GENDER STUDIES

Overview

The Department of Gender Studies at Queen’s is distinguished by the centrality of the study of race and colonialisms across all its courses, and by a focus on how to apply knowledge within work for social change. Our curriculum is organized around six key themes: feminist, queer, trans, anti-racist, Indigenous, and postcolonial theories and methodologies; activism and social justice; political economy; representation, art, literature, and creative work; and oral histories and community memories.

This innovative, interdisciplinary program combines the arts, humanities, and social sciences, offering students a unique opportunity to design a degree suited to their interests and career goals, including law, academia, medicine, public service, media and activism.

We offer a practicum for students invested in community engagement and social justice.

The Department also administers a Certificate Program in Sexual and Gender Diversity (SGXD) that is open to undergraduate students in all degree plans.

Faculty


Programs

- Gender Studies – Major (Arts) – Bachelor of Arts (Honours) (https://queensu-ca-public.courseleaf.com/arts-science/schools-departments-programs/gender-studies/gender-studies-major-arts-ba-honours/)
- Gender Studies – Medial (Arts) – Bachelor of Arts (Honours) (https://queensu-ca-public.courseleaf.com/arts-science/schools-departments-programs/gender-studies/gender-studies-medial-arts-ba-honours/)
- Gender Studies – General (Arts) – Bachelor of Arts (https://queensu-ca-public.courseleaf.com/arts-science/schools-departments-programs/gender-studies/gender-studies-general-arts-ba/)

Courses

**BLCK 200** Black Studies and the Politics of Liberation Units: 3.00
This course will introduce students to black studies. Focusing on liberation struggles that are nested in black scholarly and creative works, the course maps out how black diasporic communities have navigated and resisted racism, white supremacy, and other forms of oppression.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P).
Requirements: Prerequisite None. Exclusion GNDS 380 (Topic Title: Introduction to Black Studies).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

**GNDS 120** Women, Gender, Difference Units: 3.00
This course explores women, gender, and difference from feminist and anti-racist perspectives. It identifies the ways in which women's activism, politics, and experiences intersect with other gendered identifications such as race, location, class, (dis)ability, and sexuality. Lessons and texts will introduce feminism, the body, colonialism, gender performance, and strategies of resistance.
NOTE Also offered online. Consult Arts and Science Online. Learning Hours may vary.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (24L;12T;84P).
Requirements: Prerequisite None.
Course Equivalencies: GNDS120, WMNS101, WMNS102, WMN
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

**GNDS 125** Gender, Race and Popular Culture Units: 3.00
Explores popular culture from feminist and anti-racist perspectives, with attention to sexuality, gender, race and nation in a variety of media.
NOTE Also offered online. Consult Arts and Science Online. Learning Hours may vary.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (24L;12T;84P).
Requirements: Prerequisite None.
Course Equivalencies: GNDS125, WMNS125, WMNS225
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

**GNDS 211** Feminist Histories Units: 3.00
A study of feminist narratives and gender politics in relationship to women's lives from the 17th century forward with an emphasis upon global histories.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P).
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 2 or above or permission of the Department.
Course Equivalencies: GNDS211, WMNS211
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

**GNDS 212** Racism, Colonialism and Resistance Units: 3.00
Decades after the formal decolonization of former colonies, the power relations of the colonial world - and the racism it engendered - remain deeply embedded in the West, and are intrinsic to contemporary relations of globalization. This course explores European colonialism; historical and social constructions of 'race'; the ongoing occupation of Indigenous peoples’ territories; and contemporary racism.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (24L;12T;84P).
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 2 or above or permission of the Department.
Course Equivalencies: GNDS212, WMNS212
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science
GNDS 215 Introduction to Sexual and Gender Diversity Units: 3.00
This course is an introduction to studies in sexuality and gender diversity. It will survey the field and include topics such as classical inquiries into sexuality, contemporary theories on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer identities, sexual movements, human rights, sexual morality, pornography, global sex trade, and queer cultural production. This course is open to all students but required for students enrolled in the Certificate in Sexual and Gender Diversity. It is designed to introduce SXGD students to the field and prepare them for selecting future courses.
NOTE Also offered online. Consult Arts and Science Online.
Learning Hours may vary.
NOTE Also offered at the Bader International Study Centre. Learning Hours may vary.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (24L;12T;84P).
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 2 or above or permission of the Department.
Course Equivalencies: GNDS215, WMNS215, WMNS310
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

GNDS 280 Special Topics in Gender Studies Units: 3.00
Offered when faculty resources permit, these courses are analyses of particular areas of gender studies interdisciplinary research. Details regarding specific topics will be available from the Head of the Department on an annual basis.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P).
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 2 or above or permission of the Department.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

GNDS 285 Transgender Politics and Representation Units: 3.00
In this class we will consider questions of trans representation, activism, experience and social erasure. Students will acquire familiarity with key texts and debates, engaging topics such as medicalization, racial and gendered visibility, imprisonment, etc. The course will situate contemporary trans politics intersectionally and transnationally.
LEARNING HOURS 120(36L;84P).
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 2 or above. Exclusion GNDS 280 (Topic Title: Transgender Politics and Representation - 2015/16; 2016/17).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

GNDS 295 Comics and Politics Units: 3.00
The course explores historical and contemporary comics, graphic novels, and sequential art in connection with debates surrounding race, class, nation, sexual and gender diversity. Topics include documentary, war, trauma, transgender studies, memory, heroism, capitalism, humour, feminist thought, medical humanities, digital culture, and satire.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P)
Requirements: pre Lvl 2 or above and excl
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

GNDS 311 Feminist Thought Units: 3.00
This course examines different forms and critiques of feminism, and major issues in the development of feminist activism and feminist theory, including challenges to the colonial history of Western feminism. Students engage with current debates in feminism, gender and queer theory, and anti-racism.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P).
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 3 or above and (GNDS 120 or GNDS 125).
Course Equivalencies: GNDS311, WMNS311
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

GNDS 312 Black Feminisms Units: 3.00
Studies in black women's and black gender politics in Canada, the U.S.A., and the Caribbean.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P).
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 3 or above or permission of the Department.
Course Equivalencies: GNDS312, WMNS312
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

GNDS 315 Feminist Pedagogies Units: 3.00
This course looks at teaching and learning, in formal and informal educational settings, from feminist perspectives. Explores difference (race, class, gender, sexuality, ability), social justice and activism, power and empowerment, critique and transformation, experience, and reflexivity. Students will develop their feminist pedagogical values and skills.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P).
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 3 or above or permission of the Department.
Course Equivalencies: GNDS315, WMNS315
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science
GNDS 320  HIV/AIDS Movements: Histories of Community Health Activism  Units: 3.00
Centers historical movements in communities affected by AIDS as sources of unique critical theories of disease, health, power and social change. Highlights how testimonies, cultural and creative work, and social research in community-based AIDS activism inspire current critical theory and feminist, queer, disability, and critical race studies.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P).
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 3 or above or permission of the Department.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

GNDS 321  Gendering Opportunities - Women's Work  Units: 3.00
This course offers an interdisciplinary framework of feminist thought on women, work and employment opportunities. It takes a comparative look at socio-political feminist theories on work and employment in different social and cultural contexts.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P).
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 3 or permission of the Department.
Course Equivalencies: GNDS321, WMNS321
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

GNDS 325  Indigenous Meanings of Reproduction and Health  Units: 3.00
Indigenous meanings of reproduction and health will form the core of this course. We will discuss the bio-medical model and examine how it has influenced the health of Indigenous peoples, with a particular focus on maternity care in Canada. We will discuss contradictions and incongruencies in an open, respectful, and thought-provoking manner.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P).
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 3 or above Exclusion No more than 3.0 Units from GNDS 380 special topics with the same title taught Winter 2019
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

GNDS 326  Gender Diaspora and the Arts  Units: 3.00
This course explores transnational realities and diasporic experience, with particular attention to gender and sexuality, through the arts.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P).
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 3 or above.
Course Equivalencies: GNDS326, WMNS326
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

GNDS 330  Gender and the Global South  Units: 3.00
This course examines gender in an international context with emphasis on current global issues of women and development. Topics include gendering international political economy, women's health and sexualities, and forms of struggle, resistance and change in non-western contexts.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P).
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 3 or above or permission of the Department.
Course Equivalencies: GNDS330, WMNS330
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

GNDS 335  Science Fiction and Fantasy  Units: 3.00
This course examines ways in which science fiction and fantasy writers use technology and the fantastic as tools for the deconstruction and reconstruction of gendered categories. The emphasis is on contemporary novels as offering deliberate and sophisticated interventions in major discourses in gender studies, with attention to issues of race, class, and nationhood.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P).
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 3 or above or permission of the Department.
Course Equivalencies: GNDS335, WMNS217, WMNS335
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

GNDS 340  Indigenous Women, Feminism and Resistance  Units: 3.00
Examines scholarship, creative works, and activism by Indigenous women as a basis for introducing Indigenous feminist thought. Cases examine the many ways that Indigenous women and LGBTQ/Two-Spirit people participate in Indigenous nations, experience and resist settler colonialism, and work for Indigenous decolonization.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P).
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 3 or above or permission of the Department.
Course Equivalencies: GNDS340, WMNS340
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

GNDS 345  Research Methods in Gender Studies  Units: 3.00
This course provides a critical interdisciplinary introduction to methods and methodological issues in gender studies research.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P).
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 3 or above and (GNDS 120 or GNDS 125).
Course Equivalencies: GNDS345, WMNS230, WMNS345
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science
GNDS 350 Feminism Body & Visual Cult  Units: 3.00
This course will explore how the visual constructs and/or subverts 'woman' as a cultural category. An emphasis will be placed upon the female body as it intersects with class and race. Readings from art history, history, cultural theory and feminist theory will be considered.
NOTE Also offered at the Bader International Study Centre
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P).
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 3 or above or permission of the Department.
Course Equivalencies: GNDS350, WMNS350
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

GNDS 351 Gender Dress & Fashion  Units: 3.00
An investigation of gender as it is constructed in historical and contemporary dress and fashion. The focus will be upon visual culture and material culture.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P).
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 3 or above or permission of the Department.
Course Equivalencies: GNDS351, WMNS351
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

GNDS 352 Gender, Cloth and Globalization  Units: 3.00
This course will examine the gendered history of the production and consumption of cloth, the impact of changing technologies on the textile industry since the 18th century, and the ensuing tensions between the industrial and the hand-crafted.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P).
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 3 or above or permission of the Department.
Course Equivalencies: GNDS352, WMNS352
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

GNDS 356 Gender Dialogues: Jewish, Muslim and Christian  Units: 3.00
This course takes an intersectional approach to contemporary interfaith dialogues, with the aim of exploring and developing religious, ethical, and cultural literacies. The course considers the construction of gender norms, stereotypes, cultural expectations, religious expectations and practices, and state policies post 9/11.
NOTE Also offered at the Bader International Study Centre.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P).
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 3 or above or permission of the Department.
Course Equivalencies: GNDS356, WMNS356
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

GNDS 357 Writing Lives: Feminism and Women's Writing  Units: 3.00
Using feminist, trans and queer theory, critical race, disability studies, literary and cultural criticism, this course explores women's writing in a wide range of genres, with emphases on memory and self-narration and the ways in which subjects located or rejected as 'women' contend with binary, racialized and classed frames of gender.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P).
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 3 or above or permission of the Department.
Course Equivalencies: GNDS357, WMNS357
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

GNDS 358 Special Topics in Gender Studies  Units: 3.00
Offered when faculty resources permit, these courses are analyses of particular areas of gender studies interdisciplinary research. Details regarding specific topics will be available from the Head of the Department on an annual basis.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36L;84P).
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 3 or above or permission of the Department.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science
This course focuses on the theories, political activities, and organizing of Islamic feminists. It situates itself in relation to contemporary debates around the status of women in Islam and problematizes the nature of feminism and its assumed relationship to Islam. The course will focus on questions of religion, race, class, and nationalism in relation to Islam and Muslim women. This course contains an intensive and independent study component.

LEARNING HOURS 120 (36S;84P)

Requirements: 3rd yr in a GNDS or SXGD plan
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

GNDS 410 Special Topics in Gender Studies Units: 3.00
Offered when faculty resources permit, these courses are intensive analyses of particular areas of gender studies interdisciplinary research. Details regarding specific topics will be available from the Head of the Department on an annual basis.

LEARNING HOURS 120(36S;84P).

Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 3 or above and registration in a GNDS Major or Medial Plan or the SXGD Certificate) or permission of the Department.
Course Equivalencies: GNDS410, WMNS410
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

GNDS 412 Seminar in Sexual and Gender Diversity Units: 3.00
This course provides an advanced study in specific topics and theories relating to the fields of sexual and gender diversity. Topics may change from year to year. This course contains an intensive and independent study component.

LEARNING HOURS 120 (36S;84P).

Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 3 or above and registration in a GNDS Major or Medial Plan or the SXGD Certificate) or permission of the Department.
Course Equivalencies: GNDS412, WMNS412
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

GNDS 421 Gender and Poverty Units: 3.00
This course is designed to provide an in depth exploration of poverty issues in Canada. It includes discussions about working poor and welfare poor and addresses how race and sexuality can compound the issues of poverty. The course will also acknowledge how poor people are actively engaged in attempting to improve their lives through anti-poverty organizing. This course contains an intensive and independent study component.

LEARNING HOURS 120 (36S;84P).

Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 3 or above and registration in a GNDS Major or Medial Plan or the SXGD Certificate) or permission of the Department. Exclusion POLS 318; POLS 382.
Course Equivalencies: GNDS421; WMNS421
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

GNDS 427 Towards the Human: Race and the Politics of Expression Units: 3.00
This interdisciplinary seminar will explore the ways in which modernity shapes cultural 'difference' and 'the human'. Readings will focus on the racial and geographic contours of colonialism, transatlantic slavery and The Enlightenment in order to bring into focus communities that challenge racial-sexual categorization through creative expression (music, fiction, poetry, and visual art as well as theory). This course contains an intensive and independent study component.

LEARNING HOURS 120(36S;84P)

Requirements: Pre lvl 3 or above in GNDS/SXG
Course Equivalencies: GNDS427; WMNS427
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

GNDS 428 Gender Performance Units: 3.00
This advanced seminar addresses some of the many meanings and manifestations of 'gender performance' in literature and popular culture. Primary sources include a wide variety of media - novels, plays, poems, films, magazines and cartoons. Primary material will be balanced with careful consideration of work in areas such as feminist theory, identity politics, queer and performance theory. This course contains an intensive and independent study component.

LEARNING HOURS 120(36S;84P)

Requirements: Pre lvl 3 or above in GNDS
Course Equivalencies: GNDS428; WMNS428
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science
GNDS 432  Settler Colonialism and Indigenous Politics  Units: 3.00
Examines critical theories and case studies of politics and governance in Indigenous and settler societies, based in Indigenous feminist thought. Cases examine the relation between nationality, gender, and sexuality within colonial relations of rule, methods of Indigenous governance, Indigenous sovereignty struggles, and theories and practices of decolonization. This course contains an intensive and independent study component.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36S;84P)
Requirements: Pre lvl 3 or above in GNDS/SXG
Course Equivalencies: GNDS432; WMNS432
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

GNDS 440  Social Justice Practicum: Learning through Community Organizing and Activism  Units: 6.00
A seminar in which students work in and outside the classroom on community organizing projects. Students reflect on how feminist, anti-racist, and queer theory can be integrated with real world practices.
LEARNING HOURS 240 (36S;72P;132P).
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 3 or above and registration in a GNDS Major or Medial Plan or the SXGD Certificate) or permission of the Department.
Course Equivalencies: GNDS440, WMNS440
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

GNDS 445  Feminist and Queer Ethnography  Units: 3.00
Examines feminist ethnography and queer ethnography as distinct subfields, areas of inquiry, writing genres and ethical methods in research and social life. Topics: historical uses of ethnography and feminist/queer/trans critiques of them; adaptations of ethnography to trans, queer, and feminist work; ethnography’s importance to gender studies.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (12L;24S;36G;48P).
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 3 or above and registration in a GNDS Major or Medial Plan or the SXGD Certificate) or permission of the Department.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

GNDS 480  Special Topics in Gender Studies  Units: 3.00
Offered when faculty resources permit, these courses are analyses of particular areas of gender studies interdisciplinary research.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (36S;84P).
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 3 or above and registration in a GNDS Major or Medial Plan or the SXGD Certificate) or permission of the Department.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

GNDS 520  Directed Special Studies  Units: 3.00
In consultation with the Head of the Department, students arrange their reading with individual Gender Studies faculty, and are expected to write reports on their readings and to discuss them throughout the term with that faculty supervisor.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (9I;111P).
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 3 or above and registration in a GNDS Major or Medial Plan or the SXGD Certificate) or permission of the Department. Exclusion GNDS 510; GNDS 530.
Course Equivalencies: GNDS520, WMNS520
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

GNDS 530  Directed Special Studies  Units: 3.00
In consultation with the Head of the Department, students arrange their reading with individual Gender Studies faculty, and are expected to write reports on their readings and to discuss them throughout the term with that faculty supervisor.
LEARNING HOURS 120 (9I;111P).
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 3 or above and registration in a GNDS Major or Medial Plan or the SXGD Certificate) or permission of the Department. Exclusion GNDS 510; GNDS 520.
Course Equivalencies: GNDS530, WMNS530
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

GNDS 594  Independent Study  Units: 3.00
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science