



THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG

For more information visit www.uwinnipeg.ca or contact a student recruitment officer at welcome@uwinnipeg.ca or 204.786.9844. In any case where The University of Winnipeg Course Calendar and this fact sheet differ, the current Calendar takes precedence.

Women's & Gender Studies

Women's & Gender Studies is an interdisciplinary program exploring gender-based experiences, cultures, and political economy.

The Women's & Gender Studies (WGS) department fosters an awareness of, and appreciation for, the realities and diverse experiences of all sexes and genders, and develops a critical consciousness of social inequalities based on sex, gender, age, race, class, disability, sexual orientation, and other sociocultural constructions.

WGS promotes the full equality of all sexes, genders, and sexualities as we explore from feminist perspectives their forms, histories, images, and experiences. This department offers women, men and trans folk the means to contribute to positive social change.

The **interdisciplinary** nature of the Women's & Gender Studies program allows you to customize your university education to fit your educational and career goals by taking courses from a number of different disciplines or areas. Courses cross-listed with WGS include the following departments: Business and Administration, Conflict Resolution Studies, English, Environmental Studies, Geography, History, Sociology, and Urban and Inner City Studies.

You can get a **Bachelor of Arts degree (3-year, 4-year, or Honours)** with a Major in Women's & Gender Studies.

Students taking a 4-year degree in another Major may choose to add a Minor in Women's & Gender Studies as a secondary area of interest.

SAMPLE CAREERS

Our graduates find employment in the fields of law, government and public administration, social services, education, media, science, psychology, criminal justice, politics, advocacy, social work, academia, health services, human services, business, and other areas.

Occupations include: advocate for hate-crime victims, director of a battered women's centre or rape crisis program, staff at a human rights organization, coordinator of a resource centre, HIV educator, cultural worker, human resources administrator, policy analyst, union organizer, community development worker, and reproductive issues counsellor.

Many Women's & Gender Studies graduates continue their education in graduate school, as a growing number of Canadian universities now offer a master's degree in the area and several offer doctoral programs. In many disciplines, students can create a focus on women and/or gender issues through course work and research, for example in education, business, politics, law, social work or community health.

SAMPLE COURSES

Introduction to Women's & Gender Studies is a first-year course that explores the historical and current development of cultural, social, and political structures and ideas about women and gender, with particular emphasis on experiences in North America. It addresses the ways in which sexed and gendered lives are culturally configured, and how we can act to counter those structures. Our feminist and critical perspectives seek equality with respect to race, gender identity, ethnicity, class, sexuality, nationality/nationhood, indigenous

peoples, and ability.

Girls, Women, and Popular Culture is a second-year course that examines some of the myths, theories, and images of girls and women that shape how they are represented and how they represent themselves in popular culture. This course examines North American popular culture, including issues relating to sex, gender, race, class, age, sexuality, ethnicity, nationality, ability, and other categories of identity.

Women, Health, and the Environment is a third-year course which investigates how women, health, and the environment intersect. This course looks at some of the repercussions of particular environmental situations (including, but not limited to, environmental pollution, nuclear radiation, and synthetic hormones) on women's physical, emotional, spiritual, and psychological health.

MORE SAMPLE COURSES

Gender & Folklore
Boys, Men & Popular Culture
Sex, Gender, Space & Place
Feminist Cultural Productions

Sex, Sexuality, Gender & Audiovisual Media
Gender in Fairytale Film & Cinematic Folklore
Gender, Race & Nation in Canada
Food Cultures, Sex, & Gender

DID YOU KNOW?

According to Statistics Canada, in 2006, women made about 65 cents for every dollar made by men. Poverty rates are increasing for single women over 65 and for young single mothers.

STUDENT LIFE

The Institute for Women's & Gender Studies promotes the development of Women's & Gender Studies in the University and the community. Students can be involved in organizing and engaging in events such as the annual Take Back the Night March, the December 6th Vigil, International Women's Day Celebration, and the Institute's annual Speakers' Series. Students can work directly with research projects developed with faculty, community, and other students, and put their learning into practice through involvement with the **Institute of Women's and Gender Studies**. <http://iwgs.ca/>

The University of Winnipeg Student Association's **Womyn's Centre** is a space where women can come together to discuss ideas and share experiences, organize around issues that are important to us, or just relax in a safe space with some tea. The Centre is located on the lower level of the Bulman Student Centre.

WHAT OUR STUDENTS SAY...

"Women's and Gender Studies provided me with a whole new consciousness and set of thought processes. It changes the way you think about and view the world and social issues....My experience has given me a new capacity for critical thought that has helped me in both my career and research endeavours." – *Jess Leppik graduated in 2011 with a WGS BA and is pursuing a Masters degree in Family Therapy.*

"My experience in the Women's and Gender Studies Undergraduate program has been more rewarding than I could have imagined in my first year. I am able to bring a sex and gender based analysis to topics and areas I wouldn't have been able to otherwise. An education in Women's and Gender Studies has allowed me to engage with political issues on a personal level and to understand how I am implicated in the things I am learning about." – *WGS Alumni - Youth Group Facilitator at Rainbow Resource Centre, Sarah Dack, March 2009.*

"In my first-year Introductory Women's Studies class, I knew that this program was right for me. I have become more aware of social and cultural stereotypes in our society. I now know what kind of woman I want to be. In the future, I hope to encourage other women to feel as empowered as I do." – *Meredith Milne graduated in 2006 and has just returned to Winnipeg from teaching English in Asia.*

"My academic interests were spurred by my ability to explore interdisciplinary topics through the support of the Women's Studies Program at The University of Winnipeg." – *Punam Mehta graduated in 2004 with a BA (Honours) in Women's Studies, obtained a Master's Degree in Community Health Sciences from the University of Manitoba and is currently working in Winnipeg addressing issues of women's health.*

SAMPLE FIRST YEAR

NOTE: This sample first year is representative of the courses you may take. You do not have to take 30 credit hours (five full courses) in your first year.

WGS-1232(6) Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies
RHET-1102(3) Academic Writing: Social Sciences, RHET-1101(3) Academic Writing: Humanities, or any other section of Academic Writing (if required)
WGS-2260(6) Girls, Women and Popular Culture
WGS-2270(3) Food Cultures, Sex, and Gender
Science requirement (6 credit hours)
6 credit hours electives

REQUIRED HIGH SCHOOL COURSES

You must meet The University of Winnipeg's general admission requirements. No specific courses are required.

HOW TO APPLY – Domestic Student

Apply online at uwinnipeg.ca or pick up an Application for Admission from your high school counsellor's office or the Admissions Office at The University of Winnipeg. To meet Scholarship deadline submit your application and \$80 application fee by **March 1st**.

HOW TO APPLY – International Student

Apply online at uwinnipeg.ca/index/intl-apply and submit all official documents by mail. To meet Scholarship deadline submit application, fee, and documents by **March 1st**. International application fee is \$100, which includes a one-time courier fee.

SCHOLARSHIPS

The *University of Winnipeg Women's Auxiliary Scholarship in Women's and Gender Studies* is provided by the Women's Auxiliary and is awarded to an outstanding student who is majoring in Women's and Gender Studies. The *Women's and Gender Studies Scholarship* is awarded annually to a student who has completed at least 30 credit hours and is majoring in Women's and Gender Studies. Preference will be given to a student who has made a contribution to the community.

BURSARIES

Susan A. Thompson Bursary in Women's and Gender Studies

Susan A. Thompson, the first C.E.O. of The University of Winnipeg Foundation, the first woman mayor of Winnipeg, the first woman Rotarian in Manitoba, and the first woman to be named Consul General of the Canadian Consulate in Minneapolis established this bursary in 2003. It will be awarded to a deserving student who has completed at least 30 credit hours and is majoring in Women's and Gender Studies.

Ruth Warne/Berenice Sisler Bursary

This bursary has been established by Berenice Sisler in honour of her mother, Ruth Warne. It will be awarded annually to a student who has completed First Year (30 credit hours) and is majoring in Women's and Gender Studies. Selection will be based on financial need with preference given to students whose assessed financial need for government-sponsored student aid programs exceeds the maximum financial aid package available from the student aid program.

CONTACT US

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