
GENDER AND QUEER STUDIES PROGRAM

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About the Program

As the home to one of the nation's first Women's Studies programs, the University of Puget Sound has a long tradition of exploring issues pertaining to sexuality, identity, and gender. The current Gender and Queer Studies program has the following learning objectives:

1. To understand, apply and critique key concepts and theoretical positions in feminist, gender and queer studies;
2. To use and interrogate gender and sexuality as categories of analysis at various levels, such as individual, interactional, institutional, and global and in specific historical, cultural, and disciplinary contexts;
3. To reconsider and denaturalize identities and experiences as embedded in and produced by interlocking systems of power and inequalities;
4. To integrate feminist, gender and queer analysis into educational and activist practices: in students' research, writing and classroom interactions and in public scholarship, activism, and everyday life.

General Requirements for a Minor

General university degree requirements stipulate that 1) three units of the minor be taken in residence at Puget Sound; 2) students earn a GPA of 2.0 in courses taken for the minor; and 3) all courses taken for a minor must be taken for graded credit. Any exceptions to these stipulations are indicated in the minor degree requirements listed below.

Requirements for the Gender and Queer Studies Minor

Completion of a minimum of five units to include:

1. GQS 201 (introductory survey)
2. GQS 360 (theory and methods course)
3. GQS 494 (thesis course)
4. At least two elective courses from the list below.

Note: Only one course taken for the major may be used to satisfy the requirements for the Gender and Queer Studies minor.

Course offerings with credit for Gender and Queer Studies

AFAM 210 Black Fictions and Feminism
AFAM 355 African American Women in American History
BIOL 102 Evolution and Biology of Sex
BUS 493 International Management: A Gender-Based Perspective
CLSC 225 Gender and Identity in Greece and Rome
COMM/AFAM 370 Communication and Diversity
COMM 422 Advanced Media Studies
CONN 332 Witchcraft in Colonial New England
CONN 340 Gender and Communication
CONN 354 Hormones, Sex, Society and Self
ECON 244 Gender and the Economy
EDUC 290 Making Men: Schools and Masculinity

ENGL 206 Literature by Women
ENGL 381 Major Authors (depending on subject; not all sections are GQS approved)
ENGL 365 Gender and Sexualities
ENGL 383 Studies in 17th and 18th Century American Literature (depending on subject; not all sections are GQS approved)
GQS 220 What is Queer? Introduction to Queer Studies
GQS/HUM 327 Queer Cultures
GQS 310 Histories and Theories of Sexuality
GQS 340 Feminist and Queer Methodologies
HIST 305 Women and Gender in Pre-Modern Europe
HIST 349 Women of East Asia
HIST 392 Men and Women in Colonial Africa
MUSC 223 Women in Music
PHIL/PG 390 Gender and Philosophy
PSYC 250 Human Sexuality
REL 215 Religion and Queer Politics
REL 303 Sexuality and Religion
REL 307 Prisons, Gender, and Education
REL 321 Sexuality and Christianity: Then and Now
REL 368 Gender Matters
SOAN 202 Family in Society: Critical Perspectives
SOAN 212 Sociology of Gender
SOAN 315 Identity Politics in Latin America
SOAN 316 Social and Cultural Change
SOAN 318 Women and Global Inequality
SOAN 390 Men and Masculinities
STS 318 Science and Gender

Other courses may be added to this list on a semester-by-semester basis.

Program Course Offerings

Unless otherwise specified, each course carries 1 unit of credit and is offered at least once each academic year.

201 Introduction to Gender, Queer, and Feminist Studies This course serves as an introduction to Gender, Queer and Feminist Studies. It surveys the history of feminisms, and then explores the rise and trajectories of gender studies and queer studies. The course engages with the ways in which gender, sexuality, race, class, ability/disability, and other facets of identity intersect with each other. Students will consider the implications of activism as well as the academic development of these disciplines, and they will engage with the ways that the readings touch upon their own lives. *Satisfies the Humanistic Approaches core requirement. Satisfies the Knowledge, Identity, and Power graduation requirement. Offered every semester.*

220 What Is Queer? Rather than approaching 'queer' as a designated set of identities or a defined area of study, this course explores an ongoing question, asking: what kinds of bodies, desires, histories, and politics does queer describe? This inquiry includes Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Intersex (LGBTI) lives and histories. However, students also look beyond these social identities to broadly investigate sexualities and genders that fall outside the cultural norm and analyze how these norms are constructed and contested. Satisfies the Knowledge, Identity, and Power graduation requirement. *Offered every other year.*

291 Gender and Queer Studies Publication 0.25 activity unit Gender and Queer Studies Publication is an activity credit for participation in a campus publication of literary and artistic materials related to ques-

tions of gender and sexuality. The program requires editing, reviewing, criticism, and oral discussion of manuscripts and artwork on a weekly basis. The program also includes active promotion and publicizing of the Publication as well as managing the Publication organization as a whole. *The course must be taken as pass/fail grading. Offered each year.*

310 Histories and Theories of Sexuality What does it mean to study sexuality? Does it change over time and space? How does identity affect sexuality? This seminar course addresses these and other questions through an interdisciplinary approach that draws on theoretical perspectives from cultural studies, history, science, sociology, and anthropology. The course pays particular attention to how the category “sexuality” relates to concepts of race, gender, nation, class, globalization, and politics. Through authors such as the Marquis de Sade, Freud, Malinowski, Foucault, Butler, and others, the course explores how terms such as “women” and “men,” “femininity” and “masculinity,” as well as “homosexuality” and “heterosexuality” have structured people’s experiences and their perceptions of sexuality at large and the central position it occupies within culture. The course first covers some critical readings from feminist, queer, and scientific perspectives in relation to sexuality. Then, armed with these tools, students address key topics in the field around science and sexology, histories of sexuality, reproductive politics, queer theory and pedagogy, health, hook-up culture, body modification, sexual harassment and #MeToo, and global issues in sexuality. Prerequisite: GQS 201.

327 Queer Cultures Gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning (GLBTQ) are categories used to identify sub-groups within the queer community. Yet within these groups, or cultures, exist vastly complex and different experiences. In the struggle for social justice and equity, queers navigate the tension of remaining hidden—to fit into the dominant culture—versus being seen—to change the dominant culture. Main units include: “Science, Sexuality, and Ethics”, “Queering School Curricula”, “Marriage is a Queer Institution” and “The Disappearing Queer: Fear and Desire in Theory”. This course addresses questions such as: How are cultures constituted, experienced, and transformed? How can we interrogate category systems to understand framing assumptions and the ways categories position “majority” and “minoritized” in social contexts? What is the relationship between taking a subversive stance and social transformation? *Satisfies the Knowledge, Identity, and Power graduation requirement. Cross-listed with HUM 327. Offered each year.*

340 Feminist and Queer Methodologies This course provides students with an overview of feminist and queer methodological issues and dilemmas and a variety of research techniques and methods. We will investigate the ethics and politics of research; how theories are incorporated into research; how evidence is gathered; and what counts as truth and authority at higher levels of abstraction. We will read collaborative research by women organizing around health issues in India and education in prison, an ethnography of transgender identity, a study of women living with HIV, the graphic novel *Fun Home*, and scientific studies of lesbian sexuality. Students will come to understand how research methods direct research outcomes. The course will emphasize feminist and queer research as a deeply interdisciplinary endeavor, one that necessitates an appreciation for a variety of research approaches so that students develop the capacity to produce (and to learn from), in the words of Donna Haraway “both vertical deep studies and lateral, cross-connecting ones”.

360 Gender, Feminist and/or Queer Theories This course surveys the history and development of feminist, gender and/or queer theories, with an emphasis on theories produced in the 20th and early 21st cen-

turies. The course familiarizes students with key feminist, gender and queer theoretical debates and concepts, and requires them to read, think, speak, and write critically about these theories. Students are encouraged to employ these feminist and queer theories and concepts in critical analyses of contemporary institutions and practices, as well as in their own lives. Topics examined include power, privilege, domination, identity, difference, intersectionality, post/colonialism, trans/nationalism, ability/disability, race, discourse, performativity, gender, femininity, masculinity, sexuality, asexuality, and/or embodiment. *Offered each year.*

365 Indigenous Feminisms This course is an inquiry into the relevance of Western Feminism and to the pressing new challenges of feminist theorizing and practices. It is an exploration of how indigenous feminism, which seeks to define, explain, and improve women’s lives within patriarchal regimes of power might enrich this literature. Overall, the course addresses the intersections of race, caste, class, nationality and religion and seeks to provide students with an intellectually rigorous background in the development of South Asian scholarship and activism. *GQS 201 recommended but not required.*

494 Gender Research Seminar In this course students examine the differences between traditional scholarship and a feminist approach to knowing. Participants engage in an independent research project of their choosing, sharing process and findings with other members throughout the semester. Completion of the class includes participation in the Lewis & Clark Undergraduate Gender Studies Conference in March of each year. *Prerequisite: GQS 201, and at least one other course in the program. Offered every fall semester.*

495/496 Independent Study

498 Internship Tutorial Placement in a community or government agency dealing with social problems of particular relevance to gender, feminism, or sexuality, such as the Rainbow Center. Students develop an analysis of the group or agency’s work and make a public presentation at the end of the semester. Taken during the senior year. Internship arranged through the Internship Office. *Prerequisite: approval of the Gender and Queer Studies Director and the Internship Coordinator.*