WMST - WOMEN'S STUDIES

WMST200 Introduction to Women's Studies: Women and Society (3 Credits)
An interdisciplinary study of the status, roles, and experiences of women in society. Sources from a variety of fields such as literature, psychology, history, and anthropology, focusing on the writings of women.

WMST210 Love, Labor, and Citizenship: Women in America to 1880 (3 Credits)
An examination of the economic, family, and political roles of colonial slave, immigrant and frontier women in America from the pre-industrial colonial period through the early stages of 19th-century industrialization and urbanization. Cross-listed with HIST210.
Credit Only Granted for: HIST210 or WMST210.

WMST211 Women in America Since 1880 (3 Credits)
An examination of women's changing roles in working class and middle class families, the effects of industrialization on women's economic activities and status, and women's involvement in political and social struggles, including those for women's rights, birth control, and civil rights. Cross-listed with HIST211.
Credit Only Granted for: HIST211 or WMST211.

WMST212 Women in Western Europe 1750-Present (3 Credits)
An analysis of the economic, family, and political roles of European women from 1750 to the present. The effects of industrialization on women's work and status, the demographic parameters of women's lives, and women's participation in political events from market riots to suffrage struggles. Cross-listed with HIST212.
Credit Only Granted for: HIST212 or WMST212.

WMST250 Introduction to Women's Studies: Women, Art and Culture (3 Credits)
An examination of women's creative powers as expressed in selected examples of music, film, art, drama, poetry, fiction, and other literature. Explores women's creativity in relation to families, religion, education, ethnicity, class, sexuality, and within a cultural tradition shaped by women.

WMST255 Reading Women Writing (3 Credits)
Explores literary and cultural expressions by women and their receptions within a range of historical periods and genres. Topics such as what does a woman need in order to write, what role does gender play in the production, consumption, and interpretation of texts, and to what extent do women comprise a distinct literary subculture. Interpretation of texts will be guided by feminist and gender theory, ways of reading that have emerged as important to literary studies over the last four decades. Cross-listed with ENGL250.
Credit Only Granted for: ENGL250 or WMST255.

WMST263 Introduction to Black Women's Studies (3 Credits)
Interdisciplinary exploration of Black women, culture and society in the United States. Drawn primarily from the social sciences and history with complementary material from literature and the arts.
Credit Only Granted for: WMST298A or AASP298I.
Formerly: WMST298A.

WMST264 Quare/Queer Contentions: Exploration of Sexualities in the Black Community (3 Credits)
Centering the subjectivities of queer people of color generally and more specifically, Black people (as the word ‘quare’ invites us to do), Quare/Queer Contentions takes up key moments within the history of the Black community and asks us to consider the work and presence of LGBTQ people in these moments. The course also contends with the everyday experiences of LGBTQ subjects in the Black community. Quare/Queer Contentions, therefore, interrogates the material realities of Black queer people in the context of family, religion, cultural/creative work, among others. Interdisciplinary in orientation, the course will employ primary and secondary texts, film, art, autobiographical narratives and policy data. Cross-listed with: LGBT264, AASP264.
Credit Only Granted for: LGBT264, AASP264, or WMST264.

WMST265 Constructions of Manhood and Womanhood in the Black Community (3 Credits)
Investigates the ways that African Americans are represented and constructed in public and private spheres and explores the social constructions and representations of Black manhood and womanhood from various disciplinary perspectives. Cross-listed with: AASP298B.

WMST267 Introduction to Black Women's Cultural Studies (3 Credits)
An introduction to black women's cultural production and to an understanding of how the social norms and ideals about women within black communities and in the larger society have shaped black women's own self-perceptions and behaviors and thus their cultural production.
Credit Only Granted for: WMST267 or WMST298A.
Formerly: WMST298A.

WMST269 Special Topics in Study Abroad II (1-6 Credits)
Special topics course taken as part of an approved study abroad program.
Repeatable to: 15 credits if content differs.

WMST275 World Literature by Women (3 Credits)
Comparative study of selected works by women writers of several countries, exploring points of intersection and divergence in women's literary representations. Cross-listed with CMLT275.
Credit Only Granted for: WMST275 or CMLT275.

WMST298 Special Topics in Women's Studies (1-3 Credits)
Repeatable to: 6 credits if content differs.

WMST298L History of Sexuality in America (3 Credits)
Explores the social construction of sexualities from the first colonial settlement to the modern era in the United States. Analyzes the implications of these understandings for power relations in U.S. history. Cross-listed with: HIST213.
Credit Only Granted for: HIST213 or WMST298L.

WMST300 Feminist Reconceptualizations of Knowledge (3 Credits)
An examination of how the interdisciplinary study of women and gender has generated new questions, challenged traditional methodologies and offered insights on the ways we come to learn, know, and teach. Explores the impact of feminist thinking on various disciplines.
Restriction: Permission of ARHU-Women's Studies department; and must be in Women's Studies program.
WMST301 Introduction to Research in Gender, Race, and Queer Studies (3 Credits)
Primarily a research skills-building course, focusing especially on interdisciplinary approaches to research. Encompasses basic library skills, conceptualizing a research question. The course is not designed to teach a specific research method but rather to as an introduction to a range of research methods commonly employed in feminist, critical race, and queer studies with some opportunity to begin to apply them. Considers the ethical dilemmas and political implications embedded in research projects.
Restriction: Must be in one of the following programs: Women's Studies major; Black Women & Transgender Studies minor; Women's Studies certificate; or Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Studies certificate.

WMST302 Feminist, Critical Race, and Queer Theories (3 Credits)
Introduces students to some of the major concepts in feminist, critical race, and queer theories. It examines the questions: What is theory? What forms does theory take? What is the relationship between theory and practice? What is the role of theory in political and social action? In art? In personal life? What does it mean to do theory?
Prerequisite: 6 credits in LGBT, WMST, or courses that are cross-listed with these.

WMST310 Transgender Studies (3 Credits)
Introduces students to the interdisciplinary field of transgender studies, providing a history of the field and engaging current debates within it. Students will explore the emergence and consolidation of trans identities, practices, cultures, and knowledges across medical, historical, sociological, cultural, and artistic contexts, paying particular attention to dynamics of race, class, and ability, to global and transnational difference, and to the implications of transgender studies for understanding gender and sexuality overall. Cross-listed with: LGBT310.
Credit Only Granted for: LGBT310 or WMST310.

WMST314 Black Women in United States History (3 Credits)
Black American women’s history from slavery to the present. Focused on gaining a fuller understanding of the effect of race, class and gender on the life cycles and multiple roles of Black women as mothers, daughters, wives, workers and social-change agents.
Restriction: Sophomore standing or higher. Cross-listed with AASP313.
Credit Only Granted for: AASP313 or WMST314.

WMST319 Workshops in Gender, Race, and Queer Studies (3 Credits)
Topics will change each semester but all workshops will be designed to have students think transdisciplinarily and interdisciplinarily about a specific topic or issue and to understand how differing approaches shape knowledge. Assignments within the workshops are aimed at students developing their skills in forms of presentation beyond the written essay, e.g. oral argument, digital or creative projects. Collaborative work must be central to all workshop courses; these collaborative activities do not preclude the possibility of individual research/writing assignments but the Workshops should emphasize conversation, debate, collaboration, and critique more so than the individually authored essay.
Repeatable to: 9 credits if content differs.

WMST320 Women in Classical Antiquity (3 Credits)
A study of women’s image and reality in ancient Greek and Roman societies through an examination of literary, linguistic, historical, legal, and artistic evidence; special emphasis in women’s role in the family, views of female sexuality, and the place of women in creative art. Readings in primary sources in translation and modern critical writings. Cross-listed with: CLAS320, HIST328W.
Credit Only Granted for: CLAS320, WMST320, or HIST328W.

WMST325 The Sociology of Gender (3 Credits)
Prerequisite: 3 credits in SOCY courses. Cross-listed with SOCY325.
Credit Only Granted for: SOCY325 or WMST325.

WMST326 Biology of Reproduction (3 Credits)
The biology of the reproductive system with emphasis on mammals and, in particular, on human reproduction. Hormone actions, sperm production, ovulation, sexual differentiation, sexual behavior, contraception, pregnancy, lactation, maternal behavior and menopause.
Prerequisite: BSCI170 and BSCI171; or BSCI105; or permission of ARHU-Women’s Studies department; or permission of CMNS-Biological Sciences UG Program. Cross-listed with BSCI342.
Credit Only Granted for: BSCI342 or WMST326.

WMST336 Psychology of Women (3 Credits)
A study of the biology, life span development, socialization, personality, mental health, and special issues of women.
Prerequisite: PSYC100. Cross-listed with PSYC336.
Credit Only Granted for: PSYC336 or WMST336.

WMST348 Literary Works by Women (3 Credits)
The context, form, style and meaning of literary works by women.
Prerequisite: Must have completed at least one lower-level English literature course and one other lower-level English course; or permission of ARHU-Women’s Studies department.
Repeatable to: 6 credits if content differs. Cross-listed with ENGL348.
Credit Only Granted for: ENGL348 or WMST348.

WMST350 Feminist Pedagogy (6 Credits)
General application of feminist methodology to teaching and communication skills, teaching strategies, motivation, classroom dynamics and knowledge of students’ development and learning styles.
Restriction: Permission of ARHU-Women’s Studies department.

WMST358 Undergraduate Teaching Assistantship (3 Credits)
Students work under the supervision of a faculty mentor to assist with an undergraduate LGBT or WMST course while also becoming conversant in feminist, critical race, and queer pedagogical debates and approaches.
Repeatable to: 9 credits.

WMST360 Caribbean Women (3 Credits)
An interdisciplinary analysis of the lives and experiences of women across the Caribbean region, through an examination of their roles in individual, national, social and cultural formations. Special emphasis on contemporary women’s issues and organizations.

WMST368 Undergraduate WMST Internship (3-6 Credits)
Undergraduate Internship in a position related to Women’s Studies and overseen by a member of the WMST faculty.
Restriction: Must have Learning Proposal approved by Women’s Studies Academic Advisor; and junior standing or higher.
Repeatable to: 9 credits if content differs. Formerly: WMST386.

WMST369 Special Topics in Study Abroad III (1-6 Credits)
Special topics course taken as part of an approved study abroad program.
Repeatable to: 15 credits if content differs.

WMST370 Black Feminist Thought (3 Credits)
Examines the ideas, words and actions of Black women writers, speakers, artists, and activists in the United States.
Prerequisite: 1 course in AASP, or 1 course in WMST.
WMST378 Undergraduate Research and Creative Works Assistantship (1-3 Credits)
The Undergraduate Research Assistant provides an opportunity to develop a deep understanding of specific research methods and topics while involving the student in a professional role that requires ethical responsibility. The precise syllabus for the URA will be personalized to the student's interests and abilities, as well as to the specific research project and the Faculty Mentor's expectations. The student will meet with the Faculty Mentor prior to enrolling for a URA in order to determine the responsibilities and learning goals for the semester. Repeatable to: 9 credits if content differs.

WMST379 Topics in Women's Studies (1-3 Credits)
Thematic exploration of a topic in women's studies. Repeatable to: 9 credits if content differs.

WMST380 Feminist Analysis of the Workplace (6 Credits)
An examination of the world of work from a feminist perspective through theory and experience. Designed to provide students with experiences in work situations that have social, economic, educational and/or political impact on women's lives. Students will develop the skill to theoretically analyze their experience and practically implement feminist models in the workplace.

WMST386 Undergraduate WMST Internship (3-6 Credits)
Undergraduate Internship in a position related to Women's Studies and overseen by a member of the WMST faculty. Restriction: Must have Learning Proposal approved by Women's Studies Academic Advisor; and junior standing or higher. Repeatable to: 9 credits if content differs. Formerly: WMST386.

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.

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 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)
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.

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.