

Major in Women's Studies and Gender Studies

A Major in Women's Studies and Gender Studies consists of 36 credit hours of course work beyond the 1000 level. These consist mostly of the cross-listed courses below.

Honours in Women's Studies and Gender Studies

An Honours in Women's Studies and Gender Studies consists of 48 credit hours of courses beyond the 1000 level, of which 6 credit hours must be in theory or methods. In addition, an Honours thesis valued at 6 credit hours is required. These courses should include an Honours thesis seminar or

ECON-2303. Gender in the Global South: A Political Economy Perspective (HMRT 2233) (SOCI 2623)

This course will critically examine the role of women in the global South. It will concentrate largely on the changes in these roles and their correspondence with the transition from traditional to new forms of economic organization, production, and power.

ECON-2223. The Political Economy of Women (SOCI 2643)

This is a seminar course examining, in depth, selected topics on the political economy of women. Potential topics include women as paid workers, domestic labour, and women and poverty.

ENGL-2583. Women Writers I

An investigation of women's writing in English before 1800, through poetry, (auto)biography, spiritual memoir, fiction, drama, and theory written by women. (Pre-1800)

ENGL-2593. Women Writers II

An investigation of women's writing in English after 1800, through poetry, (auto)biography, fiction, drama, film, and theory written by women. (Post-1800)

GERO-3083. Gender and Aging

This course examines issues involving how one's gender affects one's experience of aging. It looks at how the field of gerontology has traditionally dealt with the concept of gender as well as the feminization of old age, and how this has affected both women's and men's experiences of aging.

GERO-3093. Images of Aging in Film

This course explores popular views of the elderly using motion pictures. It looks at the impact of stereotypes on older people's expectations for later life. As a result of this course, students should be able to look at films more critically and identify images communicated through the media. Prerequisite: GERO-2013.

GERO-3223. Family Ties and Aging

This course examines a variety of issues regarding aging and the family. It considers historical and demographic trends as well as theoretical frameworks in family gerontology. The course covers a number of relationships including those of couples, siblings, and grandparents and grandchildren. It also looks at late-life transitions such as retirement, widowhood, and divorce, that affect family structures and relationships.

HIST-3883. Women in Canadian History

This course looks at the history of Canada from pre-colonial times to the present day from the perspectives of women of the time. Discussion and independent study on topics of interest to the students will be encouraged. Previous courses in Canadian history will be useful but are not essential.

HIST-3613. Gender and Power in Latin American History

Why did the Cuban revolution set out to create a 'new man'? How did Eva Perón become the world's most powerful first lady? Why have women led most human rights movements in Latin America? These are some of the questions to be explored in this course which examines historical relationships between men and women and ideas about masculinity and femininity in Latin America.

SOCI-2423. Social Problems I — Sociological Perspectives

The various perspectives used by sociologists to examine social problems will be described and evaluated. Concrete social problems will be examined to illustrate the use of these perspectives.

SOCI-2433. Social Problems II — Canadian Social Problems

Several current Canadian social problems will be examined from the above perspectives. Problems include poverty, minorities, Canadian identity, the effects of urbanization and technology, etc. Prerequisite: SOCI 2423.

SOCI-2523. The Sociology of Aging (GERO 2113) (HMRT) (RELG) (PSYC)

This course will explore the comparative situation of older women and men in different cultures and different historical periods within Western societies. The cultural and social-structural determinants of their changing status will be examined through alternative theoretical perspectives within sociology. The social construction of 'elderly' as a status will be explored through how older people are perceived, described, talked about, and interacted with, in everyday behaviour and how these relations may be 'negotiated' by the elderly themselves. The political-economy of aging focuses upon disparities of income, and the determinants and effects of poverty on the lives of older people.

SOCI-2613. Sociology of Gender

This course will focus, in depth, on particular aspects of the social processes shaping, and shaped by, female and male roles such as gender and power, gender and social structure of work, and feminist social movements.

SOCI-2623. Gender in the Global South: A Political Economy Perspective (ECON-2303.) (HMRT 2233)

This course will critically examine the role of women in the global South. It will concentrate largely on the changes in these roles and their correspondence with the transition from traditional to new forms of economic organization, production, and power.

SOCI-2633. Sociology of the Family

studies and analysis of media representation, students will examine the topics of citizenship, global labor flows, migration, militarization, neoliberalism and the construction of the gendered global subject. They will study both the opportunities and challenges that are inherent in postcolonial and transnational feminist scholarship and activism.

SOCI-3243. Sociology of Men and Masculinities (GEND)

Description: In this course, students will examine the social production of masculinities in North America and the impacts of these gender expressions on the lives of boys and men, and girls and women. Students will be introduced to theoretical perspectives used to understand the lives of men and boys, while examining topics such as fathering, the social construction of men's bodies, the ways the media (re)produces notions of masculinity, and sports masculinities.

SOCI-3323. Sociology of Women & Law

This course will explore the relationship of women to the state and to law. The ways in which criminal and family law influence gender relations in society will be analyzed, including the implications of legal intervention and non-intervention in family relations. Sex-specific and sex-related legislation, concerning such issues as sexual harassment, rape, pornography, and affirmative action, will also be examined. Theoretical concepts and issues, such as the position of women within capitalism, patriarchy, sexuality and reproduction, formal and informal control, will be addressed.

SOCI-3413. Employment Equity Policy and Gender Inequality at Work

This is an advanced course on the organization of gender inequality in the labour force and the policies aimed at creating equal opportunities for women. We begin by studying how gender segregation is organized in the occupations of teaching, clerical work, and other professions. Secondly, the course examines, from a sociological perspective, the federal and provincial government policies which are aimed at the equal and fair treatment of individuals regardless of sex: pay equity legislation, employment equity programs, contractual provisions and human rights legislation on fair employment practices.

SOCI-3583. Research for Social Change

This seminar course encourages students to explore how research can inform social justice and social change. Examining specific debates from the fields of feminist research, Indigenous methodologies, and critical race theory, students will gain new understandings in the various ways research can both reproduce and challenge operations of power and privilege. This course offers students the opportunity to engage in debates around these methodologies as they consider how to do research for social change.

STS-3303. Sex, Science & Gender (HMRT)

This course examines how scientific research, in the late 19th and 20th centuries, has shaped common conceptions of sex behaviour and how this scientific knowledge has also been shaped by cultural conceptions of gender roles and "normal" sex behaviour.

NOTE: Not all courses listed are offered each year. Please consult with the Department Chair for more information about current and planned course offerings.