Women's and Gender Studies

The Women’s and Gender Studies program (http://catalog.mit.edu/degree-charts/humanities-course-21) offers students an academic framework for the study of women, gender, and sexuality using the analytical tools and methodologies of a variety of disciplines in the humanities, arts, and social sciences. It includes a minimum of seven subjects (84 units) beyond WGS.101 (http://catalog.mit.edu/search/?P=WGS.101) Introduction to Women’s and Gender Studies, WGS.301[J] (http://catalog.mit.edu/search/?P=WGS.301) Feminist Thought, the pre-thesis tutorial (21.THT (http://catalog.mit.edu/search/?P=21.THT)), and thesis (21.THT (http://catalog.mit.edu/search/?P=21.THT)). However, students may request a two-class substitution for the pre-thesis/thesis requirement for a total of 11 courses in that case.

Up to six subjects (72 units) may be used for both the major and the GIRs, but the units from those subjects may not count toward the 180 units required beyond the GIRs. No more than one subject that counts toward the distribution component of the HASS Requirement may also be counted toward the requirements of the Women’s and Gender Studies program. In addition, at least eight of the subjects required for the program cannot count toward any other major or minor.

The list of restricted electives below is not exhaustive. Students interested in this interdisciplinary program should consult with the Women’s and Gender Studies program manager, Stacey Lantz (slantz@mit.edu), Room 14N-213, 617-253-8844, and then arrange a meeting with the current director, Professor Lerna Ekmekcioglu (lerna@mit.edu).

Restricted Electives

Tier I

WGS.101Introduction to Women’s and Gender Studies (Required)

Tier II

Select seven subjects, including at least one from each category below:

**Humanities (HASS-H) and Arts (HASS-A) subjects**

WGS.109Women and Global Activism in Media and Politics
WGS.110[J]Sexual and Gender Identities in the Modern United States
WGS.111[J]Gender and Media Studies
WGS.115Gender and Technology
WGS.123The History of Women in Science and Engineering

WGS.140[J]Race and Identity in American Literature
WGS.141[J]International Women's Voices
WGS.142Narrative and Identity: Writing and Film by Contemporary Women of Color
WGS.145[J]Globalization: The Good, the Bad and the In-Between
WGS.154[J]Gender and Japanese Popular Culture
WGS.161[J]Gender and the Law in US History
WGS.181Queer Cinema and Visual Culture
WGS.190[J]Black Matters: Introduction to Black Studies
WGS.220[J]Women and Gender in the Middle East and North Africa
WGS.226[J]Science, Gender and Social Inequality in the Developing World
WGS.231[J]Writing about Race
WGS.233[J]New Culture of Gender: Queer France
WGS.234
WGS.235[J]Classics of Chinese Literature in Translation
WGS.236[J]Introduction to East Asian Cultures: From Zen to K-Pop
WGS.240[J]Jane Austen
WGS.245[J]Identities and Intersections: Queer Literatures

**Social Science (HASS-S) subjects**

WGS.125[J]Games and Culture
WGS.151Gender, Medicine, and Public Health
WGS.172[J]For Love and Money: Rethinking the Family
WGS.221Women in the Developing World
WGS.222[J]Women and War
WGS.224Race, Gender and Social Inequality: Reproductive Health Care in the United States
WGS.225[J]The Science of Race, Sex, and Gender
WGS.228Psychology of Sex and Gender
WGS.229Race, Culture, and Gender in the US and Beyond: A Psychological Perspective
WGS.250[J]HIV/AIDS in American Culture
WGS.270[J]Violence, Human Rights, and Justice
WGS.271[J]Dilemmas in Biomedical Ethics: Playing God or Doing Good?
WGS.274[J]Images of Asian Women: Dragon Ladies and Lotus Blossoms
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<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<tr>
<td>WGS.275[J]</td>
<td>Gender, Race, and Environmental Justice</td>
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<td>WGS.276[J]</td>
<td>Cultures of Computing</td>
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**Tier II**

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<th>Course Code</th>
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<tr>
<td>WGS.301[J]</td>
<td>Feminist Thought (Required)</td>
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<tr>
<td>WGS.310[J]</td>
<td>Gender: Historical Perspectives</td>
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2 One of the Tier II subjects may be taken at Harvard or Wellesley with the permission of the director.

2 Subjects 21L.430, 21L.460, 21L.512, 21L.702, 21L.704, 21L.705, 21L.715, and 21W.745 may be taken for credit as a Women's and Gender Studies subject when their content meets WGS criteria. For more information, consult the program office (wgs@mit.edu).

3 With the permission of the director, an advanced Women's and Gender Studies subject may be substituted for WGS.301[J].