

# WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES (WGS)

## WGS 500 Selected Topics (1-6 Credits)

*Arts & Sciences*

Exploration of a topic (to be determined) not covered by the standard curriculum but of interest to faculty and students in a particular semester. Repeatable

## WGS 512 African American Women's History (3 Credits)

*Arts & Sciences*

Cross-listed with AAS 512

The intellectual, political, and social history of African American women from pre-colonial Africa to the re-emergence of black feminism in the late 20th-century United States.

## WGS 513 Toni Morrison: Black Book Seminar (3 Credits)

*Arts & Sciences*

Cross-listed with AAS 513

A multi-dimensional study of Morrison's bookwork: fiction, non-fiction, and scholarship. Involves conceptual frameworks and ideas that link this project with broader understandings and interpretations of Blacks in the world. A wide range of questions (i.e., aesthetics, feminisms, knowing-politics, language, race) derives from Morrison's literary witnessing of Black community life.

## WGS 525 Economics and Gender (3 Credits)

*Arts & Sciences*

Cross-listed with ECN 525

Offered only in Strasbourg. European economy, with central focus on economic principles underlying decisions to create and extend scope of European Community and on economic policies EU has followed since creation.

## WGS 553 Women and Social Change (3 Credits)

*Arts & Sciences*

Cross-listed with ANT 553

Function of changes in women's roles in sociocultural urbanization, revolution, and modernization. Women in Third World countries compared to women in industrialized countries.

## WGS 555 Food, Culture and Environment (3 Credits)

*Arts & Sciences*

Cross-listed with NSD 555

Understand the environment in which nutrition education and communication occur. The broader environment includes cultural diversity, the food system from farm to table, as well as functionality of food components.

Prereq: NSD 225

Shared Competencies: Ethics and Integrity (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/ethics-and-integrity/>)

## WGS 576 Gender, Place, and Space (3 Credits)

*Arts & Sciences*

Cross-listed with GEO 576

Contemporary debates in feminist geography on the gendered construction of space and the spatial construction of gender.

## WGS 600 Selected Topics (1-6 Credits)

*Arts & Sciences*

Exploration of a topic (to be determined) not covered by the standard curriculum but of interest to faculty and students in a particular semester. Repeatable

## WGS 601 Feminist Theories (3 Credits)

*Arts & Sciences*

Examines the conceptual underpinnings of multiple and interrelated forms of inequality; critiques existing theoretical paradigms of sex/gender; explores the politics of power, knowledge, and subjectivity; and fosters intersectional, transnational, and decolonial feminist thinking.

## WGS 605 Religion and the Body in Late Antiquity (3 Credits)

*Arts & Sciences*

Cross-listed with REL 605

History of the human body as history of its modes of construction in Graeco-Roman antiquity. Problems that arise when the body becomes a topic for religious inquiry. Readings in ancient texts and contemporary theory.

## WGS 607 Indigenous Feminist Thought and Theory (3 Credits)

*Arts & Sciences*

Cross-listed with NAT 607

Double-numbered with NAT 407, WGS 407

Surveys major theoretical interventions/debates/concerns in Native American and Indigenous Studies (NAIS) by centering Native women and Indigenous feminisms. Provides critical context for more ethical engagement with indigenous communities/knowledges. Additional work required of graduate students.

Shared Competencies: Civic and Global Responsibility (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/civic-and-global-responsibility/>); Ethics and Integrity (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/ethics-and-integrity/>)

## WGS 612 French Women Writers (3 Credits)

*Arts & Sciences*

Cross-listed with FRE 612

Double-numbered with FRE 412, WGS 412

Trends in French feminine and feminist writing from the early modern period to the present. Conducted in French. Additional work required of graduate students.

Shared Competencies: Critical and Creative Thinking (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/critical-and-creative-thinking/>)

## WGS 615 Communication, Power & Gender (3 Credits)

*Arts & Sciences*

Cross-listed with CRS 614

Consideration of the ways in which communication structures power and gender relations. Reviewing Continental and North American literature on power, and feminist literature on gender, students study how communication produces social identities and hierarchies.

## WGS 625 Feminist Organizations (3 Credits)

*Arts & Sciences*

Cross-listed with SOC 625

Double-numbered with SOC 425, WGS 425

Analyzes feminist organizing/activist work within and beyond the U.S. Interrogates what counts as feminist organizing and how different organizations use feminist principles in work for social change. Additional work required of graduate students.

## WGS 626 Persons in Social Context (3 Credits)

*Arts & Sciences*

Cross-listed with SWK 626

Assessment of behavior of diverse individuals, groups, and social systems. Applying concepts from the biological, behavioral, and social sciences in identifying and understanding forms and causes of behavior.

**WGS 627 New York City: Black Women Domestic Workers (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Cross-listed with AAS 627, SOC 627

Double-numbered with AAS 427, SOC 427, WGS 427

Historical understanding of Black women's engagement in paid domestic work in the United States, increasing need for domestic workers in the ever-changing economy and family, and the social construction of Black women as "ideal" domestic workers.

**WGS 628 Human Diversity in Social Contexts (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Cross-listed with SWK 628

Diversity, including race, gender, sexual orientation, and selected topics. Examines individual, group, and institutional identity formation. Theories of biopsychosocial development, reference group affiliation, social stratification, oppression, and institutional discrimination. Implications for social work practice.

**WGS 636 Feminist Rhetoric(s) (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Cross-listed with CRS 636, CCR 636

Double-numbered with WGS 436, CRS 436, WRT 436

Feminist rhetoric from both a historical and global context, utilizing both primary and secondary readings in order to gain a sense of breadth and depth in the field of feminist rhetoric. Additional work required of graduate students.

Shared Competencies: Critical and Creative Thinking (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/critical-and-creative-thinking/>); Communication Skills (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/communication-skills/>)

**WGS 640 Psychology of Gender (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Cross-listed with PSY 640

Research and literature related to sex differences. Process of socialization of girls and boys, women and men in American society. Permission of Instructor.  
Repeatable

**WGS 644 Feminist Theology (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Cross-listed with REL 644

Feminist theology as a global religious movement from its roots in U.S. feminism to its current political and philosophical battles.

**WGS 645 The Caribbean: Sex Workers, Transnational Capital, and Tourism (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Cross-listed with AAS 645, SOC 645

Double-numbered with AAS 445, SOC 445, WGS 445

A political economy approach to educating students about the human and capital costs of tourism to the Caribbean. The integral relationship between sex work and Caribbean tourism exposes the region's development that has resulted in its current configuration.

**WGS 649 Seminar on Women in Art (3-4 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Cross-listed with HOA 640

Women artists and images of women in the works of their contemporaries. Students conduct original research, relating topic to their specific areas of interest (interdisciplinary studies).

**WGS 652 Feminism and Postcolonial Studies (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Double-numbered with WGS 452

Introduction to postcolonial studies and its engagement with feminism. Central emphasis on questions of power and decolonization across time and space. Focus on cross-cultural feminist analysis of colonialism, capitalism, orientalism, and racism/racialization. Emphasis on questions of political economy, representation, agency, and subjectivity. Shared Competencies: Critical and Creative Thinking (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/critical-and-creative-thinking/>); Ethics and Integrity (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/ethics-and-integrity/>)

**WGS 653 Sinner and Saints in 19th and 20th Century Spanish Literature and Film (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Cross-listed with SPA 653

Representations of women in novel, poetry, theater, and film through diverse theoretical approaches. Issues of power, sex, hierarchy, and institution.

**WGS 655 Culture and AIDS (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Cross-listed with ANT 655

Double-numbered with ANT 455, WGS 455

Relationship between AIDS and cultures in which it spreads. Cultural practices and sexuality and social effects of widespread AIDS, including healthcare in Asia, Africa, Latin America, and USA. Additional work required of graduate students.

**WGS 661 Self, Body, Transcendence (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Cross-listed with REL 661

Examines Continental and American feminist and gender theory for intersections between religion, subjectivity, and bodily practice.

**WGS 662 Youth, Schooling and Popular Culture (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Cross-listed with CFE 662

Double-numbered with CFE 362, WGS 362, SOC 361

Positioned where school, media, and youth cultures intersect. How schools and media represent "good" and "bad" youth, and how youth negotiate schools and popular cultures. Includes theories of popular culture and adolescence. Additional work required of graduate students. Shared Competencies: Civic and Global Responsibility (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/civic-and-global-responsibility/>); Information Literacy and Technological Agility (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/information-literacy-and-technological-agility/>)

**WGS 664 Aging and Society (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Cross-listed with SOC 664, HFS 664

Double-numbered with SOC 364, WGS 364

Current policy issues in an aging society. Health care, end-of-life, social security, productive aging, and generational equity. Special problems facing elderly women and minorities.

University Requirement Course: IDEA Requirement Eligible

Shared Competencies: Critical and Creative Thinking (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/critical-and-creative-thinking/>)

**WGS 671 Latin American Literature and Feminist Theory (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Cross-listed with SPA 671

Includes reading and critical discussion of novels by 20th-century Latin American women writers and an introduction to feminist theory as it pertains to Latin America.

**WGS 672 Language, Culture, and Society (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Cross-listed with ANT 672, LIN 672

Cross-cultural survey of the role of language in culture and society, including cognition and language usage along the dimensions of class, gender, race, ethnicity, and social status.

**WGS 673 Women, Rap and Hip-Hop Feminism (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Double-numbered with WGS 473, HOM 473

Links between feminism, rap music and hip-hop culture. We explore the work of actual women in hip-hop, images of women, and feminist critiques of the music and the culture. Additional work required of graduate students.

University Requirement Course: IDEA Requirement Eligible

Shared Competencies: Critical and Creative Thinking (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/critical-and-creative-thinking/>); Ethics and Integrity (<https://coursecatalog.syracuse.edu/shared-competencies/ethics-and-integrity/>)

**WGS 680 International Course (1-3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Offered through SUAbroad by educational institution outside the United States. Student registers for the course at the foreign institution and is graded according to that institution's practice. SUAbroad works with the S.U. academic department to assign the appropriate course level, title, and grade for the student's transcript.

Repeatable 2 times for 999 credits maximum

**WGS 690 Independent Study (1-6 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Exploration of a problem, or problems, in depth. Individual independent study upon a plan submitted by the student. Admission by consent of supervising instructor(s) and the department.

Repeatable

**WGS 700 Selected Topics (1-6 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Exploration of a topic (to be determined) not covered by the standard curriculum but of interest to faculty and students in a particular semester.

Repeatable

**WGS 701 Intersectionality (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Introduces intersectionality as an analytic. Offers an overview of intersectionality applications in theory, methods, and politics. Focuses on contemporary and historical intersectionality literatures, particularly in Black feminist and women of color theorizing.

**WGS 705 Negotiating Difference: Coming of Age Narratives (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Using a range of genres, explores influence of place, family, and social expectations on self-definition; examines politics of everyday life, including untellable silences and violence; considers how authors crafts to resist marginalization.

**WGS 710 Feminist Inquiries (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Focus on developing and applying interdisciplinary feminist methods.

Raises issues of bridging research/theory/practice. Engages intersectional, transnational, and decolonial frameworks. Examines feminist approaches to and critiques of ontological, epistemological and methodological assumptions in research.

**WGS 725 Gender and Race in Higher Education (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Cross-listed with HED 725, CFE 725

Examines the influence of gender and race in historical and contemporary higher education from interdisciplinary perspective; considers dynamics of power, privilege, and oppression; includes topics related to student and faculty experiences, and curricular issues.

**WGS 740 Feminist Theories of Knowing (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Engages interdisciplinary, intersectional, and decolonial knowledge models. Examines feminist theoretical debates about: knowledge/power nexus; epistemic salience of location, identity, and difference; contesting dominant or hegemonic imaginaries; and subjugated knowledges and marginalized knowers.

**WGS 746 Queer Rhetorics (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Cross-listed with CCR 746, QSX 746, CRS 746

Explores contemporary queer scholarship and activism from a rhetorical perspective. Analyzes purposes, arguments, tropes, figures, exigencies, modes of delivery, and audiences in historical and transnational contexts

**WGS 757 Black Feminist Theories (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Cross-listed with AAS 757

Explores historical backgrounds and contemporary expressions of Black feminist thought around the globe to broaden our knowledge of feminist theory. We take an interdisciplinary approach to Black feminist theory that crosses genres and disciplines.

**WGS 764 Gender and Globalization (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Cross-listed with GEO 764, ANT 764

The impact of the increasing hypermobility of capital and culture flows across borders on gender relations.

**WGS 776 Gender, Education & Culture (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Cross-listed with CFE 776, DSP 776

How gender is culturally constructed in American society with particular reference to education broadly conceived; how race and social class influence gender analysis.

**WGS 795 Practice of Transnational Feminism (3 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Advanced seminar on core theoretical, methodological, and ethical issues in transnational feminist praxis. Focus on feminist anti-capitalist critique, counterhegemonic struggles, and emancipatory knowledge production. Working space for ongoing student research and pedagogy.

**WGS 800 Selected Topics (1-6 Credits)***Arts & Sciences*

Exploration of a topic (to be determined) not covered by the standard curriculum but of interest to faculty and students in a particular semester.

Repeatable

**WGS 812 Advanced Seminar in Qualitative Research I (3 Credits)**

*Arts & Sciences*

Cross-listed with EDU 810, SOC 811

Expand fieldwork skills and increase theoretical understanding: emphasis on "thinking qualitatively;" intensive fieldwork.

**WGS 833 Race, Class and Gender (3 Credits)**

*Arts & Sciences*

Cross-listed with SOC 833

Intersecting dimensions of inequality that structure social life in contemporary societies. Multiple effects of cross cutting oppressions and privileges, including sexuality and ability/disability.

**WGS 876 Feminist Geography (3 Credits)**

*Arts & Sciences*

Cross-listed with GEO 876

The relationships between gender, space, and place. Topics include the gendered spaces of everyday life, identity and spatial metaphor, geographies of the body and the border, human migration, gender and the city.

**WGS 990 Independent Study (1-6 Credits)**

*Arts & Sciences*

Exploration of a problem, or problems, in depth. Individual independent study upon a plan submitted by the student. Admission by consent of supervising instructor(s) and the department.

Repeatable 6 times for 6 credits maximum