

Women's and Gender Studies



The Women's and Gender 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 and Gender Studies courses are open to all students, women and men, and most offer general education credit to meet IWU graduation requirements.

Why Women's and Gender Studies at Illinois Wesleyan?

- Our interdisciplinary 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 a variety of approaches to study women's lives and gender expectations from a spectrum of disciplines.
- Emphasis is placed on the concept that women have co-created knowledge with men from all relevant academic areas.
- The curriculum reflects the contributions of scholars in Women's Studies and Gender Studies over the last 30 years while also developing a cogent methodology, theory, and pedagogy that support a unique field of study.

Learning from Excellent Faculty

Women's and Gender Studies courses are taught by faculty in a variety of academic fields, including:

Art	Hispanic Studies	Philosophy
Anthropology	History	Political Science
English	Modern/Classical	Psychology
Greek and Roman Studies	Languages & Literature	Religion
Health	Music	Sociology

A Sampling of Courses Offered by Women's and Gender Studies

Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies
Bad Girls
Women and Literature
Third World Women Speak
A Woman's Place
Black Women Writers
Psychology of Gender
Philosophy of Feminism
Women and the American Experience
Women, Work and Leisure 1890-1930
Women and Politics
Sex and Gender in Society
Marriage and the Family
Gender and Globalization

Recent May Term Courses in Women's and Gender Studies

Human Sexuality
French Feminist Theory
Sociology of the Body
African Expressive Arts
Women, Religion, and Spirituality
History of Feminist Thought



“In Women’s and Gender Studies courses, students consider some of the most challenging questions about women’s lives and gender identity in our



As an interdisciplinary program, Women’s and Gender Studies offers over 40 courses, both under its own rubric and in departments across the curriculum.

Putting Learning into Practice

- In recent years, Women’s and Gender 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 and independent studies with any of the numerous faculty members who work with the Women’s and Gender Studies program.
- Alumni of the program go on to pursue graduate school and/or build careers in such areas as American Studies, Women’s and Gender Studies, business, health care, education, government, social work, history, law, psychology, religion and literature.

contemporary world and undertake studies about the effects of gender expectations in international history, in American culture, and in the creation of literature, art and religious expressions around the world. The interdisciplinary nature of Women’s Studies entails connections not just among a few subjects but across the disciplines and schools of thought at the University.”

Dr. Carole A. Myscofski

Women’s and Gender Studies
Director & McFee Professor
of Religion



ILLINOIS WESLEYAN
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For Further Information, Write or Call:

Dr. Carole A. Myscofski

Program Director,
Women’s and Gender Studies
Illinois Wesleyan University
P.O. Box 2900
Bloomington, IL 61702-2900
309/556-3177
myscofsk@iwu.edu

www.iwu.edu/wstudies