Women's Studies

Web Site: http://www.odu.edu/womensstudies

(757) 683-3823
Jennifer Fish, Chair

Women's studies is a multi- and interdisciplinary field of study encompassing all aspects, historical and contemporary, of women's natures, lives, and perspectives. The Women's Studies Department offers the Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees with a major in women's studies. A minor and a graduate certificate are also available, as is an accelerated program allowing exceptional students to earn both a B.A. or B.S. in women's studies and an M.A. in humanities in five years.

The women's studies undergraduate major and minor and graduate certificate may increase a student's career opportunities in governmental and non-governmental agencies, law, criminal justice, public relations, journalism, counseling, the health professions, business, social welfare, education, and many other fields; they can also prepare students for new and exciting research opportunities in graduate and doctoral programs.

Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science—Women's Studies Major

Written Communication * 6
Oral Communication 3
Mathematics 3
Language and Culture ** 0-12
Information Literacy and Research 3
Human Creativity 3
Interpreting the Past 3
Literature 3
Philosophy and Ethics 3
The Nature of Science 8
Impact of Technology *** 3
Human Behavior **** 3
Total Hours 38-50

* Grade of C or better required in both courses and in ENGL 110C before declaring major
** Proficiency through 102 level-BS only; Proficiency through 202 level-BA only and not met by associate degree.
*** Satisfied in the major by WMST 390T.
**** WMST 201S cannot be used to satisfy this requirement.

Bachelor of Arts - Departmental Requirements

WMST 201S Introduction to Women's Studies * 3
WMST 302W Dimensions of Diversity: Intersectionality Among Women * 3
or WMST 301 Feminist Foundations
WMST 390T Women and Technology Worldwide 3
WMST 400 U.S. Women's Activism 3
or HIST 363 Women in U.S. History
WMST 401W Women: A Global Perspective 3
WMST 460W Feminist Theory * 3
ENGL 463W Women Writers 3
ENGL 477 Language, Gender and Power 3
WMST 490 Capstone Course 3
Select three of the following: 9
WMST 303 Queer Studies
WMST 304 Chick Flicks
WMST 368 Internship

Total Hours 36

* Grade of C or higher required.

Electives

Elective courses may be taken for the remainder of the minimum 120 credits required for the degree.

Upper Division General Education

- Option A. Approved Minor, 12-24 hours; also second degree or second major.
- Option B. Interdisciplinary Minor, 12 hours specified by the department, 3 of which may be in the major area of study.
- Option C. International business and regional courses or an approved certification program, such as teaching licensure.
- Option D. Two Upper-Division Courses from outside the College of Arts and Letters that are not required by the major (6 hours).

Requirements for graduation include a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.00 overall and in the major, 120 credit hours, which must include both a minimum of 30 credit hours overall and 12 credit hours of upper-level courses in the major program from Old Dominion University, completion of ENGL 110C, ENGL 211C or 221C or 231C, and the writing intensive (W) course in the major with a grade of C or better, and completion of Senior Assessment. Students must receive at least a C in WMST 201S, WMST 302W and WMST 460W. In order to track their intellectual growth, each women's studies major is expected to maintain a portfolio of papers and assignments submitted for their WMST and WMST cross-listed courses.
**Women's Studies as a Second Major**

Students who find themselves especially interested in women's studies but who already have a major may fulfill their upper-division general education requirements by selecting women's studies as a second major. Such students must complete the same departmental requirements as those majoring solely in women's studies, but may count up to three women's studies cross-listed courses taken for their other major toward their women's studies major as well. For instance, a student majoring in both sociology and women's studies may apply three courses, such as SOC 340, SOC 343, and SOC 427, taken toward their sociology requirements, as the three electives for their major in women's studies.

**Minor in Women's Studies**

Students who have completed WMST 201S may complete a minor in women's studies by filing an application and taking 12 hours as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WMST 302W</td>
<td>Dimensions of Diversity: Intersectionality Among Women</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or WMST 301</td>
<td>Feminist Foundations</td>
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Select two of the following:

<table>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WMST 390T</td>
<td>Women and Technology Worldwide *</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WMST 401W</td>
<td>Women: A Global Perspective</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WMST 460W</td>
<td>Feminist Theory</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

One additional WMST course **

Total Hours: 12

* Meets impact of technology requirement.

** One additional WMST course, e.g., WMST 368, WMST 470, or a course cross-listed with women's studies in the Schedule of Classes from disciplines such as history, philosophy, communication, English, criminal justice, foreign languages, sociology, psychology, political science, art, etc.

Students must maintain a grade point average of 2.00 in all courses required for the minor exclusive of lower-level courses and prerequisite courses and complete a minimum of six hours in upper-level courses in the minor requirement through courses offered by Old Dominion University. Completion of the undergraduate women's studies minor will fulfill the upper-division General Education requirements.

**Advising**

To declare a women's studies major or minor, students must see an advisor in the Women's Studies Department. All women's studies majors are required to have a conference with their advisor before each semester (preferably during preregistration).

**Linked B.A./B.S. in Women's Studies and M.A. in Humanities**

The linked program in women's studies and humanities makes it possible for exceptional women's studies majors to count up to 12 hours of graduate courses toward both an undergraduate and graduate degree. Students must earn a minimum of 150 credit hours (120 for the undergraduate degree and 30 for the graduate degree). For more information consult the Humanities section of this Catalog.