Women’s Studies

At UW-Eau Claire

UW-Eau Claire’s Women’s Studies program creates a community of scholars and activists consisting of students, faculty, staff and community members. We hope you will consider joining that community. Instructors from a wide variety of disciplines aim to help you expand your knowledge base, improve your critical thinking and communication skills, and make important connections between your learning and your life.

Tell me more

Enacted as a discipline, Women’s Studies is a site of social change and activism as much as theory. We provide many ways for you to expand your world view, from rigorous, rewarding classes on campus to hands-on learning experiences in the Eau Claire community and across the nation and globe. For example, you can:

• Learn about LGBTQ social movements and plan the Eau Queer Film Festival through a travel seminar in San Francisco.
• Interact with women leaders of the American Civil Rights Movement and study their achievements through a class that features a 10-day experiential learning excursion to significant southern locations where the movement unfolded.
• Study with UW-Eau Claire faculty and engage in community service in Nicaragua, site of arguably the most dynamic women’s movement in Latin America.

Much to gain

There is much to gain from taking Women’s Studies courses. Women’s Studies prepares you to think critically while developing open-mindedness. Diverse topics in both Women’s Studies courses and elective classes in other departments makes the breadth of a Women’s Studies degree uniquely wide. You will also explore in depth the intersections among sexism, racism, classism, heterosexism, cisgenderism, ableism, ageism, and other forms of oppression. This makes our courses socially and personally relevant. Pursuing Women’s Studies is a great way to increase your sense of competency and to prepare well for meaningful work after graduation.

Community engagement

Through the Women’s Studies program, you can begin to make a positive difference in society during your undergraduate years. All majors and minors participate in a capstone experience where students collaborate closely with a community partner to develop and implement a plan of action or research. You can also gain workplace experience through an internship or volunteer on campus (e.g. for the UW-Eau Claire Women and Gender Equity Center, Center for Awareness of Sexual Assault, and annual production of The Vagina Monologues) or in the local community (e.g., for Bolton Refuge House, the Wisconsin AIDS resource Center, the Eau Claire County District Attorney’s Office Victims Assistance Programs, and local women’s magazines).

Women’s Studies teaches students to recognize and respect the diversity throughout the world and to become a leader in creating space for silenced voices. With the knowledge obtained both through out-of-classroom experiences and in-classroom discussions and readings, students find their own ways to be activists and allies.”
— Danielle

Places our grads go:

• Eau Claire County DA’s Office
• Peace Core Program in Cameroon
• Stucky Chiropractic Center, Eau Claire
• American Baby magazine editorial office
• Anchor and reporter/producer for WEAU 13 News
• Domestic Abuse Director for the Family Support Center in Chippewa Falls, WI
• Prevention Specialist at AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin
• Planned Parenthood, Wisconsin, Organizing Fellow

Our graduates

Typical positions held by women’s studies graduates include those in social work, community advocacy, governmental and non-profit agencies, health care education, editing and writing for women’s publications, small business, research assistantships in graduate programs, community outreach programs and other programs requiring experience working with women as well as other diverse populations.

Examples of courses for women’s studies

Women and the Mass Media
Women and Economic Development
Studies in Women’s Literature
Psychology of Women
Women in Politics
Studies in the History of Women
Women and World Religions
Women in Spanish American Literature
U.S. Women’s Experience
Transnational/Global Feminisms
Queer Theories and Sexual Politics
Culture of Third Wave Feminism
Gender, Sex and Science in European History
Women and Gender in Global Politics

note:

Majors
Women’s Studies (36 credits)

Minors
Women’s Studies (24 credits)

Certificate program
Women’s Studies (12 credits)
LGBTQ Studies (12 credits)

Course work

The women’s studies major requires 36 credits and the women’s studies minor requires 24 credits selected from several core courses. For a complete listing, see the UW-Eau Claire Catalogue or the women’s studies web pages. Students also are required to complete a capstone externship, (Wmns 496). The certificate programs are designed for those students who have a strong interest in studying women/or LGBTQ issues, but who are not able to complete the requirements for a major or minor in women’s studies. The certificates are also particularly appealing to those students in comprehensive majors who have limited opportunity to explore academic areas outside of their discipline.

What will your **AND** be?

Be a Blugold and find out!

**WOMEN’S STUDIES**

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