

Proposed UG Degree in Gender and Women's Studies

PROGRAM INFORMATION

Degree Title: Bachelor of Arts
Major Title: Gender and Women's Studies
Primary College: College of Arts and Sciences
CIP Code: 05.0299

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Deborah L. Crooks, Director, Gender and Women's Studies
E-Mail: dlcrooks@uky.edu
Phone: 859-257-1388

ABSTRACT

Gender and Women's Studies at the University of Kentucky is committed to research and teaching about the lives, cultures, perspectives, and activities of women globally, and to the understanding of gender as a construct that permeates human experience, thought, and history. Understanding women's experiences, resources, strategies and contributions to society is central to the GWS mission, but GWS at UK also recognizes that men's lives are gendered and that gender relations occur simultaneously with other hierarchical social relations and inequalities of power including those based on ability, age, class, ethnicity, family composition, race, region, religion, sex, sexual orientation and the inequitable distribution of resources in and among countries and groups globally. Thus the GWS Program supports an integrative, multi-disciplinary, theoretically diverse approach to the study of gender.

The proposed baccalaureate major in Gender and Women's Studies is an interdisciplinary, transnational program of study of gender and its intersections with other relations of power, such as sexuality, race, class, age, nationality, religion, and colonialism. It focuses on building critical, investigative, and communication skills through the study of theory, culture, social and historical life, and the practices of research, writing, and social engagement. The program includes 6 credit hours of pre-major requirements in interdisciplinary gender and women's studies in both the social sciences and the humanities. The major requirements include: (1) 15 hours of coursework in the history of feminist thought, contemporary feminist theorizing, gender and social movements, feminist research methods, and a capstone writing-intensive senior seminar; and (2) 15 hours of electives to be selected from a list of courses taught by GWS faculty and GWS Affiliated faculty.

The GWS program at UK has a history of collaboration with other Kentucky academic institutions in terms of accepting courses in fulfillment of UK GWS courses and requirements, as well as in cosponsoring programs. This collaboration will continue with the establishment of the major. We have no plans at the moment to provide the baccalaureate degree program via distance learning; however, some courses taught by our affiliated faculty are available on-line. Thus students could fill some of the proposed program requirements, especially allied coursework, through on-line coursework.

The proposed undergraduate program in Gender and Women's Studies will equip students for success in most fields where an understanding of diversity, and the way it plays out in society, is important. For

example, graduates will find employment in the non-profit and/or social services sectors (women's shelters, immigrant organizations, legal advocacy groups), health education/advocacy organizations (women's health coordinator, immigrant health coordinator/advocate), journalism (major magazines, newspapers around the state), and the business sector (banking, marketing, retail sales management, human resources), among others. Also, the major in GWS provides an excellent baccalaureate background for students who intend to go on for professional and academic graduate degrees.

PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

During AY 2005/06, the Steering Committee of the Women's Studies Program undertook development of a proposal for a department of Gender and Women's Studies, with undergraduate and graduate degrees. The Committee performed an analysis of UK benchmark institutions, as well as other institutions across the country with Gender and/or Women's Studies programs. From this analysis, the Committee drafted a Five-Year Plan which was vetted by the Steering Committee and Affiliated Faculty through a series of meetings of the full Steering Committee, and a number of break-out committees whose charges were to focus specifically on development of the undergraduate and graduate degrees. All Affiliated Faculty were invited to attend these program-development meetings. Upon consolidation of the final draft, which was approved by the Steering Committee in January of 2006, the final proposal (Women's Studies Program – 5 Year Plan) was submitted to the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences for approval.

In the Fall of 2006/Spring of 2007, the GWS Ad-Hoc Committee for the Development of the Undergraduate Degree in GWS continued to refine the undergraduate major with continued input from the Affiliated Faculty. Upon hiring three GWS faculty, who joined the program in Fall 2007, the undergraduate major program was finalized, submitted to the Steering Committee for final approval on January 11, 2008, and accepted by unanimous vote.

A draft was submitted to the Ed Policy Committee; the current Director of GWS attended the 1/22/08 meeting to discuss the proposal. The Committee provided a number of suggestions to clarify and improve the proposal. This current draft is the result of that process.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

- A. University Requirements (See UK Bulletin 2007-2008, pp. 77-81).
- B. College of Arts and Sciences Requirements (See UK Bulletin 2007-2008, pp. 100-105).
- C. Proposed Major in Gender and Women's Studies.
(6 Pre-Major credit hours, 30 major credit hours).
 1. **Pre-major (6 hrs):**

GWS 200 and 201: (Existing Courses, 3 cr hr each = 6 cr hr): Introduction to GWS in Social Sciences and Introduction to GWS in the Humanities.
These existing two courses are terrain-mapping introductory courses. While both courses adopt an interdisciplinary approach to scholarship in gender and women's

studies that covers a broad range of readings, each provides a more selective focus on the disciplines within either the Humanities or the Social Sciences. Students are required to take both courses; based on current practice in the minor and interdisciplinary major, many students already elect to do so. These courses currently serve both the GWS minor and the USP program and will continue to do so.

Enrollment Expectations: These two courses currently serve, on average, 175-200 students per year. We expect those enrollment numbers to continue and to grow as the university increases freshman enrollments.

2. **Major (30 hours).**

Core Courses (15 hours).

GWS 250: (New Course, 3 cr). Gender and Social Movements.

This course provides an historical treatment of social movements across at least three different cultural/national world areas, focused topically, e.g., on struggles for women's suffrage, women and labor, sexuality rights, anti-slavery struggles etc. World areas and topics will shift depending upon the teaching interests and expertise of the instructor.

Enrollment Expectations: Our expectation is that this course will serve the major, as well as other programs. We anticipate initial enrollment of 20-25 students, increasing approximately 10 students/year for at least 5 years as other programs begin to include the course in their electives.

GWS 340: (New Course, 3 cr). History of Feminist Thought to 1985.

Working with primary source material from around the globe, including classic texts, short works of fiction, poetry and political manifestos, this course provides a transnational, historical introduction to feminist thought up to 1985.

Enrollment Expectations: Current GWS 300-level courses draw 20-25 students per semester; our expectation for GWS 340 is 20-25 students in the initial years of the program, increasing as the major grows (see "F" below).

GWS 350: (Existing Course, 3 cr). Introduction to Feminist Theorizing.

This course provides an in-depth examination of feminist theory, which is not limited to academic discourse, but in fact embraces the varied forms—literary, political, cultural--of critical engagement with central feminist debates of the past several decades. It will cover the period from 1985 to the present.

Enrollment Expectations: This course current draws approximately 25 students each year. We expect that level of enrollment to grow as the number of majors grows (see "F" below)

GWS 400: (New Course, 3 cr). Doing Feminist Research.

This feminist research methods course provides students an introduction to methods and styles of feminist research among and beyond the disciplines. It is designed to

prepare students for interdisciplinary teaching and research through discussions of methodology, social engagement, feminist pedagogy, and feminist writing.

Enrollment Expectations: Because of the interdisciplinary focus of this course, we expect it will attract students from a number of majors. Our projected initial enrollment is 30 students; however, as demand increases, and as the number of GWS faculty increases, the course will be taught each semester rather than once per year, with an expected total enrollment of 40-50 students within 5 years.

GWS 599. (New Course, 3 cr). Senior Seminar.

This capstone, writing intensive course will require students to develop an interdisciplinary, globally-informed research project of their choosing, culminating in a major piece of written work. Projects will be shared, critiqued, and revised during the course of the semester.

Prerequisite: Senior standing in Gender and Women's Studies or permission of instructor.

Enrollment Expectations: Expectation for initial years of this course is approximately 20 students per year, with increases as the number of majors increases (see "F" below).

Electives (15 credit hours).

Students will select five 3-credit-hour courses from a list of GWS electives or other approved electives. Following is a list of established GWS elective courses, followed by GWS courses that are currently in development by new and existing faculty. The final list includes courses taught by non-GWS faculty over the past three years that have been accepted as electives in either the GWS minor program or GWS Topical Major program. As new courses are developed, they will be added to the electives list as appropriate.

Expected Enrollments for elective courses: Course enrollment data from AY 2007/08 and AY 2006/08 indicate 300 level GWS courses enroll 20-25 students/course; 400 level courses enroll approximately 25 students; and 500-level courses 10-15 students per course.

Established Electives in GWS:

GWS 300	Topics in Gender and Women's Studies : Various topics.
GWS 395	Independent Study in GWS
GWS 399	Internship in GWS
GWS 416	Gender Roles in Cross-Cultural Comparison
GWS 430	Gender, Power and Violence (new course form submitted)
GWS 595	Issues in Gender and Women's Studies: Various topics.

GWS Electives Under Development: (These courses have been taught at least once and new course form applications are under development):

GWS	Introduction to Queer Studies
GWS	Women and Spiritual Journeys
GWS	Asian Women

Electives Outside GWS : These courses have been accepted as GWS electives during the last 3 years:

Course #:	Title:	Instructor:	Semester taught:
ANT 350	Topics in Anthrop: Subtitles as relevant	Anglin	Spr 06
ENG 234	Intro Women's Lit	Oaks	Spr 06, Fa 06, Spr 07, Fa 07
ENG 330	Text and Context: Subtitles as relevant	Blum, Oaks, Rosenman	Spr 06, Fa 06, Spr 07, Fa 07
ENG 487	Cultural Studies: Subtitle as relevant	Blum	Fa 06
ENG 480	Studies in Film: Subtitles as relevant	Blum	Spr 07
ENG 485	Stds. In Lit and Gndr: Subtitles as relevant	Rosenman	Spr 07
HIS 404	US Wom Hist to 1900	Kern	Spr 06
HIS 405	US Wom Hist snce 1900	Kern	Fa 07
HIS 563	Women in Latin Am	Chassen-Lopez	Spr 06, 08
HIS 595	Studies in History: Subtitles as relevant	Chassen-Lopez	Fa 06
LIN 517	Special Topics	Bosch	Fall 07
PHI 540	Feminist Philos	Callahan	Fall 06
RUS 370	Russian Folklore	Rouhier-Willoughby	Fa 06, Fa 07
SOC 302	Soc Res Methods	Badagliacco	Fall 07
SOC 334	Soc of Family	Badagliacco	Fall 06

3. Distribution Requirements.

Students majoring in GWS must complete at least 27 credit hours of the major through upper division coursework (i.e., 12 credit hours of core courses, 15 credit hours of electives). There will be no initial distribution requirements except that students work closely with their GWS faculty mentor to create a course plan appropriate to their interests.

- D. Four Year Curricular Map: Bachelor of Arts in Gender and Women's Studies.**
(Evaluated by Graduate Certification Officers in A&S as meeting all USP and A&S requirements on February 15, 2008)

Year 1: Fall ENG 104 (4) Foreign Language 101 (4) USP Math (3) <u>GWS 200 or 201 (3)</u> 14 credits	Year 1: Spring Foreign Language 102 (4) PHI 120 (3) USP NS (3) USP HU (3) <u>GWS 200 or 201 (3)</u> 16 credits
Year 2: Fall Foreign Language 201 (3) STA 200 (3) USP NS (3) GWS 250 (3) <u>GWS Elective 1 (3)</u> 15 credits	Year 2: Spring Foreign Language 202 (3) USP SS (3) USP HU (3) GWS 340 (3) <u>GWS 350 (3)</u> 15 credits
Year 3: Fall A&S NS (3) A&S HU (3) USP SS (3) GWS Elective (3) <u>300+ Elective (3)</u> 15 credits	Year 3: Spring USP Cross-Cultural/A&S SS (GWS 401) (3) GWS 400 (3) GWS Elective 3 (3) A&S NS (3) <u>300+ Elective (3)</u> 15 credits
Year 4: Fall A&S HU (3) A&S SS (3) A&S Lab (1) GWS Elective 4 (3) <u>2nd Tier Writing (3)</u> 16 Credit Hours	Year 4: Spring GWS 599 (3) GWS Elective 5 (3) 300+ elective (3) Elective (3) <u>Elective (3)</u> 15 Credit Hours

E. Student Recruitment and Advising.

Students will be recruited through the GWS web site, through brochures, through academic advising in A&S, and by word of mouth. Currently, our GWS minor generates remarkable interest in both the social sciences and humanities fields, and 80% of our minor students and all of our interdisciplinary major students have stated that they would prefer to have a major in GWS at UK, and would have chosen this option if available.

The GWS Major will employ a professional academic advisor responsible for advising all students majoring in GWS; students are required to meet with the academic advisor twice per year. All

GWS students are assigned a GWS faculty mentor, with whom they must meet twice per year in advance of their meeting with the professional advisor.

F. Analysis of Needs and Projected Program Size.

Among our national benchmark institutions, all currently offer an undergraduate major in either women’s studies or gender and women’s studies, and all but two offer the undergraduate minor (see table below). Within the Commonwealth, ten institutions offer the undergraduate minor, and three offer the undergraduate major (one is an interdisciplinary major - see table below).

Benchmark (in bold) and Other Institutions	UG Minors Yes/No	# of UG Minors	UG Majors Yes/No	# of UG Majors
Arizona State University	Yes	150	Yes	60
University of Arizona	Yes	34	Yes	31
UCLA	Yes	40	Yes	150
University of Cincinnati	Yes	30-40	Yes	30-40
University of Florida	Yes	N/A	Yes	N/A
University of Georgia	Yes	42	Yes	50
University of Illinois Chicago	Yes	19	Yes	21
University of Illinois Urbana	Yes	30	Yes	32
Indiana Bloomington	Yes	62	Yes	88
University of Iowa	Yes	N/A	Yes	N/A
University of Maryland	Yes	75	Yes	45
University of Michigan	Yes	98	Yes	96
Michigan State	No	80	Yes	n/a
University of Minnesota	Yes	15	Yes	30
University of Missouri	Yes	15-25	Yes	40
University of North Carolina	Yes	N/A	Yes	N/A
North Carolina State	Yes	40	Yes	10
Ohio State	Yes	107	Yes	82
Penn State	Yes	61	Yes	35
Purdue, W. Lafayette	Yes	24	Yes	13
Rutgers	Yes	100	Yes	100
University of Tennessee	Yes	13	Yes	15
Texas A&M	No	31	Yes	n/a
University of Texas Austin	Yes	100	Yes	31
University of Virginia	Yes	14	Yes	42
University of Washington	Yes	100	Yes	75
Univ Wisconsin Madison	Yes	100	Yes	137

Kentucky Institution	UG Minors Yes/No	# of UG Minors	UG Majors Yes/No	# of UG Majors
Berea College	Yes	11	Yes	4
Eastern Kentucky Univ.	Yes	27	No	N/a
Morehead State University	Yes	25	No	N/a
BCTC.	No	N/a	No	N/a
Northern Kentucky Univ.	Yes	23	No	N/a
Western Kentucky Univ.	Yes	60	No	N/a
Transylvania University	Yes		Yes (Interdisc. major)	
Georgetown College	Yes		No	N/a
Centre College	Yes		No	N/a
Midway College	Yes		No	N/a
University of Louisville	Yes		Yes	N/a

Since the GWS program at UK (formerly WS program) was initiated in 1989, over 200 students have enrolled in the minor program, approximately 22 students per year. In addition, between 1997 and 2001, 911 students enrolled in undergraduate GWS courses; with 1644 students enrolled between 2002 and 2006. GWS has also awarded four topical major degrees in GWS.

We polled our current registered minors in GWS and asked if they would have declared GWS as a major if that option had been available to them. Of the 13 currently enrolled minors (note that some students officially declare their minor upon completion of coursework, therefore, their names are not listed on our “minor” rolls), 10 responded to our survey and 8 of those responses were “yes.” This year, the Director of GWS has received at least 6 inquiries from students not yet enrolled at UK about the availability of the baccalaureate degree in Gender and Women’s Studies.

Benchmark institutions’ enrollments in the major range from 10-150. We examined enrollments in other A&S departments, focusing specifically on smaller departments, measuring department size by the number of faculty (all departments have more faculty than will GWS at its inception as a department). For the year 2006, Anthropology (12.5 faculty) had 105 majors, Geological Sciences (9 faculty) had 57 majors, Philosophy (14 faculty) had 76, Sociology (10.5 faculty) had 205, and Statistics (12.85 faculty) had 25 majors.

We estimate the GWS major will enroll approximately 20 students in its first year, putting it in the middle of the smaller A&S departments at UK in terms of student-to-faculty ratio. We interpret the enrollments of our benchmarks as indicating a strong demand for this degree. Therefore, we anticipate adding 10 majors per year as faculty size grows at the rate of 1 per year (A&S Strategic Plan). Within five years of establishing the degree, we expect an enrollment of 70 students.

G. Study Abroad Policy.

Because of the transnational focus in the GWS program, students majoring in GWS will be strongly encouraged to explore opportunities for education abroad. In the twice-yearly mentoring sessions with their faculty mentor, students will be provided information on the various opportunities available through the Office of International Affairs, and GWS faculty mentors will discuss with their student mentees the advantages of learning abroad for some part of the undergraduate career.

A number of programs provide interesting opportunities for GWS majors. For example, the Reciprocal Exchange program allows students to broaden their cultural perspectives as well as improving foreign language abilities through education at institutions in Japan, Australia, England, Ireland, Russia and Germany. The ISEP Exchanges program provides similar opportunities. The Cooperative Center for Study Abroad provides several programs of study that directly link to the various program foci and goals of the GWS program, e.g., programs on Institutional Violence Against Women and Children in Ireland, the Women's Movement in Irish History and Popular Culture, Women's Health and Wellness in the US vs. UK, the Australian program on The Study of Women's Health (in international perspective). The International Service Learning program provides students interested in activism and community service to incorporate international service learning into their degree programs for academic credit (e.g., through the GWS 399 internship course).

GWS faculty will communicate an expectation that students seek out these and other opportunities, and will work with their student mentees to facilitate making international education an integral component of the GWS major experience.

H. Transfer Credits.

Approved transfer credit may be applied to the GWS major as permitted by the University's Residence Requirement which mandates that at least 30 of the last 36 credit hours be earned at the University of Kentucky. (See UK Bulletin).

I. Minor

For those students who prefer to minor in GWS, GWS will continue the minor program, which will consist of 21 hours of courses, including either GWS 200 or 201, GWS 250, GWS 340, and GWS 350. The additional 9 credit hours are to be taken from courses approved as GWS elective courses (see IIIB above).

J Evaluation

Similar to all other academic units in the College of Arts and sciences, the GWS major will be subject to periodic internal review and evaluation as required by the governing regulations.

RESOURCES

The proposed major in Gender and Women's studies is constituted of a number of **existing courses** that have served the minor and topical major programs in Gender and Women's Studies to-date. However, because the proposed major has been designed as a cutting-edge program, it also includes a number of **new courses** necessitated by an interdisciplinary, transnational approach to gender and its intersections with other relations of power, such as sexuality, race, class, age, nationality, religion, and colonialism. These courses draw on the expertise of GWS's current and future faculty and represent the most up-to-date theoretical and pedagogical approaches in the interdisciplinary field of gender and women's studies.

Current faculty in GWS (three full-time faculty appointments, two 50% appointments, two 25% appointments) is sufficient to support the initial implementation of the program. Based on current figures on the number of minors and interdisciplinary majors in GWS and projected number of majors in the initial stages of the program (see "F" above), GWS faculty will need to teach a total of 11 sections of GWS core courses in each of the first two years of the program. GWS can support 13 sections with existing faculty. In addition, GWS's ability to teach the core is supported by the current A&S allocation of two TAs and one recurring PTI per year who teach additional sections of GWS 200 and 201, thus releasing faculty to teach core and elective courses. Our more than 50 GWS affiliated faculty teach courses that serve as electives to the current GWS minor and topical major programs (see C2 above), and will serve the GWS undergraduate major in the future.

We fully expect GWS faculty to grow along with student enrollment in the major (see "F" above). GWS is currently listed in the A&S five year plan for an additional five faculty hires, and an additional 3.5 TA lines. And while GWS has also proposed a graduate program, that program will not be phased in until GWS has added additional faculty to the proposed department - as new hires and/or as additional joint appointments of current UK faculty.

As UK prepares to add 6,200 students to the undergraduate level in support of Kentucky's *Double the Numbers* plan and the UK Top 20 Business Plan, it is essential that UK offer a comprehensive program of baccalaureate degrees to meet diverse needs. The GWS degree will fill an important gap in the current offerings to help support enrollment growth and increased degree production.

Brothers, Sheila C

From: Menciondo, Marta
Sent: Thursday, December 18, 2008 3:14 PM
To: Brothers, Sheila C
Subject: SAPC

Sheila,
At the December 12, 2008 meeting the SAPC approved the recommendation of the following programs:

New Graduate Certificate: Assistive and Rehab Technology
New Program: Gender and Women Studies
New Graduate certificate: Global Health

We did not discuss the PharmD / MPH Dual Program. The primary reviewer was not there due to a sick child, otherwise we had perfect attendance.

Please let me know what other programs are for the January agenda. I will send an email tomorrow morning to make sure that we are going to have a quorum on the 9th, otherwise I will postpone it to the 16th if more convenient.

Tx,
Marta

Marta S. Menciondo, PhD
University of Kentucky College of Public Health - Biostatistics Department
121 Washington Avenue - Suite 201 - Lexington, Kentucky 40536-0003
Sanders Brown Center on Aging
Rm 309B Sanders-Brown Bldg. - 800 S. Limestone St. - Lexington, KY 40536 - 0230
(859) 257-1412 ext 274 - FAX (859) 323-2866
marta@email.uky.edu

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