WMST - WOMEN'S STUDIES

WMST400 Theories of Feminism (3 Credits)
A study of the multiplicity of feminist theories which have been developed to explain women's position in the family, the workplace, and society. Major feminist writings are considered in the context of their historical moment and in the context of the intellectual traditions to which they relate.
Prerequisite: 1 course in WMST; or must have completed a course cross-listed with a WMST course.

WMST408 Literature by Women Before 1800 (3 Credits)
Selected writings by women in the medieval and early modern era.
Prerequisite: Must have completed two English courses in literature; or permission of ARHU-Women's Studies department.
Repeatable to: 9 credits if content differs. Cross-listed with ENGL408.
Credit Only Granted for: ENGL408 or WMST408.

WMST410 Women of the African Diaspora (3 Credits)
Explores the lives, experiences, and cultures of women of Africa and the African diaspora--African-America, the Caribbean, and Afro-Latin America. A variety of resources and materials will be used providing a distinctive interdisciplinary perspective.

WMST425 Gender Roles and Social Institutions (3 Credits)
Relationship between gender roles and the structure of one or more social institutions (e.g., the economy, the family, the political system, religion, education). The incorporation of gender roles into social institutions; perpetuation or transformation of sex roles by social institutions; how changing gender roles affect social institutions.
Credit Only Granted for: SOCY425 or WMST425.

WMST428 Topics in Women's Studies (1-3 Credits)
Thematic exploration of a topic in women's studies.
Repeatable to: 9 credits if content differs.

WMST444 Feminist Critical Theory (3 Credits)
Issues in contemporary feminist thought that have particular relevance to textual studies, such as theories of language, literature, culture, interpretation, and identity.
Prerequisite: WMST200, WMST250, or ENGL250. Cross-listed with ENGL444.
Credit Only Granted for: ENGL444 or WMST444.

WMST448 Literature by Women of Color (3 Credits)
Literature by women of color in the United States, Britain, and in colonial and post-colonial countries.
Prerequisite: Must complete two English courses in literature; or permission of ARHU-Women's Studies department.
Repeatable to: 9 credits if content differs. Cross-listed with ENGL448.
Credit Only Granted for: ENGL448 or WMST448.

WMST452 Women in the Media (3 Credits)
Participation and portrayal of women in the mass media from colonial to contemporary times. Cross-listed with JOUR452.
Credit Only Granted for: JOUR452 or WMST452.

WMST454 Women in Africa (3 Credits)
The place of women in African societies: the role and function of families; institutions such as marriage, birthing, and child rearing; ritual markers in women's lives; women in the workplace; women's associates; women's health issues; measures designed to control women's behavior; women and development.
Credit Only Granted for: HIST494 or WMST454.

WMST455 Women in Medieval Culture and Society (3 Credits)
Medieval women's identity and cultural roles: the condition, rank and rights of medieval women; their access to power; a study of women's writings and the constraints of social constructs upon the female authorial voice; and contemporary assumptions about women. Cross-listed with HIST495.
Credit Only Granted for: HIST495 or WMST455.

WMST456 Women and Society in the Middle East (3 Credits)
Examines the customs, values and institutions that have shaped women's experience in the Middle East in the past and in the contemporary Middle East.
Recommended: Prior coursework in Middle East studies or gender studies. Cross-listed with HIST492.
Credit Only Granted for: HIST492 or WMST456.

WMST457 Redefining Gender in the U.S., 1880-1935 (3 Credits)
Exploring changing perceptions of gender in the U.S., 1880-1935, and the impact of those changes on the day to day lives of men and women.

WMST458 Literature by Women After 1800 (3 Credits)
Selected writings by women after 1800.
Prerequisite: Must have completed two English courses in literature; or permission of ARHU-Women's Studies department.
Repeatable to: 9 credits if content differs. Cross-listed with ENGL458.
Credit Only Granted for: ENGL458 or WMST458.

WMST468 Feminist Cultural Studies (3 Credits)
Each version of this course focuses on one or several forms of popular culture -- such as TV, music, film, cyber-culture, or genre fiction (for example, science fiction) -- and demonstrates how feminists value, critique and explain such forms. Tools of feminist cultural studies include economic and social analyses of power, race, sexuality, gender, class, nationality, religion, technology, and globalization processes.
Repeatable to: 9 credits if content differs.

WMST469 Study Abroad Special Topics IV (1-6 Credits)
Special topics course taken as part of an approved study abroad program.
Repeatable to: 15 credits if content differs.

WMST471 Women's Health (3 Credits)
The women's health movement from the perspective of consumerism and feminism. The physician-patient relationship in the gynecological and other medical settings. The gynecological exam, gynecological problems, contraception, abortion, pregnancy, breast and cervical cancer and surgical procedures. Psychological aspects of gynecological concerns.
Restriction: Must be in a major within ARHU-Women's Studies department; or must be in a major within SPHL-Behavioral & Community Health department. Cross-listed with HLTH471.
Credit Only Granted for: HLTH471 or WMST471.

WMST487 Advanced Research Seminar in Gender, Race, and Queer Studies (3 Credits)
A research seminar that allows students to focus their developed skills on a single topic of their own choosing while meeting regularly in seminar to discuss, critique, support, and learn from their peers' projects and assessments. Students choose a topic based on their own interests and prior coursework, perform advanced research appropriate to the question, and formulate an appropriate method of presentation of their research findings. The culminating presentation may take the form of a written paper or a creative, digital, or activist project.
Prerequisite: WMST301 and WMST302.
WMST488 Senior Seminar (3 Credits)
Seminar for advanced majors in women’s studies or other students with appropriate preparation. Interdisciplinary topics will vary each semester.
Restriction: Permission of ARHU-Women’s Studies department.
Repeatable to: 9 credits if content differs.

WMST491 Judaism and the Construction of Gender (3 Credits)
The study of Jewish culture, religious practice, communal authority, and literature through the frame of such critical categories of analysis as gender, sexuality, masculinity, power, ethics, and the feminine.
Prerequisite: 1 course in JWST; or 1 course in LGBT; or 1 course in WMST.
Cross-listed with JWST491.
Credit Only Granted for: JWST419X, JWST491, or WMST491.

WMST494 Lesbian Communities and Differences (3 Credits)
The meanings of lesbian communities across many lines of difference. Using lesbian-feminists of the 1970s as a starting point, we will look both back and forward in history, tracing changes and exploring the meanings of these in their social and historical contexts.
Prerequisite: 1 course in WMST.
Recommended: WMST200 or WMST250. Also offered as: LGBT494.
Credit Only Granted for: LGBT494 or WMST494.

WMST496 African-American Women Filmmakers (3 Credits)
Examines the cinematic artistry of African-American women filmmakers and the ways in which these films address the dual and inseparable roles of race and gender.

WMST497 Professional Development (1 Credit)
To assist students in thinking about the next step post-undergraduate degree and to think long term about the importance of their WMST degree in lifelong career, personal, and political development. This course will provide students an opportunity to reflect upon where they are going beyond the B.A. and develop ways to communicate how their coursework and experiences at UMD have prepared them for the next step. The course will focus on the practicalities of resume writing, internship or job searches, etc. but also on the specific challenges/opportunities of translating interdisciplinary training to professional internship or beyond-the B.A. sites. Students may take this course in preparation for their internship (working to select an appropriate internship that can translate well to post-undergraduate aspirations) or they may take it post-internship as they determine their post-graduation steps.
Prerequisite: 12 credits in LGBT or WMST courses.
Restriction: Must have completed a minimum of 75 credits.

WMST498 Advanced Special Topics in Women’s Studies (1-3 Credits)
Restriction: Permission of ARHU-Women’s Studies department.
Repeatable to: 9 credits if content differs.

WMST498W Sex, Gender, and Jewish Identity (3 Credits)
An exploration of Jewish embodiment, including dynamics related to biological sex, culturally-framed gender, and sexuality. Topics of discussion may include transgender and intersex Jews, stereotypes and gender performance, modesty, genetics, and body alteration. Focus is on contemporary Jewish culture, framed within the larger historical and textual tradition.
Prerequisite: 1 course in WMST; or 1 course in JWST; or 1 course in LGBT; or permission of instructor. Cross-listed with: JWST492, LGBT448W.
Credit Only Granted for: JWST492, JWST409G, JWST419W, LGBT448W, or WMST498W.
Formerly: JWST409G and JWST419W.

WMST499 Independent Study (1-3 Credits)
Research and writing or specific readings on a topic selected by the student and supervised by a faculty member of the Women’s Studies Department.
Prerequisite: 1 course in WMST.
Restriction: Permission of ARHU-Women’s Studies department.
Repeatable to: 9 credits if content differs.

WMST601 Approaches to Women's Studies I (3 Credits)
Examines two fundamental concepts in women’s studies: intersectionality and interdisciplinarity. Looks at how feminisms have shaped and been shaped by knowledge-production within and across disciplinary boundaries, cultures, and paradigms. Develops an appreciation of intersectional theory as a critical research tool and as a set of responses to issues of power, domination, oppression and other loci of difference.
Prerequisite: WMST400; or students who have taken courses with comparable content may contact the department.

WMST602 Approaches to Women's Studies II (3 Credits)
Continued examination of intersectionality and interdisciplinarity with emphasis on the politics of knowledge production and identity.
Prerequisite: WMST400; or students who have taken courses with comparable content may contact the department.

WMST618 Feminist Pedagogy (3 Credits)
Examines the higher education classroom from a feminist perspective through theory and analysis. Students are graduate teaching assistants with the Women’s Studies department.
Restriction: Permission of ARHU-Women’s Studies department.

WMST619 Women’s Studies Teaching Practicum (1 Credit)
Provides Women’s Studies graduate teaching assistants with ongoing regular faculty supervision during the semesters the students are teaching WMST courses.
Prerequisite: Permission of ARHU-Women’s Studies department; and WMST618; and must be a current WMST teaching assistant.
Repeatable to: 12 credits if content differs.

WMST621 Feminist Theories and Women's Movements: Genealogies (3 Credits)
Examines theories to explain the matrix of domination from the nineteenth century to the present. Students learn the key debates that produced new insights and shifted the ground of subsequent feminist theorizing within multi-racial feminisms. Examines those debates within global perspectives. Examines how dominant theoretical frameworks have been developed at specific historical moments.
Prerequisite: WMST400; or permission of ARHU-Women’s Studies department.

WMST628 Women’s Studies Colloquium (1 Credit)
An intensive advanced exploration of current problems and issues in women’s studies.
Repeatable to: 12 credits if content differs.

WMST698 Special Topics in Women's Studies (1-3 Credits)
Advanced work in selected topics in Women's Studies.
Prerequisite: WMST400; or students who have taken courses with comparable content may contact the department.
Repeatable to: 6 credits if content differs.

WMST699 Independent Study (1-3 Credits)
Research and writing on specific readings on a topic selected by the student which is approved and supervised by a faculty member of the Women’s Studies Department.
Restriction: Permission of instructor.
WMST708 Research Seminar in Women's Studies (3 Credits)
This seminar provides an opportunity for those students interested in pursuing feminist research and teaching to synthesize and explore feminist analyses of university life, including research and writing methods, learning styles, curricular issues, and the "chilly climate" for women.
Restriction: Permission of instructor.
Repeatable to: 9 credits if content differs.

WMST709 Directed Independent Reading for Major Field Exam (1-4 Credits)
Directed reading in preparation for Major Field Exam. In consultation with their advisors, students identify, analyze, critique and synthesize material relevant to their major fields of inquiry. Grading will be based on combinations of oral performance in the bi-weekly meetings, production of annotated bibliographies and synthetic papers.
Restriction: Permission of ARHU-Women's Studies department.

WMST799 Masters Thesis Research (1-6 Credits)
Repeatable to: 9 credits.

WMST898 Pre-Candidacy Research (1-8 Credits)

WMST899 Doctoral Dissertation Research (1-8 Credits)
Repeatable to: 10 credits if content differs.