

Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies BA

Overview

The Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies Program within the College of Liberal Arts offers an undergraduate major, minor and certificate in Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies (GSWS) as well as a minor in Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Studies. The program offers a cohesive framework of inquiry into gender and sexuality issues in the U.S. and around the world. The curriculum for the **Bachelor of Arts in Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies** highlights the ways in which gender and sexuality relate to other social categories, such as race, class, disability, nationality and ethnicity. As an interdisciplinary field, Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies takes into account social, historical, economic, political and cultural variables in its study of women's experience, the workings of gender as both an analytical category and identity, and the functioning of sexuality in social life. The field pays particular attention to inequality and discrimination based on gender, sexuality and gender identity. Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies also seeks to transform traditional fields of study by incorporating new methodologies, data, theories and frameworks developed by feminist scholars.

The Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies Program offers students an interdisciplinary curriculum taught by faculty from various departments and other schools and colleges across the university. Students learn to apply the methods and theories of social scientists, historians, philosophers, film and literary critics, and legal analysts to the study of women's experiences, as well as gender, sexuality and trans identities. They explore a growing body of feminist theories that revise our understanding of gender, society and culture.

Campus Location: Main

Program Code: LA-GSWS-BA

Special Programs

Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies majors are required to take a Fieldwork course involving an internship which gives them the opportunity to get hands-on professional experience.

We encourage students to take advantage of university study abroad programs. Please contact the director for more information.

Accelerated Degree Programs

Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies majors have several options for a 4+1 accelerated BA + master's degree program:

- BA in GSWS / MA in Sociology
- BA in GSWS / MEd in Adult Learning, Training and Organizational Development
- BA in GSWS / MPP in Public Policy

For more information on these programs see the Accelerated Programs section of this *Bulletin* as well as the program's web site.

Advising Policy

We encourage students to take Foundations in Women's Studies (GSWS 1301), Critical Race Feminist Theory (GSWS 2051), Feminist Theory (GSWS 3097) and Field Work (GSWS 4389) before taking the Research Seminar (GSWS 4396).

Double-Counting of Credits

Students combining a minor in Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Studies and a major, minor, or certificate in GSWS may double-count for both programs only Field Work (GSWS 4389 or LGBT 4489) and Queer Lives (GSWS 2405 or LGBT 2405).

Distinction in Major

Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies students may graduate with a distinction in the major if they have a GPA of 3.5 or better in the major and a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better.

Awards

The Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies Program has the following five annual undergraduate awards that honor academic and creative excellence in our students:

- Barbara Brownstein Prize
- Sonia Sanchez Scholarship
- Lucia Beck Weiss and Howard J. Weiss Prize

- Audre Lorde Prize
- Certificate of Excellence

Professional Development

After graduation, Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies students enter professional schools in law, medicine and business; take graduate degrees in the humanities and social sciences; and pursue careers in health, counseling, teaching, public advocacy and many other fields.

Contact Information

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Learn more about the Bachelor of Arts in Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies.

These requirements are for students who matriculated in academic year 2024-2025. Students who matriculated prior to fall 2024 should refer to the Archives to view the requirements for their Bulletin year.

Summary of Degree Requirements

University Requirements

- MATH 0701 (4 s.h.) and/or ENG 0701 (4 s.h.), if required by placement testing.
- All Temple students must take a minimum of two writing-intensive courses as part of the major. The specific courses required for this major are GSWS 3097 or ENG 3097, and GSWS 4396.
- Students must complete requirements of the General Education (GenEd) Program. See the General Education section of the *Undergraduate Bulletin* for more details.

College of Liberal Arts Requirements

- Completion of a minimum of 123 credits, including:
 - 90 credits in CLA/CST courses;
 - 45 credits of which must be at the upper level (numbered 2000-4999).
 - For **Social Science majors**, 6 upper level credits (numbered 2000-4999) must be taken in Humanities Subject Areas: Arabic, Chinese, English, French, German, Greek (Ancient), Greek and Roman Classics, Hebrew, Hindi, Italian, Japanese, Latin, Philosophy, Religion, Russian, and Spanish in the College of Liberal Arts, Art History in the Tyler School of Art and Architecture, or any department in the College of Science and Technology.
 - A minimum GPA of 2.0, cumulatively, in CLA/CST coursework, and in the major.
 - Only courses in which a student receives a grade of at least C- can satisfy GenEd, major, minor, or CLA Foreign Language and Global Studies requirements.
- **Professional Development Requirement**
 - All students in the College of Liberal Arts are required to take a 1 credit seminar in professional development. CLA 1002 Professional Development for Liberal Arts Majors is the appropriate course option for this major. Other courses that fulfill this requirement may be found on the CLA College Requirements page. Only one course in this category may count towards graduation.
- **Foreign Language/Global Studies Requirements:**
 - All students must complete or test out of the first and second levels of a foreign language - these courses are numbered 1001 and 1002;
 - All students must complete at least one course from the GenEd Global/World Society category; and
 - All Bachelor of Arts students must complete one of the following options:
 - Third semester of a foreign language;
 - Demonstrated proficiency beyond the third semester in a foreign language (placement exam or certification from the language department);
 - Take one Global Studies course from the list on the CLA College Requirements page;

- Study Abroad at an approved program; or
- Take a second General Education Global/World Society course.
- **Notes on Foreign Language Study**
 - The third level of language is numbered 1003 in French, Spanish, and Portuguese and numbered 2001 in all other foreign language subjects.
 - Students are strongly encouraged to take the third level of a foreign language as it is the minimum required for election to the prestigious honor society *Phi Beta Kappa*. (Taking the course does not guarantee admission but not taking it guarantees exclusion.)
 - See the College of Liberal Arts Policies section of this *Bulletin* for more information on the Foreign Language Placement, Regression in Coursework, and guidelines for students' other experiences with language.

General Electives are typically one-third of a student's program of study and can be focused on a second major, a minor, or towards some other personal enrichment or professional goals. See an academic advisor for assistance in developing an academic plan for these courses.

Major Requirements (33 credits in Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies)

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Introductory Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies courses		
GSWS 1006	Introduction to Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies	3
GSWS 3015	Sexuality and Disability	3
GSWS 3097	Feminist Theory	3
or ENG 3097	Feminist Theory	
Two-course sequence ¹		
GSWS 4389	Field Work	3
GSWS 4396	Research Seminar	3
Elective Courses		
Select two courses in Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies numbered 2000-4999		6
Select two courses from the GSWS Sexuality Electives List (see course list below)		6
Select two courses from the GSWS Race and Diversity Electives List (see course list below)		6
Sexuality Electives		
ANTH 3355	Anthropology of Sexuality and Gender	
GSWS 2002	Gender in the Cinema	
or LGBT 2003	Gender in the Cinema	
GSWS 2007	Creative Writing: Fiction: LGBTQ Lives	
or LGBT 2007	Creative Writing: Fiction: LGBTQ Lives	
GSWS 2128	Men and Masculinities	
or LGBT 2128	Men and Masculinities	
GSWS 2202	Religion and Human Sexuality	
or LGBT 2002	Religion and Human Sexuality	
or REL 2002	Religion and Human Sexuality	
GSWS 2207	Creative Writing: Non-Fiction: Queer Lives	
or LGBT 2207	Creative Writing: Non-Fiction: Queer Lives	
GSWS 2305	LGBTQ Film: The Coming of Age Genre	
or LGBT 2305	LGBTQ Film: The Coming of Age Genre	
GSWS 2306	LGBTQ Film: Queer Representation	
or LGBT 2306	LGBTQ Film: Queer Representation	
GSWS 2405	Queer Lives	
or LGBT 2405	Queer Lives	
GSWS 2406	LGBTQ Social Movements	
or LGBT 2406	LGBTQ Social Movements	
GSWS 2815	Love, Marriage, and Family	
or LGBT 2815	Love, Marriage, and Family	
GSWS 3016	Sexuality Education	
or LGBT 3016	Sexuality Education	
GSWS 3017	Social Perspectives on Digital Pornography: The Other Sex Ed	

or LGBT 3017	Social Perspectives on Digital Pornography: The Other Sex Ed
GSWS 3124	Politics of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity
or LGBT 3124	Politics of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity
or POLS 3124	Politics of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity
GSWS 3205	Queer Novels of the 20th Century
or LGBT 3205	Queer Novels of the 20th Century
GSWS 3206	Queer Novels of the 21st Century
or LGBT 3206	Queer Novels of the 21st Century
GSWS 3546	Sexuality and Gender
LGBT 2400	Topics in LGBT Studies
GSWS Race and Diversity Electives	
AAAS 2133	The African American Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Experience
AAAS 2142	The Black Male Experience
ARTH 3302	Women and Art
ASST 3031	Women in Chinese Literature
or CHI 3031	Women in Chinese Literature
or GSWS 3031	Women in Chinese Literature
HIST 3542	Women and Society in Japan
HIST 3566	Race, Gender, and Empire in the Iberian World
HIST 3675	Third World Women's Lives
GSWS 3003	Women Writers In Black Literature
GSWS 3231	German Minority Identities: Gendered and Cultural Dimensions (in English)
or GER 3231	German Minority Identities: Gendered and Cultural Dimensions (in English)
GSWS 3235	Weimar Culture: Race, Gender, Sexuality and Nation (in English)
or GER 3235	Weimar Culture: Race, Gender, Sexuality and Nation (in English)
GSWS 3259	Women and Poverty
or SOC 3259	Women and Poverty
GSWS 3431	Women's Lives Modern Europe
or HIST 3431	Women's Lives in Modern Europe
GSWS 4411	Secularism: Jewish and Muslim Women
or REL 4411	Secularism: Jewish and Muslim Women

Total Credit Hours**33**

¹ The final requirement for the major is a two-course sequence. This sequence should be taken during the major's last three semesters of enrollment. Students will select a field assignment (internship) with the assistance of the advising coordinator. This sequence is designed for students to learn how to write a research paper.

Suggested Academic Plan

Bachelor of Arts in Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies

Suggested Plan for New Students Starting in the 2024-2025 Academic Year

Year 1		Credit Hours
Fall		
Foreign Language 1001 - first level		4
ENG 0802	Analytical Reading and Writing [GW]	4
or ENG 0812	or Analytical Reading and Writing: ESL [GW]	
or ENG 0902	or Honors Analytical Reading and Writing [GW]	
GenEd Quantitative Literacy Course [GQ]		4
GenEd Breadth Course		3
Credit Hours		15
Spring		
GSWS 1006	Introduction to Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies	3
Foreign Language 1002 - second level		4

IH 0851 or IH 0951	Intellectual Heritage I: The Good Life [GY] or Honors Intellectual Heritage I: The Good Life [GY]	3
GenEd Breadth Course		3
GenEd Breadth Course		3

Credit Hours 16

Year 2

Fall

Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies Elective - 2000-4999		3
One 0800-4999 Elective in Any School or College		2
IH 0852 or IH 0952	Intellectual Heritage II: The Common Good [GZ] or Honors Intellectual Heritage II: The Common Good [GZ]	3
GenEd Breadth Course		3
GenEd Breadth Course		3
Select one of the following:		3
Foreign Language - third level		
GenEd Global/World Society Course		
Internationally-Focused Course From Approved List		

Credit Hours 17

Spring

CLA 1002	Professional Development for Liberal Arts Majors	1
GSWS 3097 or ENG 3097	Feminist Theory [WI] or Feminist Theory [WI]	3
Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies Elective - 2000-4999		3
CLA/CST 0800-4999 Elective		2
GenEd Breadth Course		3
GenEd Breadth Course		3

Credit Hours 15

Year 3

Fall

GSWS 3015	Sexuality and Disability	3
GSWS Sexuality Elective Course		3
CLA/CST 2000+ Course		3
CLA/CST 2000+ Humanities/CST Course		3
CLA/CST 0800-4999 Elective		3

Credit Hours 15

Spring

GSWS Race and Diversity Elective Course		3
GSWS Sexuality Elective Course		3
CLA/CST 2000+ Humanities/CST Course		3
CLA/CST 2000+ Course		3
One Elective numbered 0800-4999 in Any School or College		3

Credit Hours 15

Year 4

Fall

GSWS 4389	Field Work ¹	3
CLA/CST 2000+ Course		3
CLA/CST 2000+ Course		3
CLA/CST 0800-4999 Elective		3
CLA/CST 0800-4999 Elective		3

Credit Hours 15

Spring

GSWS 4396	Research Seminar [WI] (Capstone Course) ¹	3
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GSWS Race and Diversity Elective Course	3
CLA/CST 0800-4999 Elective	3
CLA/CST 0800-4999 Elective	3
One 0800-4999 Elective in Any School or College	3
Credit Hours	15
Total Credit Hours	123

¹ These courses may not be offered every semester. Please see advisor for offerings.

Accelerated Programs

Students may opt to pursue an accelerated +1 program, enabling them to complete both a bachelor's degree and master's degree in less time than the traditional route.

The following accelerated program may be of interest to students in the Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies BA:

College of Liberal Arts

- Sociology MA
- Public Policy MPP

College of Education and Human Development

- Adult Learning, Training and Organizational Development MEd