491:

Independent Study: Service Learning (SR)

Service learning refers to those broad or introductory experiences with groups, in agencies or organization that enable the student to gain awareness, to develop ideas, and to pursue social justice. Student identify a faculty sponsor approved by WMGS, arrange for a service learning experience through the Center for Public Service or directly with the site of the service, then develop, with the approval of the WMGS sponsor, a learning contact that includes learning objectives specific to women, feminism or gender. Service learning contracts also require the approval of the agency or organization supervisor.

2. WMGS 495 Internship (SR)

Total of four semester hours

Internships are pragmatic, employer based experiences in which students apply knowledge they've already acquired, build competence, and test values in setting like those in which they may seek employment. Students identify a faculty member approved by WMGS, arrange for an internship through the Center for Public Service or directly with the site of the service, then, with the approval of the WMST sponsor, develop a learning contract that includes learning objectives specific to women, feminism or gender. Internship learning contacts also require the approval of the agency or organization supervisor.

3. WMGS Internship concurrent with another, non-WMGS internship

Two semester hours of WMGS 495, plus at least two internship semester hours from another discipline

Some fields of study allow or require students to complete an internship in which they integrate knowledge, demonstrate skills and act upon values learned in the classroom with current practice in an agency or organizational setting. For such an internship to count toward the WMGS major, students must select a faculty member approved by WMGS and develop a learning contract that pertains to the internship in the other major but reflects WMGS skills, knowledge, and applications. The student must then arrange for two additional internship credits in WMGS 495 with the sponsoring WMGS faculty member. Internship learning contracts also require the

approval of the agency or organization supervisor and the PLU faculty member supervising internship within the discipline. Earning credits from both WMGS and another department may not always require additional hours at the site, but the learning contact will require additional research, reading and writing to incorporate content specific to women, feminism or gender.

Requests for credit toward the Women's and Gender Studies major and minor from transfer courses must be approved by the Women's and Gender Studies Executive Committee. Submit syllabus and course assignments to the Women's and Gender Studies chair. At least 17 hours of the major and 10 hours of the minor must be completed at PLU.

MINOR

20 semester hours, including:

- WMGS 201 (Four semester hours)
- Two program core courses (Eight semester hours):
 - Four semester hours from Group A or B: Women and Feminism
 - Four semester hours from Group C or D: Gender and Sexuality
 - Select from the Program Core courses as listed above under the WMGS Major.
- Two elective courses (eight semester hours) approved by the WMGS program chair or from the list of approved WMGS courses.

Students must complete two additional courses beyond the core courses required. These may be selected from:

- Additional WMGS core courses not taken to satisfy the Program Core Courses requirement.
- Courses from any discipline for which at least 60% of the assignments center on women, feminism, gender, and/or sexuality. This allows the integration of Women's and Gender Studies perspectives into courses that are not explicitly or entirely structured around those perspectives. Consent of the instructor is required. Students should consult the Women's and Gender Studies chair about this option before the course begins (when possible) and will be required to submit the syllabus and relevant assignments to the Women's and Gender Studies Executive Committee for approval upon completion of the course.

To view Women's and Gender Studies (WMGS) courses, go to the PLU Directory of Approved Courses on page 220.

Writing

253.535-8709

Faculty: Levy, Director

To view Writing (WRIT) courses, go to the PLU Directory of Approved Courses on page 220.

theatre as an institution that both reflects historical moments and participates in the forming of social values and ideas. (4)

THEA 365: Theatre History II

This course surveys the history of theatre from the end of the 18th century through the present day. Students will examine theatre as an institution that both reflects historical moments and participates in the forming of social values and ideas. (4)

THEA 387: ST in Theatre

This course will be offered as needed, and it will allow the faculty and guest artists to explore areas of expertise and interest that are not normally taught as part of the curriculum. Concentrated study of a major theatrical period, movement, author, theme, genre, performance style, culture or technology (2-4)

THEA 425: Theatre Practicum

One semester hour may be earned each semester, but only four semester hours may be used to meet university requirements. Students put classroom theory to practical application by individually completing a project relating to an aspect of theatre. An instructor in the area of interest must approve the project and agree to provide guidance. Required of all Design/Tech Majors. (1)

THEA 450: Acting III - Shakespeare

This is an advanced course in acting designed to focus on language, interpretation, and enhancing audience appreciation and understanding. Advanced techniques in text analysis, focusing on scansion, the study of Shakespeare's folio, and in-depth scene study and performance. **Prerequisites:** THEA 220 and 250 or consent of instructor. (4)

THEA 453: Costume Design – AR

Development of artistic and technical abilities in the field of costume design incorporating history, patterns, and renderings. (4)

THEA 455: Scenic Design – AR

Development of the artistic and technical abilities in the field of scenic design by incorporating varied periods and styles as well as preparation of models, rendering, and drafting. (4)

THEA 470: Play Direction

This course examines the role of the director, historically and critically, and includes intensive study that is both practical and theoretical in its approach to the art of play direction. Each student is required to direct a variety of scenes; a final project, consisting of a contemporary scene, will culminate the course. **Prerequisites:** THEA 250 and 255, or consent of instructor. (4)

THEA 491: Independent Studies

Investigations or research in area of special interest not covered by regular courses; open to qualified junior or senior students. Requires pre-registration approved by a departmental sponsor. (1-4)

THEA 492: Independent Studies

Investigations or research in area of special interest not covered by regular courses; open to qualified junior or senior students.

Requires pre-registration approved by a departmental sponsor. (1-4)

THEA 493: Independent Studies

Investigations or research in area of special interest not covered by regular courses; open to qualified junior or senior students. Requires pre-registration approved by a departmental sponsor. (1-4)

Women's and Gender Studies (WMGS)

WMGS 201: Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies – A

An interdisciplinary introduction to the themes, issues, and methodological approaches that are central to the study of women, feminism, gender construction, and sexuality. Open to all students; required for WMGS majors and minors. (4)

WMGS 491: Independent Studies: Service Learning – SR

Readings, research projects, or service learning projects in areas or issues of Women's and Gender Studies, under the supervision of a faculty member. With approval of WMGS chair, may be used to satisfy WMGS capstone requirement. (1-4)

WMGS 495: Internship – SR

A pragmatic, employer based experience in which students apply knowledge already acquired, build competence, and test values in settings like those in which they may seek employment. Internships require the approval of a WMGS faculty member who will supervise the work of the agency or organization supervisor who will directly supervise the student. With approval of WMGS chair, may be used to satisfy WMGS capstone requirement. (2 or 4)

Writing (WRIT)

WRIT 101: Writing Seminar – FW, WR

See General Education Program, The First-Year Experience. (4)

WRIT 201: Writing Seminars for International Students – WR

Organized thematically, these courses emphasize both the mechanics and process of writing. Students are placed in WRIT 201 or WRIT 202 according to ability. (4)

WRIT 202: Advanced Writing Seminar for International Students - WR

Organized thematically, this advanced course emphasizes both the mechanics and process of writing. Students are placed according to ability. (4)

