

Women's Studies



The Women's Studies Program at Illinois Wesleyan University offers feminist perspectives on the human experience, analyzes the role of women in history, challenges cultural assumptions about women, emphasizes the contributions of women and discusses the larger, global disadvantages that are faced by women in the United States and abroad. Women's Studies courses are open to all students, women and men, and most offer general education credit to meet diverse IWU requirements.

Why Women's Studies at Illinois Wesleyan?

- Program recognizes that there has never been just "one" experience for women, rather their experiences vary and are significantly determined by race, class, and national origin.
- Students benefit from an interdisciplinary approach that utilizes the scholarship about and insights on women's lives from a spectrum of disciplines.
- Emphasis is placed on the concept that women have co-created knowledge with men from all relevant academic areas.
- Curriculum reflects contributions of scholars in Women's Studies over the last thirty years while also developing a cogent methodology, theory, and pedagogy, thus constructing a unique field of study.

Learning from a Quality Faculty

Students learn in intimate classroom settings from quality faculty in a variety of academic fields, including:

Art	Hispanic Studies	Physics
Anthropology	History	Political Science
Biology	Math	Psychology
Educational Studies	Modern/Classical	Religion
English	Languages & Literature	Sociology
Environmental Studies and Health	Music	Theatre Arts
Greek and Roman Studies	Nursing	
	Philosophy	

A Sampling of Courses Offered by Women's Studies

- Introduction to Women's Studies
- Wild Women: Women and the Natural World
- Bad Girls
- Women and Literature
- Third World Women Speak
- A Woman's Place
- Black Women Writers
- Psychology of Gender
- Philosophy of Feminism
- U.S. Women's History to 1890
- U.S. Women's History from 1870
- Women, Work, and Leisure 1890-1930
- Women and Politics
- Sex and Gender in the U.S.
- Marriage and the Family
- Women in International Development

Recent May Term Courses in Women's Studies

- World Music
- Song and Dance of Latin America
- Sex, Value, and Human Nature
- Sociology of the Body
- African Expressive Arts
- Economics of Gender, Race, and Immigration
- Women, Religion, and Spirituality
- History of Feminist Thought

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“Students who complete a major in Women’s Studies experience working with some of the most exciting faculty on campus, faculty who are engaged in

interdisciplinary questions of gender and identity across time and space. This kind of work prepares students to leave IWU thinking critically and with a deep sense of social justice and global citizenship. Such attributes will serve them well in whatever they do after graduation.”

Putting Learning into Practice

- In recent years, Women’s Studies majors or minors have completed internships at the Public Defender’s Office, focusing on domestic violence; at a local law firm, focusing on family law; and at the David Davis Mansion, focusing on the letters of Sarah Davis.
- Majors have the opportunity to complete meaningful research on a wide variety of topics and issues. This includes personal assistance from any of the numerous faculty members who work with the Women’s Studies program.
- Alumni of the program go on to pursue graduate school and/or build careers in areas such as American Studies, Women’s Studies, business, health care, education, government, social work, history, law, psychology, religion and literature.

Dr. April Schultz

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For Further Information, Write or Call:

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