A women’s studies degree prepares students to be critical thinkers in any career. Skills from liberal arts programs include the ability to write clear, compelling prose under deadline, to work effectively within disparate cultures without loss of personal integrity, to have a sense of personal responsibility for legal and ethical conduct for oneself and others with whom one works, to be able to work and maintain productivity under pressure, and to transform abstract instructions and ideas into practical, concrete results. The program’s focus on activism, the application of theory to practice, and on a diversity of experiences and backgrounds, will create effective world citizens within the context of the ever-increasing globalization of communication and resources.

**Typical interest and values of women’s studies majors:**
- Equality and social justice
- Advocacy and public policy
- Diversity
- Human services
- Research

**Knowledge and skills gained from women’s studies:**

**Knowledge**
Women’s studies students enhance their ability to think critically, gain a greater understanding of differences and increased tolerance of others, increase self-esteem and confidence, have a greater understanding of women, and have increased job motivation and greater professional success. Students in women’s studies courses also experience a greater sense of community, find the content personally relevant, connect with faculty as mentors and role models, and are more active participants in their learning.

**Skills**
- Enhanced communication and analytical skills
- Increased knowledge of issues related to diversity
- Knowledgeable of strategies for change regarding social justice
- Are prepared for discrimination when encountered and have knowledge of how to handle it
- Are prepared to work effectively with and for women
- Promoting change
- Managing conflict

- Facilitating discussion and providing appropriate feedback
- Initiating new ideas
- Delegating with respect
- Representing others
- Providing support for others

**Related student and professional organizations:**

**Student**
- College Feminists
- Center for Awareness of Sexual Assault (CASA)

**Professional**
- American Association of University Women
- National Women’s Studies Association
- Institute for Women’s Policy Research

**Career fields related to women’s studies:**
Women’s studies majors can find careers in a range of fields, from business and communication to the arts and non-profit community agencies. The most concentrated jobs for women’s studies majors seem to be in the health, social, and human service areas, as well as education, law, and government. People with women’s studies majors may continue with their education and training to have careers as psychotherapists, physicians, community educators, nurses, social workers, advocates, lawyers, law enforcement officers, researchers, public school and college instructors, and librarians.
Potential Job Titles
Activist
Family Services Specialist
Biographer
Community Affairs Specialist
Case Worker
Political Fundraiser
Affirmative Action Coordinator
International Human Rights Representative
Planned Parenthood Counselor
Women’s Rights Advocate

Jobs You Might Also Consider...
Social and Community Service Manager
Marriage and Family Therapist
Adoption Specialist
Career Counselor
Public Health Worker
Social Service Technician
Human Resources Administrator

Sample entry level jobs held by UW-Eau Claire women’s studies majors:
- Family Shelter Case Manager
- Center for Women Consultant
- American Baby Magazine Editor
- Community Corrections Counsel Monitor
- Autistic Children’s Institute Teacher
- Women’s Rights Information Center Program Assistant Coordinator
- Real Estate Coordinator
- University Research Assistant
- AmeriCorps Member

Learn more about women’s studies:
Department
- Contact UW-Eau Claire’s Department of Women’s Studies, Brewer Hall 55, 836-5717

Getting started at Career Services
- Make an appointment with a career counselor
- Take a self-assessment test
- Utilize Blugold Career Success Network, a database of UW-Eau Claire alumni & friends in the community available for informational interviewing
- Utilize Blugold CareerLink, an online job search database specifically for UWEC students and alum

Resources at Career Services:

Yellow Section-
- Sigi 3 handouts:
  - Fund Raiser
  - Writer/Author
  - Substance Abuse Counselor
  - Rehabilitation Counselor
  - Marriage & Family Therapist
  - Event Planner

Orange Section-
- “The Internship Series: The Women’s Rights Internship Book”
- “The Internship Series: The Human Rights Internship Book”
- “The Internship Series: For the Common Good: Internships with Community and Social Service Agencies”

Blue Section-
- Multiple resources to create a resume for a career related to women’s studies

Opportunities to enhance skills in women’s studies:
Internships
Internships are a way to gain hands-on experience in a position that you may be considering as a potential career. To find an internship in women’s studies, visit Career Services (Schofield 230) and speak with a career associate.

Directed Studies or Independent Study Class
By participating in a directed studies or independent study class, students will be able to research an area that they find particularly interesting. Contact your adviser about enrolling in WMNS 395 or 498.

What you can do now:
- Volunteer at a women’s shelter
- Participate in Vagina Monologues
- Volunteer with CASA
- Get involved in political issues
- Search the Internship Series Online, www.internships-usa.com, for women’s rights internships (See Career Services for password)
- Become a teacher assistant for a women’s studies professor
- Get involved with student organizations related to women