Women’s and Gender Studies (WaGS)

Chair: Mary Jo Bona, 2116 Humanities Bldg. (631) 632-1762

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Graduate Certificate awarded: Graduate Certificate in Women’s Studies

The Women’s and Gender Studies Program, in the College of Arts and Sciences, offers a course of study that leads to the Graduate Certificate in Women’s Studies. The program has affiliated faculty members from more than 20 different programs in the social and behavioral sciences, humanities, and health sciences. The program is designed to allow students working toward a degree in departments such as English, History, Philosophy, Theatre, Music, Comparative Literary and Cultural Studies, Psychology, or Sociology to draw on faculty whose work deals with gender and sexuality issues in a wide range of disciplines. Since Women’s and Gender Studies has affiliates in nearly every department in the social sciences and humanities, the certificate program offers graduate students the opportunity for an unusually rich interdisciplinary experience.

The program is particularly strong in feminist theory, science and critical medical studies, global public Health, queer theory, American cultural history, ethnography, and theories of globalization.

The graduate certificate entails three required seminars—feminist theory, feminist histories and methodologies, and the teaching practicum in women’s and gender studies— and two electives that can be taken with affiliated faculty in the student’s home department or from a list of seminars offered by faculty affiliates in other departments. Recent and future courses offered by our core faculty and affiliates include, for example, “Modernism and Cultural Studies,” “Madness and Civilization, 1960-1980,” “Globalization and Gender,” “Fashion in Theory and Film,” “Race, Gender, and Global Culture,” “Theory, Method, and Politics of Ethnography,” and “Silk, Gold and Spices: Literature and International Trade.” Where courses are not available for a particular topic, students may arrange directed readings with an affiliated faculty member.

It is expected that most students can fulfill the requirements for the Graduate Certificate in Women’s Studies while working toward the master’s, doctoral, or other degree. Students should consult with their home program to determine whether the credits earned in the certificate program can be used toward their degrees. Opportunities for teaching in the WaGS program are available for graduate certificate student’s who have successfully completed the pedagogy seminar. Certificate Students who teach for the program are also eligible for the annual Vivien Hartog Prize awarded to a graduate student who has shown a clear commitment to activism and teaching centered on human rights and social justice. Students unaffiliated with another Stony Brook graduate program may also apply to Women’s and Gender Studies for admission as a free-standing graduate certificate student. Please see the on-line application forms for the free-standing certificate in Women’s Studies. Such students are not eligible for teaching assistantships.

Admission to The Graduate Certificate Program in Women’s Studies is open to any full-time student enrolled in a Stony Brook graduate degree-granting program, or to free-standing certificate students who have completed their B.A.s. For applicants already admitted to the University, admission involves filling out a brief form. The forms and additional information are available through the Women’s and Gender Studies office. For admission to the free-standing Graduate Certificate Program in Women’s Studies, students are required to have earned a bachelor’s degree and to have the intellectual skills to do advanced work in Women’s and Gender Studies. The following material is required:

A. An official transcript of undergraduate record culminating in a bachelor’s degree.

B. A minimum grade point average of 2.75 (B-) in all undergraduate coursework.

C. Letters of recommendation from three previous instructors.

D. An official report of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) General Test results (this may be waived in particular circumstances).

E. Acceptance by the Women’s and Gender Studies Program and the Graduate School.

Requirements for the Graduate Certificate in Women’s Studies

The Graduate Certificate Program in Women’s Studies is designed to provide an interdisciplinary course of instruction for students already enrolled in a graduate degree-granting program or to those admitted to the free-standing Graduate Certificate Program. To earn the certificate, students must complete a minimum of 15 graduate credits in courses approved for the Certificate Program. Approved credits earned toward a graduate degree in another program or department may be applied toward the Graduate Certificate in Women’s Studies. Students should consult with their home programs to determine whether credits earned for the certificate can be applied to the master’s or doctoral degree. Teaching assistantships may be available for advanced students.

Minimum Requirements for the Certificate

A. WST 600 History and Methods of Women’s and Gender Studies

B. One course in feminist theory (WST 601 Feminist Theory).

C. An interdisciplinary pedagogy colloquium (WST 699 Practicum in Women’s and Gender Studies). The syllabus developed in this course will be evaluated by the instructor, who will normally be the director of the Women’s and Gender Studies Program.
D. The remaining six credits may be chosen from the list of approved Women’s and Gender Studies graduate courses. A number of these courses are cross-listed or offered by affiliated faculty in other departments. No more than three credits of WST 690 may be applied to the degree.

Core Faculty

Professor

Mary Jo Bona, Ph.D., 1989, University of Wisconsin-Madison

American literature, Italian American literature, multiethnic American literature, women's literature, gender/genre theory, theories of narrativity, theories of ethnicity, migration histories

Associate Professor

Lisa Diedrich,
Ph.D., 2001, Emory University

Critical medical studies, disability studies, feminist theories, interdisciplinary methods

Assistant Professors

Ritch Calvin,
Ph.D., 2000, SUNY Stony Brook

Feminist theory, Latina literature and culture, Latina feminisms, feminist science fiction, reproductive technologies

Melissa M. Forbis, Ph.D., 2008, University of Texas at Austin

Transnational gender theories and politics, race/ethnicity, indigenous rights, Mexico and Latin America, feminist ethnography

Victoria Hesford,
Assistant Professor, Ph.D., 2001, Emory University

Cultural memories of the 1970s, queer and feminist history in the postwar era, feminist media studies

Visiting Assistant Professors

Françoise Cromer, Ph.D. University of California, Santa Barbara

Race, class and gender in health (specifically Black Women's health, breast cancer policy, complementary and alternative medicine), gender and social movements, transnational feminisms and globalization, ancient healing practices

Lecturer

Robyn Stein DeLuca, Ph.D. 1999, SUNY Stony Brook

The application of social psychological theory to examine psychological aspects of women’s reproductive health. Specifically, predictors of health behaviors during pregnancy, childbirth satisfaction, postpartum depression, and the cognitive and emotional consequences of cesarean delivery. Also, the implications for public health policy are considered.

Affiliated Faculty

Distinguished Professor

Ihde, Don (Philosophy), Ph.D., 1964, Boston University: Phenomenology; philosophy of technology; hermeneutics.

Kaplan, E. Ann (English and Director of the Humanities Institute), Ph.D., 1970, Rutgers University: 19th- and 20th-century British and American literature; women’s studies; film.
Kittay, Eva Feder (Philosophy), Ph.D., 1978, City University of New York: Philosophy of language; philosophy and feminism; modern philosophy.

**Distinguished Teaching Professor**

Goodman, Norman (Sociology), Ph.D., 1963, New York University: Social psychology; family; socialization.

Lemay, Helen (History), Ph.D., 1972, Columbia University: Medieval and Renaissance intellectual history; women in premodern Europe.

**Professors**

Allentuch, Harriet (European Languages, Literatures, and Cultures), Emerita, Ph.D., Columbia University: 17th Century French literature.

Arens, William (Anthropology), Ph.D., 1970, University of Virginia: Africa; social anthropology.

Barthel-Bouchier, Diane (Sociology), Ph.D., 1977, Harvard University: Sociology of culture; sociology of art; social theory; gender.

Birns, Beverly (Social Sciences Interdisciplinary and Psychology), Emerita, Ph.D., 1963, Columbia University: Child development; psychology of women.

Bogart, Michelle (Art), Ph.D., 1979, University of Chicago: 19th- and 20th-century American and European art and culture.

Brandwein, Ruth (School of Social Welfare), Ph.D., 1978, Brandeis University: Family violence, welfare, and poverty; women in administration; organizational/social change; single-parent families; feminist frameworks; history of U.S. social policy; international social welfare.

Charnon-Deutsch, Lou (Hispanic Languages and Literature), Ph.D., 1978, University of Chicago: 18th- and 19th-century Spanish literature; feminist theory.

Davila, Joanne (Psychology), Ph.D., 1993, University of California, Los Angeles: Development of interpersonal functioning and psychopathology; stability of attachment representations.

Harvey, Robery (Comparative Literary and Cultural Studies), Ph.D., 1988, University of California, Berkeley: Literature; theory; criticism; French film.

Hong, Young-Sun (History), Ph.D., 1989, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor: Modern Germany; social theory; culture and politics in Modern Europe; gender history.

Huddy, Leonie (Political Science), Ph.D., 1987, University of California, Los Angeles: Political psychology; public opinion; women in politics.

Kimmel, Michael (Sociology), Ph.D., 1981, University of California, Berkeley: Comparative and historical development; social movements; gender and sexuality.

Larson, Brooke (History), Ph.D., 1978, Columbia University: Andean history; colonial and modern Latin America; women in Latin America.

Lobel, Marci (Psychology), Ph.D., 1989, University of California, Los Angeles: Stress and coping; women’s health.

Lochhead, Judith (Music), Ph.D., 1982, Stony Brook University: 20th-century music theory and history.

Marker, Gary (History), Ph.D., 1977, University of California, Berkeley: Russian history; cultural history; history of printing and reading.


Munich, Adrienne (English), Ph.D., 1976, City University of New York: Victorian studies; modern American women poets; feminist theory; women’s studies.

Nolan, Rita D. (Philosophy), Ph.D., 1965, University of Pennsylvania: Philosophy of language; theory of knowledge; philosophy of psychology.

Rosen, Carol (Theatre Arts), Ph.D., 1975, Columbia University: Theory; criticism; modern drama.

Rosenthal, Joel (History), Ph.D., 1963, University of Chicago: Medieval Europe; England; social history.

Squires, Nancy K. (Psychology), Ph.D., 1972, University of California, San Diego: Neuropsychology; neurophysiological measures of sensory and cognitive functions of the human brain, both in normal and clinical populations.

Tomes, Nancy (History), Ph.D., 1978, University of Pennsylvania: U.S. social, medical, and women’s history.

Tyree, Andrea (Sociology), Emerita, Ph.D: Social change, political sociology; social stratification.
Wilson, Kathleen (History), Ph.D., 1985, Yale University: Modern British history; 18th- and 19th-century social and cultural history.

Wright, Patricia, C. (Anthropology) Ph.D., 1985, City University of New York: Primate behavior and ecology; rainforest conservation; Madagascar.

**Associate Professors**

Bailyn, John (Linguistics), Ph.D., 1995, Cornell University: Slavic linguistics; Russian syntax; syntax.

Block, Pamela, (Occupational Therapy, School of Health Technology & Management) Ph.D., 1997, Duke University: Disability Studies assistive technology, foundations of OT, qualitative research design, human subjects research ethics and grant writing.

Cash, Floris Barnett (Africana Studies and History), Ph.D., 1986, University at Stony Brook: U.S. social and political history; African-American women.

Cooper, Alix (History), Ph.D., 1998, Harvard University: Early modern Europe; history of science; environment.

Cooper, Helen (English), Emerita, Ph.D., 1982, Rutgers University: Victorian, Latin American and Caribbean literature; creative writing; women’s studies.

Dinkins, Stephanie (Art History and Criticism; Studies Art), MFA, Maryland College of Art: Electronic media; photography; video art.

Dunn, Patricia (English), Ph.D., 1991, University at Albany: Composition and rhetoric; English education; Disability Studies.

Erickson, Christa (Art History and Criticism; Studio Art), MFA, University of California, San Diego: Electronic installation; digital media; video art.

Flesler, Daniela (Hispanic Languages and Literature), Ph.D., 2001, Tulane University: Contemporary Spanish literature; postcolonial theory; migration.

Frank, Barbara (Art History and Criticism; Studio Art), Ph.D., Indiana University: African Art History.

Hale, Lauren (Public Health), Ph.D., Princeton University: Social determinants of health; demography; sleep.


Hutner, Heidi (English), Ph.D., 1993, University of Washington: 17th- and 18th-century British literature; women writers; colonial discourse; ecofeminism, feminist theory.

Lim, Shirley (History), Ph.D., 1998, University of California, Los Angeles: U.S. social and cultural history; race, ethnicity, and gender history; popular culture.

Lipton, Sarah (History), Ph.D., 1991, Yale University: Medieval studies; social and cultural history; gender history.

Man-Cheong, Iona (History), Ph.D., 1991, Yale University: Modern China and Japan; modern Chinese and Japanese women.

Marshik, Celia (English), Ph.D., 1999, Northwestern University: British and American modernism; literature and history; women’s studies.

Moyer, Anne (Psychology), Ph.D., 1995, Yale University: Women’s health; psychosocial issues surrounding cancer.

O’Byrne, Anne (Philosophy), Ph.D., 1999, Vanderbilt University: political philosophy; feminist philosophy; modernity and post-modernity.

Oyewumi, Oyeronke (Sociology), Ph.D., 1993, University of California, Berkeley: Sociology of gender, race and knowledge; transnational feminist theory, social inequalities (regional and global).


Tiso, Theresa (Physical Therapy, School of Health Technology Management), BS and MS Cortland State, New York: sociology of sports, sociology of gender, exercise nutrition, wellness and fitness, movement analysis.

Vernon, Kathleen (Hispanic Languages and Literature), Ph.D., 1980, University of Chicago: Spanish and Latin American cinema; Hispanic literature; modern Spanish literature.

Walters, Tracey (Africana Studies and English), Ph.D., Howard University: African American literature; Caribbean literature; African literature, Pan-African literature, Black British literature and culture; 20th-century American and British literature, journalism.

Wishnia, Judith (Social Sciences Inter-disciplinary and History), Emerita. Ph.D., 1978, University at Stony Brook: Women’s history; labor history; European history; anti-war history.
Assistant Professors

Bacon, Jean (School of Social Work), Ph.D., 1997, University of South Carolina: Women and AIDS; student development; death and dying; treatment with people of color.

Balce, Nerissa (Asian and Asian American Studies), Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley: Postcolonial theory; Filipino Diasporic culture; American visual culture.

Choi, Helen (English), Ph.D., 2006, University of California, Los Angeles: 20th Century American Literature; race and ethnicity; Cultural Studies.

Craig, Megan (Philosophy), Ph.D., 2007, The New School for Social Research: Contemporary painting; memory and trauma in Freud and Kristeva; notions of subjectivity, perception, and embodiment; theories of color.

Keirns, Carla (Center for Medical Humanities, Compassionate Care, and Bioethics), MD, Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania: Clinical ethics; history of medicine; sociology of medicine.

London, Bonita E. (Psychology), Ph.D., 2006, Columbia University: Social identity and intergroup processes; stereotyping and prejudice; stress and coping; social and motivational factors in academic achievement.

Perez-Melgosa, Adrian (Hispanic Languages and Literature), Ph.D., 1995, University of Rochester: Cinema and literature of the Americas; Cultural Studies.

Ramachandran, Ayesha (English), Ph.D., Yale University: Early modern poetry and prose; history of ideas; contemporary philosophy.

Santa Ana, Jeffrey (English), Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley: American literature and culture; Filipino Diaspora; global migration and transnationalism; gender and sexuality; Emotion Studies.

Tan, E.K. (Comparative Literary and Cultural Studies), Ph.D., 2007, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign: Modern and contemporary Chinese literature; Chinese languages cinema; film theory; Diaspora Theory; globalization theory; psychoanalytical theory.

Lecturers

Kuchner, Joan (Social Sciences Interdisciplinary), Ph.D., 1981, University of Chicago: Child and family studies; child development; parent-child relationships; play and recreation through the lifespan; social policy; children’s environments.

Marrone, Catherine (Sociology), Ph.D., 1995, Stony Brook University: Gender, aging, and health care.

NOTE: The course descriptions for this program can be found in the corresponding program PDF or at COURSE SEARCH.