



## Women's & Gender Studies Certificate Program – Online

### Program overview

UMass Dartmouth Women's & Gender Studies (WGS) Undergraduate Online Certificate program offers students the opportunity to develop a fuller understanding of the position of women in society. Courses draw upon such fields as economics, history, literature, political science, and sociology, as well as feminist thought and methodology.

The WGS Online Undergraduate Certificate fosters an active examination of the varying influences upon the lives of women and men such as race, class, ethnicity, gender, sex, sexuality, and age. The certificate program provides students with opportunities to:

- Think about the construction and influences of gender in contemporary society
- Discover the historical factors that have shaped the current status of women from varying backgrounds and countries
- Explore paths to achieve equality for all people
- Understand the historical, social, and political contexts of women's movements and feminist thought
- Understand feminist theories and apply them in critiquing and transforming their world
- Connect the women's movements and feminist theory to other social justice movements and theories

WGS courses in the Humanities and Social Sciences teach students to:

- Identify and evaluate the social construction of gender and the ways gender intersects with other forms of identity
- Understand the gendering of our socioeconomic and political worlds and the individual and collective components of social change
- Identify, compare, and evaluate culturally and historically specific ideas of gender, sex, and sexuality
- Apply a critical feminist perspective to the study of literature and the arts

### Faculty and fields of interest

The Women's & Gender Studies faculty are composed of affiliated faculty members who contribute their knowledge and expertise to the program through the offering of cross-listed courses each semester. Our affiliated faculty come from a range of disciplinary perspectives, including anthropology, art history, economics, English, history, nursing, political science, and sociology.

### What you study

The WGS certificate program is composed of 15 credit hours. Nine out of the 15 undergraduate certificate courses must be at the 300- or 400-level.

Five Core Courses as follows:

- WGS 101 Introduction to Women's Studies
- WGS 201 Introduction to Feminist Theory

Choose one upper level feminist theory course:

- WGS 302 Global Feminism
- WGS 305 Contemporary Feminist Theory
- WGS 306 Third Wave Feminism
- WGS 307 Ecofeminism Theory and Practice

Choose one 300-level WGS elective in Humanities

Choose one 300-level WGS elective in Social Sciences

Students can complete the certificate online within two semesters. Students must earn a 2.0 overall GPA in the five course sequence in order to earn the Undergraduate Certificate in Women's and Gender Studies.

### Who should apply

Students with an earned high school diploma are eligible for the undergraduate certificate program. Completion of the certificate will enhance a student's current career or assist in the development of new job skills.

- Earned High School diploma
- Students are responsible for pre-requisites for all courses

### To apply to the Women's & Gender Studies Certificate Program:

Please complete the online application form at

[umassd.edu/extension/readytoapply](https://umassd.edu/extension/readytoapply)

### Contact

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