

INTRODUCTORY CORE COURSES

ENG 102 COMPOSITION II: Exploration of essay forms with particular attention to interpretation and argument; emphasis on analytical reading and writing, critical thinking, and research methodologies. [multi-stage research project that involves argumentation]

- Engage in critical reading and interpretation of a wide range of texts;
- Be able to summarize, analyze, synthesize, evaluate, and apply what they read—both orally and in writing;
- Frame complex research questions or problems;
- Demonstrate awareness of their own beliefs, concepts, and biases;
- Be able to produce a coherent, well-supported argument that shows critical thinking and careful consideration of alternative viewpoints.

CORE HUMANITIES 201, 202, 203: Basic tools of the humanities disciplines: clear writing, close reading of primary texts, practice with oral expression of serious ideas, awareness of modes of discourse, sensitivity to cultural differences, understanding and evaluating the past. [short answer exams, short critical papers]

- Express ideas clearly and persuasively both orally and in writing, using relevant evidence to support their arguments.
- Read, interpret, and analyze primary source texts with attention to content, historical and cultural context, genre, and language.
- Analyze authors' arguments by identifying perspectives, assumptions, strategies, and omissions.

WOMENS STUDIES 101: Introduction to issues concerning women and gender: ability to describe and make critical connections between a women's or gender issue and race, class, sexuality, colonialism, multiculturalism, and/or globalization [multiple-choice exams, short essays on readings and news items]

- Observe, theorize, model, experiment, and/or interpret as a means of inquiring into human social relations
- Apply and evaluate approaches or modes of inquiry used to analyze diversity and equity and the social barriers to these goals
- Analyze a range of topics through a gendered lens
- Formulate and articulate arguments that synthesize course materials
- Communicate diverse theoretical positions and approaches to gender study through writing assignments, class discussion, and other projects.

MID-CURRICULUM "GATEWAY" COURSES

Analysis and critical discussion of gender and feminism from an interdisciplinary perspective, using a range of appropriate methodological tools; comparison of historical and contemporary understandings of gender in relation to structural inequality, social movements, and labor struggles [longer critical papers, presentations]:

GENDER, RACE, & IDENTITY 257 SOCIAL MOVEMENTS OF GENDER, RACE, & IDENTITY [longer papers on social justice activism and readings and on past and current issues, exams on key terms and issues].

- Compare social movements of the past to those being organized today
- Apply theories and concepts from feminist, queer, and other social movements to current social and ethical issues
- Articulate ethical and social justice frameworks within both historical and contemporary social movements.

WMST 250 INTRODUCTION TO FEMINIST THEORY [longer papers applying intersectional and transnational analyses to readings and analyzing construction of sex/gender/sexuality therein].

- Analyze and synthesize primary and secondary sources both orally and in writing.

SENIOR OR "CULMINATING" MAJOR COURSE

WMST 450 FEMINIST THEORY AND METHODS (capstone course.) Critical comparison, appraisal, and application of theories, methods, and representations of women, gender, and feminism; integration and synthesis of feminist theories in the study of gender and sexuality [short papers on critical analysis of readings, research project on applying feminist theory in analyzing and suggesting ways to solve a contemporary problem relating to women, gender, or sexuality].

- Critically analyze theories, methods, and representations of gender and feminism from an interdisciplinary perspective
- Apply feminist theory to the examination of laws, policies, practices, and cultural representations that produce gendered identities in contemporary society
- Design, develop, and complete appropriate steps to conduct a research project addressing a contemporary problem relating to women, gender, or sexuality
- Clearly articulate, in writing and orally, how feminist theory and methods help us to make sense of contemporary social conditions and to act in ways that can affect social change.