

# WOMEN'S, GENDER, AND SEXUALITY STUDIES

SPRING 2020 ADVISING NEWSLETTER



## CONTENTS

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PAGE 01  
REGISTRATION DATES

---

PAGE 02  
ADVISING CHECKLIST

---

PAGE 03 - 07  
COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

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## REGISTRATION DATES

Registration for the Spring 2020 semester begins on Tuesday, November 5, 2019 and runs through Friday, November 15, 2019. You can find the date and time at which you become eligible to register on PAWS. If you have yet to do so, please familiarize yourself with the PAWS system.



- If you don't know who your advisor is, then find out. Your advisor should be listed on your PAWS account. If your advisor is not listed, please call the Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Department office at 609-771-2539.
- Prior to your advisement appointment, retrieve all the necessary information you will need.
- Review the WGSS Department Advising Syllabus at:  
<http://wgs.pages.tcnj.edu/for-students/advising/>
- Review the requirements for your program. Check the courses offered. Devise a tentative schedule for the Spring including back-up courses. Put desired courses in your PAWS shopping cart.
- Bring your updated Academic Requirement Report to your advisement meeting.
- If you are a double major with the School of Education as your first major, you must also make an appointment to see your Education advisor.



**WGS 170.02 - Topics in WGSS: The Bible and Sexual Terror: Scripture and the Sexual Other**

(LL: World Views and Ways of Knowing; Gender)

This course proposes an alternative reading to some of the biblical texts that heteronormative readings articulate for condemning same-sex practices. Students will examine these texts informed by the work of Queer Theology, so they can underline the errors of heterosexist and homophobic readings. Queer Theology, as a form of Liberation Theology, aims to restore the space the members of the LGBTQI community, as an oppressed group, deserve in God's all-loving, all-inclusive realm.

**WGS 200 - Introduction to Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies**

(LL: Behavioral, Social and Cultural Perspectives; Gender)

WGS 200 is a foundational course and an introduction to the field. Using an interdisciplinary lens, the course provides students with an introduction to the literature and the historical evolution of the discipline, as well as an understanding of how systems of privilege and inequality shape how we experience gender, sexuality, race, and other socially constructed identities. Using an intersectional method, this course encourages students to understand the ways identities form and impact one another.

**WGS 210 - Women and Health: Power, Politics, & Change**

(LL: Behavioral, Social and Cultural Perspectives, Gender)

This course concerns the domain of women's bodies and the on-going struggle for sovereignty therein. Students will examine how in addition to pathophysiology, women's health is impacted by social constructs, specifically history, politics, economics, and research. As a result of this exploration, students will enhance their ability to care for themselves and for others, to use and understand power and empowerment of self and others, and to advocate and be an activist for themselves and for others.

**WGS 220 – Gender and Popular Culture** (LL: Literary, Visual & Performing Arts; Gender)

This course offers a critical examination of the messages and “knowledge” that popular culture employs, disseminates and constructs about men and women, masculinity and femininity. We will take our objects of study from a wide range of sources including advertisements, magazines, television, film, cyberspace, hip-hop, and sports. Be ready to watch TV, go to the movies, and listen to music as a scholar of gender.

**WGS 222 - Non-Violence and Peace Action**

(LL: Gender, Behavioral, Social and Cultural Perspectives, & Global Perspectives)

HGS 210 offers an overview of key areas of theory and practice in Peace and Justice Studies, a growing interdisciplinary field with applications from the local community to international relations. Aimed at achieving social transformation through active nonviolence, peace studies promotes in-depth understanding of structures that promote and perpetuate violence and offers methods for transforming the terms of conflict.

**WGS 225 – Gender in Children's Literature** (LL: Literary, Visual & Performing Arts; Gender)

Our purpose in this course will be to develop a critical appreciation of the roles of children's literature in the social construction of gender--not only how it prescribes or resists normative gender roles, but how it represents the subjective experience of growing up gendered. With a grounding in gender theory and critical texts, we will explore classics and contemporary favorites, limiting our scope to works for young children and pre-teens.

## **WGS 240 – Introduction to Gay and Lesbian Studies**

(LL: Gender; Behavioral, Cultural or Social Perspective)

Introduction to Gay and Lesbian Studies provides students with an introduction to a quickly evolving field of study that is focused on gay and lesbian identity, politics, culture. Although focused primarily on the categories of “gay” and “lesbian,” this course situates its focus within a larger exploration of queer studies, gender analysis, and sexuality studies.

## **WGS 250 - Politics of Sexuality**

(LL: Behavioral, Social and Cultural Perspectives; Gender; Community Engagement)

The political nature of personal life is a central critical concept of Women's and Gender Studies. Politics of Sexuality introduces students to implications of this concept through the study of contested topics concerning sexuality, such as gendered sexual socialization, sexual violence, family structures, poverty and welfare, sexual identities, transgenderism, commodification, risky sexual behaviors, AIDS, sexual exploitation, pornography, prostitution, and the traffic in women.

## **WGS 252/AAS 252 - Gender, Race, and Cultural Production**

(LL: Behavioral, Social, and Cultural Perspective; Gender; and Race and Ethnicity)

This course provides an overview of the various performance genre made popular in the late nineteenth-early twentieth century by African Americans. The course will make explicit connections between black diasporic cultural production and intellectualism during the period known as the Harlem Re-naissance.

## **WGS 270- Topics in WGSS: Transnational Sexualities**

(LL: Behavioral, Social and Cultural Persp.; Gender and Global)

Engaging with key texts, films, social media, popular culture, and issues, students are encouraged to deepen and broaden their perspective of sexuality beyond the dominant culture, particularly engaging with the ways in which sexualities are understood and transformed in location-specific places.

## **WGS 303/HIS 384 Women in 20th Century US** (LL: Social Change in Historical Perspective; Gender)

An examination of the history of women in the United States in the 20th century with special emphasis on their roles in political and social movements. The course will focus more on the aspects of the general experiences of women and their political, social, cultural, and familial relationships

## **WGS 306/CLS 325 – Sex and Gender in Greco-Roman Antiquity** (LL: Gender and Global)

This course examines the topic of ancient sexuality both for its own sake, as historical knowledge, and as it relates to our own attitudes, values, and practices.. Topics to be covered include the concept of sex and gender as social and political constructs; myths of matriarchy and patriarchy; the legal and political status of both sexes; medical, scientific notions of the body; the gendering of space; and attitudes toward family and social networks. The course will also emphasize the Greeks and Romans different concepts of sex and gender and the ideological implications of these differences.

### **WGS 314/LIT 311 - Women's Autobiographies, Diaries & Letters**

(LL: Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts; Gender; Writing Intensive)

A study of the range of women's autobiographical texts and their manuscript circulation, publication, and readership. Applying many theoretical perspectives to this ever-expanding corpus of women's literature and life-writing across the ages.

### **WGS 317/LIT 317 – The Witch in Literature**

(LL: Literary, Visual & Performing Arts; Gender)

The witch has been a figure in literary history since the beginning of time. Who is she, and what does she embody? Who creates her, and to what end? This course will explore the socio-historical constructions of this figure and trace her through a wide spectrum of literary texts, including legal and historical treatises, fair tales, short stories, drama, film, children's literature, poetry, and even cartoons. Ultimately, we will analyze the literary cultures that have persisted in creating, recreating, and reviving this timeless, powerful, and equally feared character throughout the ages.

### **WGS 320/LIT 315 - Men and Masculinities: Literary Perspectives**

(LL: Literary, Visual & Performing Arts; Gender)

This course focuses on representations of men and masculinity in literary texts, although we may also look at film, video, television, advertising, and music. of the issues we will be thinking about include: the construction of modern male identities, the diversity of men's lives, the complex dynamics of men's relationships, and questions of power and social justice within the contemporary gender order.

### **WGS 325 Feminist Theories/WGST 510– Graduate Section**

(Prerequisite: at least one WGS course)

(LL: World View; Gender)

This course explores the diverse ways in which feminist theorists conceptualize women's status in society, systems of inequality and the category of "woman" itself. Students will gain an understanding of evolving ideas and debates in feminist theory, relate those to feminist practices, and develop their own theoretical abilities. The course will address the social construction of gender, the relation between feminist theory and activism, and how feminists have responded to issues of race, class, gender, and sexuality in current feminist thinking, as well as the classic feminist texts.

### **WGS 342 – LGBTQ Issues in K-12 Education**

(LL: Behavioral, Social, and Cultural Persp.; Gender)

This course examines LGBTQ issues within the context and concerns of K-12 schooling/education. Specifically, we will focus on several themes: heterosexism in schools; homophobic and transphobic forms of bullying and violence; the history of LGBTQ educational struggles; emerging legal rights of LGBTQ students and teachers; the coming out process in high school; LGBTQ and teacher education; queer pedagogies; the politics of gay-straight alliances; and the politics of queer youth.

### **WGS 343 - Queer Studies** (LL: Behavioral, Social, and Cultural Perspectives; Gender)

This course serves as an introduction to the interdisciplinary field of queer studies, a critical approach to thinking about sexuality that emerged in academic and activist contexts in the early 1990's as a critique of normative models of sex, gender, and sexuality. This course will survey a cross section of queer thought, ranging from some of its earliest expressions by writers such as Foucault, Sedgwick and Butler to some of its contemporary manifestations and innovations (e.g., J. Jack Halberstam's *Gaga Feminism: Sex, Gender, and the End of Normal*).

### **WGS 350/WGST 520 Gender Equity in the Classroom**

(LL: Gender and Behavioral, Social and Cultural Perspectives)

This seminar examines theoretical writings on feminist pedagogy and also addresses practical issues related to teaching Women's and Gender Studies. Participants will develop familiarity with feminist pedagogies and their significance for the field of Women's and Gender Studies; interpret their own educational experiences within the context of feminist reflections on education; formulate their own philosophies of education; and develop and test pedagogical strategies for developing critical consciousness about social inequalities.

### **WGS 360/LIT 334 -Literature by Latino and Latin American**

(LL: Literary, Visual & Performing Arts; Gender; R & E)

A comparative study of Latina and Latin-American women's literature in English. Open to a wide range of literary traditions, nations, time periods, and genres, including those specific to non-Western and post-Colonial cultures.

### **WGS 373/REL 373 Women and Spirituality** (LL: World Views/Ways of Knowing; Gender; Writing Inten.)

This course focuses on the intersections of feminism and spirituality, examines the experiences of women in a variety of spiritual traditions, and examines how worldview is shaped by historical context. The question of how feminists connect to, critique, transform, and remember spiritual experiences will be considered. The course explores several aspects of spirituality including language, ritual, and creativity; it also considers what happens when feminists alter, shape, retell and interpret rituals and traditions.

### **WGS 374 -Ecofeminism** (LL: Gender; World Views/Ways of Knowing)

Building on the core precept that the domination of women and the domination of nature are fundamentally connected, ecofeminism offers a distinctive, interdisciplinary lens on the world, drawing on not only feminism and ecology, but also historical analysis, philosophy of science, cultural study, the arts, community development, spirituality, and a commitment to challenging oppression in all its forms. We will explore ways in which systemic social inequalities shape human relationships to the natural environment; challenge common abuses of the environment and offer alternatives; and study current movements globally.

### **WGS 375 - Transnational Feminisms** (LL: Gender; Behavioral, Social, and Cultural Persp., Global)

"Transnational feminisms" refers to the growing transnational network of movements and organizations working on behalf of women at many levels of civil and state society, from grassroots organizing to global governance, together with a growing body of writing and research on women's status, gender oppression, and priorities for change around the world. This course's purpose is to prepare students, as world citizens, to participate in this network by exposing them not only to issues and movements but also to the conceptual, methodological, and affective challenges of building solidarity across a vast range of differences-differences in identity, locale, worldview, focus, strategy, and stand point in relation to global systems of power. This course may be repeated for credit, as topic changes.

### **WGS 398 - Feminism in the Workplace: Field Study in Women's and Gender Studies**

(Prerequisite: Two WGS courses) (LL: Gender; Behavioral, Social and Cultural Perspectives)

This internship course is a chance for students to consolidate and enrich their undergraduate learning while building the transition to life beyond college.

### **WGS 495 – Senior Seminar: Methods and Theories** (LL: Gender) Prerequisite: WGS 325

This course is the capstone courses for the WGSS major. Students are expected to use expertise gained from their previous WGS courses to research and write their senior theses. Drawing on the methodologies and theories learned in previously taken courses, students work in a small focused seminar that emphasis not only their own work, but also critiquing the work of their peers. Students will produce a research paper applying feminist theories and methodologies.

### **WGS 496 - Seminar: WILL Capstone in Women's Leadership**

(LL: Behavioral, Social, and Cultural Perspectives; Gender)

In this W.I.L.L. capstone seminar course, students will experience the interfaces between empirical knowledge and social policies through selecting, organizing, and implementing a class activism project.

This course is the culmination of the W.I.L.L. Program in which students will expand and enhance their leadership skills using acquired strategies and tactics to influence social, political, or economic change.

### **WGS 470/AAS 470 - Topics in WGSS: Black women Prisoners in US History**

(LL: Social Change in Historical Perspective; Gender and Race and Ethnicity)

