

BA WGSS

Bachelor of Arts in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

Under Review | Fall 2025

Proposal Information

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <div>Status</div> <div>Active</div> | <div>Workflow Status</div> <div>In Progress</div> <div>Faculty Senate Approval, Faculty Senate</div> <div>Waiting for Approval Faculty Senate Approval</div> <div>Nancy Middlebrook</div> <div>Theresa Sherman</div> <div>expand ▲</div> |
| | <div>Changes</div> <div><div>• College</div><div>• Requirements</div><div>• participants</div><div>• Admissions Requirements</div><div>• Learning Outcomes</div></div> <div>Show All ▼</div> |

Proposal Information

| | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <div>Proposed</div> <div>Sponsoring faculty/staff member</div> <div>scds@unm.edu</div> | <div>Proposed</div> <div>Sponsoring faculty/staff email</div> <div>scds@unm.edu</div> |
| <div>Existing</div> <div>Sponsoring faculty/staff member</div> <div>Maggie Sumruld</div> | <div>Existing</div> <div>Sponsoring faculty/staff email</div> <div>msumruld@unm.edu</div> |
| <div>Proposed</div> <div>College</div> <div>College of Arts & Sciences: Social Sciences & Interdisciplinary</div> | <div>Department</div> <div>Women, Gender & Sexuality Studies</div> <div>Campus</div> <div>Main Campus</div> |
| <div>Existing</div> <div>College</div> <div>College of Arts & Sciences</div> | |

Effective Term and Year

Proposed

Proposed Effective Term and Year

Fall 2025

Existing

Proposed Effective Term and Year

Fall 2024

Justification

Proposed

Program Justification

The proposed changes expand the options for students to fulfill major and second major requirements in order to craft a more flexible program and thus ensure that students can move through the degree requirements in a timely fashion. Deleting focus area requirements, and expanding the options for electives and core requirements. Also proposed deletion of the departmental honors program, since it requires courses that the program cannot offer due to limited faculty teaching in the unit.

Existing

Program Justification

MS 5/22/24 Adding major code to match BANP

Program Category and Level

| | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Program Category Program | Program Level Undergraduate | Degree, Minor, or Certificate Name Bachelor of Arts in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies |
| Degree Type Bachelor of Arts | | |
| Degree/Certificate Level Undergraduate | | |
| Proposed Is this program also offered online? No | | |
| Existing Is this program also offered online? -- | | |

Associated Forms

| | |
|------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Select any associated course forms that exist | Proposed Select any associated program forms that exist MIN Wmn Gend Sex StdyGCERT Womn Stdy |
| | Existing Select any associated program forms that exist |

Shared Credit and Dual Degree information

| |
|----------------------------------------|
| Interdepartmental Program No |
|----------------------------------------|

Catalog Information

Program Description

Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies is an interdisciplinary program that is committed to educating students about the relationships among identity, power and knowledge toward the ends of social justice and empowerment. The program focuses on how gender intersects with race, sexuality, class, and nation. The program supports the development and application of new theories of feminist studies throughout the University and the application of feminist methods in order to evaluate critically scholarship and research in the disciplines. In addition, the program seeks to educate students in ways that enable them to respond to issues that affect the lives of women locally, regionally, and globally.

Proposed

Admissions Requirements

A minimum of 26 credit hours; 23 credit hours must be in courses acceptable toward graduation.

A cumulative grade point average of at least 2.00 on all work.

- Transfer students must have a 2.00 transfer GPA.
- Continuing UNM students must have a 2.00 institutional GPA.

Demonstrated academic achievement by satisfying the following:

- Completion of General Education Curriculum: Communication.
- Completion of General Education Curriculum: Mathematics and Statistics.
- Completion of General Education Curriculum: Second Language.

Completion of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program admission coursework with a grade of "C" or better:

- One GNDR or WGSS course at any level.

Existing

Admissions Requirements

A minimum of 26 credit hours; 23 credit hours must be in courses acceptable toward graduation.

A cumulative grade point average of at least 2.00 on all work.

- Transfer students must have a 2.00 transfer GPA.
- Continuing UNM students must have a 2.00 institutional GPA.

Demonstrated academic achievement by satisfying the following:

- Completion of General Education Curriculum: Communication.
- Completion of General Education Curriculum: Mathematics and Statistics.
- Completion of General Education Curriculum: Second Language.

Completion of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program admission coursework with a grade of "C" or better:

- One GNDR or WGSS course at any level.

Process for Honors Admission

Qualified students who are interested in the Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies departmental honors program must: 1) select an honors thesis faculty advisor, in consultation with the Program Undergraduate Advisor; 2) submit an application letter and form. Eligible students are strongly urged to submit their letter of application and form, co-signed by the honors thesis advisor, by October 15th of their junior year; 3) submit verification of scheduled, or taken, honors sequence, 4) provide a copy of an unofficial transcript.

Graduation Requirements

Professional Credential/Licensure Program Information

License/Certification associated with program

No

Degree Information

Degree Hours

120

Minimum Major Hours

36

Professional Accrediting Bodies

Degree Requirements

Requirements

- Complete 1 of the following

Major Requirements

- Complete all of the following
 - Complete the following:
 - GNDR2110—Introduction to Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies- (3)
 - WGSS304—Feminist Theories: Identity, Knowledge and Power- (3)
 - WGSS325—Race, Class and Feminism- (3)
 - WGSS498—Feminism in Action- (3)
 - Earn at least 3 credits from the following:
 - WGSS336—Queer Theories- (3)
 - Note: WGSS Topics course on Feminist Sexuality Studies may also be used to fulfill the above requirement.
 - Earn at least 21 credits from the following types of courses:
Focus Area Requirement Choose 12 credit hours from one focus area, and 9 credit hours from at least two additional focus areas: • Feminist and Gender Theory • Literature, Film, and Arts • Regional/Global • Sexualities • Social Sciences Refer to Arts and Sciences Advisement or the program Web site for the current list of courses approved for each focus area.
 - Earn at least 84 credits from the following types of courses:
In addition to the program-specific requirements outlined here, all undergraduate students are required to fulfill UNM's General Education Program requirements and other general undergraduate degree requirements to earn a minimum of 120 credits. In some instances, courses included in an undergraduate degree program's requirement may also fulfill a General Education requirement. Please review the General Education Program in this Catalog for General Education information. Students within the College of Arts and Sciences must also complete 1) a major and a minor; or 2) two majors; or 3) one of the special curricula of the College that requires no minor.

Second Major Requirements

- Complete all of the following
 - Complete the following:
 - GNDR2110—Introduction to Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies- (3)
 - WGSS304—Feminist Theories: Identity, Knowledge and Power- (3)
 - WGSS325—Race, Class and Feminism- (3)
 - WGSS498—Feminism in Action- (3)
 - Earn at least 3 credits from the following:
 - WGSS336—Queer Theories- (3)
 - WGSS379—Interdisciplinary Topics- (1–3)

- Note: Topic for WGSS 379 must be Feminist Sexuality Studies.
- Earn at least 9 credits from the following types of courses:
Focus Area Requirement Choose 6 credit hours from one focus area, and 3 credit hours from one additional focus area: • Feminist and Gender Theory • Literature, Film, and Arts • Regional/Global • Sexualities • Social Sciences Refer to Arts and Sciences Advisement or the program Web site for the current list of courses approved for each focus area.

Departmental Honors

- Complete all of the following
 - To be eligible for the undergraduate departmental honors program, a student must be a major in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, have an overall GPA of 3.0 or better, and a GPA of at least 3.5 in program courses.
 - Complete the following:
 - GNDR2110—Introduction to Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies- (3)
 - WGSS304—Feminist Theories: Identity, Knowledge and Power- (3)
 - WGSS492—Senior Seminar- (3)
 - WGSS498—Feminism in Action- (3)
 - WGSS493—Senior Honors Thesis- (3)
 - HIST345—U.S. Women since 1865- (3)
 - Complete at least 1 of the following:
 - WGSS325—Race, Class and Feminism- (3)
 - WGSS331—Transnational Feminisms- (3)
 - Earn at least 9 credits from the following types of courses:
Focus Area Requirement Choose from one focus area: • Feminist and Gender Theory • Literature, Film, and Arts • Regional/Global • Sexualities • Social Sciences
 - Earn at least 12 credits from the following types of courses:
Electives Choose from outside the focus area.
 - Earn at least 78 credits from the following types of courses:
In addition to the program specific requirements outlined here, all undergraduate students are required to fulfill UNM's General Education Program requirements and other general undergraduate degree requirements to earn a minimum of 120 credits. In some instances, courses included in an undergraduate degree program's requirement may also fulfill a General Education requirement. Please review the General Education Program in this Catalog for General Education information. Students within the College of Arts and Sciences must also complete 1) a major and a minor; or 2) two majors; or 3) one of the special curricula of the College that requires no minor.

First Major

- Complete all of the following
 - Complete the following:
 - GNDR2110 - Introduction to Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (3)
 - WGSS304 - Feminist Theories: Identity, Knowledge and Power (3)
 - WGSS325 - Race, Class and Feminism (3)
 - WGSS498 - Feminism in Action (3)
 - Earn at least 3 credits from the following:
 - WGSS336 - Queer Theories (3)
 - PSYC2330 - Psychology of Human Sexuality (3)
 - WGSS332 - Latinx Sexualities (3)
 - WGSS333 - Politics of Sex (3)
 - CCS564 - Raza Genders and Sexualities (3)
 - WGSS379 - Interdisciplinary Topics (1 - 3)
 - Note: WGSS 379 (topics) must be taken as Feminist Sexuality Studies in order to count toward the Sexuality Studies area requirement.

- Earn at least 21 credits from the following types of courses:
Electives, as approved. At least 12 hours of electives must have the WGSS prefix.
- Earn at least 84 credits from the following types of courses:
In addition to the program-specific requirements outlined here, all undergraduate students are required to fulfill UNM's General Education Program requirements and other general undergraduate degree requirements to earn a minimum of 120 credits. In some instances, courses included in an undergraduate degree program's requirement may also fulfill a General Education requirement. Please review the General Education Program in this Catalog for General Education information. Students within the College of Arts and Sciences must also complete 1) a major and a minor; or 2) two majors; or 3) one of the special curricula of the College that requires no minor.

Second Major

- Complete all of the following
 - Complete the following:
 - GNDR2110 - Introduction to Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (3)
 - WGSS498 - Feminism in Action (3)
 - Complete at least 1 of the following:
 - WGSS304 - Feminist Theories: Identity, Knowledge and Power (3)
 - WGSS325 - Race, Class and Feminism (3)
 - Earn at least 3 credits from the following:
 - WGSS336 - Queer Theories (3)
 - WGSS379 - Interdisciplinary Topics (1 - 3)
 - PSYC2330 - Psychology of Human Sexuality (3)
 - WGSS332 - Latinx Sexualities (3)
 - WGSS333 - Politics of Sex (3)
 - CCS364 - Raza Genders and Sexualities (3)
 - Note: WGSS 379 (topics) must be taken as Feminist Sexuality Studies in order to count toward the Sexuality Studies area requirement.
 - Earn at least 12 credits from the following types of courses:
Electives, as approved. At least 6 hours of electives must have the WGSS prefix.

Grand Total Credits: 24 - 120

Concentrations

Program Concentrations

Code

Title

Concentration Required

No

Emphases

Emphasis required

Emphasis Hours

N/A

Emphasis Rules

No Rules

Sample Degree Plan

Sample Degree Plan Upload

Program Learning Outcomes

Proposed

Learning Outcomes

Broad Program Learning Goals for this Degree/Certificate Program

- A. Students engage with interdisciplinary study of the relationships among identity, power, and knowledge.
- B. Students understand how gender as a social category or identity formation intersects with and is articulated through race, sexuality, class, and nation.
- C. Students have knowledge of and familiarity with feminist studies, queer theory and sexuality studies, transgender studies, critical race theory, and postcolonial/transnational feminist studies.
- D. Students recognize and can take responsibility for one's position within social systems and have respect for divergent positions and perspectives.
- E. Students experience and understand mechanisms for creation of community, social change, and empowerment with local, national, and/or transnational organizations and communities.

Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) for this Degree/Certificate Program

- A.1. Students can write a critical essay or conduct research that is informed by one or more of the following approaches: feminist studies, queer theory and sexuality studies, transgender studies, critical race theory, and postcolonial/transnational feminist studies.
- B.1. Students can write a critical essay or conduct research in which they apply an intersectional analysis.
- C.1. Students can read theoretical texts and write an essay identifying the main ideas, arguments, and assumptions in these texts.
- D.1. Students can reflect on their position within social systems and describe why respect for divergent perspectives and positions is valuable.
- E.1. Students can apply knowledge of feminist theories in a field study experience and can describe techniques for social change in these settings.

Existing

Learning Outcomes