WOMEN’S STUDIES (WST)

Women’s Studies at the University of South Florida offers an interdisciplinary field of study that features and critically examines women’s experiences, taking into consideration historical, cultural, racial, class, and other differences. The department offers a B.A., a minor in Women’s Studies, and a concentration in Women of Color Studies, as well as enhancing knowledge about feminisms and gender studies through teaching, emphasis on multiculturalism and diversity, the department focuses on critical thinking, collaborative learning, and personal empowerment.

Women’s Studies offers excellent undergraduate preparation as well for

- Those who wish to apply to law school or to graduate study in a variety of fields, e.g., Urban or Medical Anthropology, Counseling Education, Criminal Justice, Gerontology, History, Rehabilitation Counseling, Social Work, Women’s Studies
- Those who want to focus on women in specific disciplines or professions; and
- Those whose training would benefit from a close scrutiny of the major issues facing women today.

Requirements for the Major in Women’s Studies

Prerequisites (State Mandated Common Prerequisites)

Students wishing to transfer to USF should complete the A.A. degree at the community college. Some courses required for the major may also meet General Education Requirements thereby transferring maximum hours to the university. If students transfer with fewer than 60 semester hours of acceptable credit, the students must meet the university’s entering freshman requirements including ACT or SAT test scores, GPA, and course requirements.

The transfer student should also be aware of the immunization, foreign language, and continuous enrollment policies of the university.

No State Mandated Common Prerequisites are required for this degree program. However, during the program of study at the community college students should begin to satisfy General Education/Gordon Rule requirements, take WST 3015, “Introduction to Women’s Studies,” or other introductory courses in the Social Sciences and Liberal Arts. Courses to help students with reading and writing skills are helpful as well. Unless stated otherwise, a grade of “C” is the minimum acceptable grade.

Upper-level Coursework for Women’s Studies Majors

Each major must complete 36 hours distributed as follows:

I. Required Core Courses (15 hours)
   - WST 3311 Issues in Feminism (3)
   - WST 4310 History of Feminism in the U.S. (3)
   - WST 4522 Classics in Feminist Theory (3)
   - WST 4935 Capstone/Senior Project (3)

II. Electives:
   - WST 3220 European Feminist History: 18th Century to Present (3)
   - WST 3225 Women, Environment and Gender (3)
   - WST 3440 Women and Social Action (3)
   - WST 4260 Research Issues on Women of Color (3)
   - WST 4410 Third World Women Writers (3)

   (Limit to 6 credits from the following courses)
   - AMH 3561 American Women I (4)
   - AMH 3562 American Women II (4)
   - AMS 3370 Southern Women: Myth and Reality (3)
   - COM 4030 Women and Communication (3)
   - POS 4323 Women and Politics (3)
   - REL 3145 Women and Religion (3)
   - SOP 3742 Psychology of Women (3)
   - SPT 2524 Women Writers of Latin America (3)
   - WST 2600 Human Sexual Behavior (3)
   - WST 3015 Introduction to Women’s Studies (3)
   - WST 4930 Selected Topics (1-4)

Requirements for the Minor in Women’s Studies

Minor in Women’s Studies

A student wishing to minor in Women’s Studies will be required to take six courses:

- WST 3015
- WST 3311

Electives:

- Plus 15 credit hours with at least 2 courses at the 4000 level and above.

Students who minor in Women’s Studies must be certified by the Undergraduate Advisor.

Minor in “Women of Color”

Women’s Studies offers a specific concentration in the area of Women of Color whose focus will be to examine the relationship between women of color and institutions of power.

The concentration prepares students for graduate work and/or professional careers in traditional and non-traditional areas such as health and education, international relations, the creative arts, law, medicine, social work, government and public policy, the social sciences, and community organizations.

The requirements for the minor are 15 hours, which are to be selected from the following upper-level courses:

- AFA 4335 Black Women in America (3)
- WST 4260 Research Issues on Women of Color (3)
- WST 4930 Selected Topics (1-4)
- ANT 4302 Gender in Cross-Cultural Perspective (3)
- WST 4262 Literature by American Women of Color (3)
- WST 3412 Women in the Developing World (3)
- WST 4410 Third World Women Writers (3)