

WOMEN'S STUDIES, B.S.

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus

End Campus: University Park

Degree Requirements

For the Bachelor of Science degree in Women's Studies, a minimum of 120 credits is required:

Requirement	Credits
General Education	45
Electives	21-30
Requirements for the Major	57

3-12 of the 45 credits for General Education are included in the Requirements for the Major. This includes: 3-6 credits of GQ courses, 0-3 credits of GH courses, and 0-3 credits of GS courses.

Per Senate Policy 83-80.5, the college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of course work in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned. For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.

Requirements for the Major

A grade of C or better is required for all courses in the major. To graduate, a student enrolled in the major must earn at least a C grade in each course designated by the major as a C-required course, as specified by Senate Policy 82-44 (<https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#82-44>).

Code	Title	Credits
Prescribed Courses		
<i>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
WMNST 301		3
WMNST 492W	Contemporary Feminist Analysis: The Capstone Senior Seminar	3
Additional Courses		
<i>Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
WMNST 100	Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies	3
	or WMNST 106N Representing Women and Gender in Literature, Art and Popular Cultures	
WMNST 400N	Debates in Contemporary Feminism	3
	or WMNST 401 Doing Feminism: Theory and Practice	
Select 3 credits from the following:		3
WMNST 494	Research Project	
WMNST 495	Internship	
WMNST 496	Independent Studies	
Select 27 credits (at least 9 credits at the 400 level) in Women's Studies from the program-approved lists, including: ¹		27
6 credits of arts and humanities courses from the following:		
WMNST 83N	First-Year Seminar in Women's Studies	
WMNST 101		
WMNST 102	Women of the African Diaspora	
WMNST 104	Women and the American Experience	

WMNST 106N	Representing Women and Gender in Literature, Art and Popular Cultures
WMNST 117	Women in United States History
WMNST 137	Gender, Sexuality, and Religion
WMNST 194	Women Writers
WMNST 407W	Women and Theatre
WMNST 438	Seminar in Feminist Philosophy
WMNST 462	Reading Black, Reading Feminist
WMNST 466	Lesbian and Gay History
WMNST 490	Women Writers and Their Worlds
9 credits of natural or social sciences courses from the following:	
WMNST 100	Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies
WMNST 103	Racism and Sexism
WMNST 110	Sociology of Gender
WMNST 116	
WMNST 136	Race, Gender, and Employment
WMNST 157	
WMNST 202N	Women, Gender, and Feminisms in Africa
WMNST 205	Gender, Diversity and the Media
WMNST 412	Education and the Status of Women
WMNST 426Y	
WMNST 420	
WMNST 423	Sexual and Domestic Violence
WMNST 424	Women and Sport
WMNST 428	Gender and Politics
WMNST 452	
WMNST 453	Women and the Criminal Justice System
WMNST 455	Topics in Gender and Communication
WMNST 456	Gender, Occupations, and Professions
WMNST 458	Critical Feminist Issues in Reproduction
WMNST 471	The Psychology of Gender
WMNST 476W	Anthropology of Gender
6 credits that focus on women's health and sexuality or women in science and technology from the following:	
WMNST 157	
WMNST 205	Gender, Diversity and the Media
WMNST 452	
WMNST 458	Critical Feminist Issues in Reproduction
3 credits that focus on non-Western women from the following:	
WMNST 102	Women of the African Diaspora
WMNST 202N	Women, Gender, and Feminisms in Africa
WMNST 420	
WMNST 476W	Anthropology of Gender
3 credits that focus on women of color in the United States from the following:	
WMNST 101	
WMNST 103	Racism and Sexism
WMNST 136	Race, Gender, and Employment
WMNST 205	Gender, Diversity and the Media

Supporting Courses and Related Areas

Supporting Courses and Related Areas: Require a grade of C or better

Select 15 credits total from the following groups with at least 3 credits from each group: 15

Quantification (GQ) and Research Methods

Values, Ethics, and Scientific Inquiry

Social and behavioral sciences, health sciences, or natural sciences

¹ The same course may be used to fulfill more than one requirement within Additional Courses.

General Education

Connecting career and curiosity, the General Education curriculum provides the opportunity for students to acquire transferable skills necessary to be successful in the future and to thrive while living in interconnected contexts. General Education aids students in developing intellectual curiosity, a strengthened ability to think, and a deeper sense of aesthetic appreciation. These are requirements for all baccalaureate students and are often partially incorporated into the requirements of a program. For additional information, see the General Education Requirements (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/baccalaureate-degree-general-education-program/>) section of the Bulletin and consult your academic adviser.

The keystone symbol appears next to the title of any course that is designated as a General Education course. Program requirements may also satisfy General Education requirements and vary for each program.

Foundations (grade of C or better is required and Inter-Domain courses do not meet this requirement.)

- **Quantification (GQ):** 6 credits
- **Writing and Speaking (GWS):** 9 credits

Breadth in the Knowledge Domains (Inter-Domain courses do not meet this requirement.)

- **Arts (GA):** 3 credits
- **Health and Wellness (GHW):** 3 credits
- **Humanities (GH):** 3 credits
- **Social and Behavioral Sciences (GS):** 3 credits
- **Natural Sciences (GN):** 3 credits

Integrative Studies

- **Inter-Domain Courses (Inter-Domain):** 6 credits

Exploration

- **GN**, may be completed with Inter-Domain courses: 3 credits
- **GA, GH, GN, GS, Inter-Domain courses.** This may include 3 credits of World Language course work beyond the 12th credit level or the requirements for the student's degree program, whichever is higher: 6 credits

University Degree Requirements**First Year Engagement**

All students enrolled in a college or the Division of Undergraduate Studies at University Park, and the World Campus are required to take 1 to 3 credits of the First-Year Seminar, as specified by their college First-Year Engagement Plan.

Other Penn State colleges and campuses may require the First-Year Seminar; colleges and campuses that do not require a First-Year Seminar provide students with a first-year engagement experience.

First-year baccalaureate students entering Penn State should consult their academic adviser for these requirements.

Cultures Requirement

6 credits are required and may satisfy other requirements

- United States Cultures: 3 credits
- International Cultures: 3 credits

Writing Across the Curriculum

3 credits required from the college of graduation and likely prescribed as part of major requirements.

Total Minimum Credits

A minimum of 120 degree credits must be earned for a baccalaureate degree. The requirements for some programs may exceed 120 credits. Students should consult with their college or department adviser for information on specific credit requirements.

Quality of Work

Candidates must complete the degree requirements for their major and earn at least a 2.00 grade-point average for all courses completed within their degree program.

Limitations on Source and Time for Credit Acquisition

The college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of course work in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned. Credit used toward degree programs may need to be earned from a particular source or within time constraints (see Senate Policy 83-80 (<https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#83-80>)). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.