The master's degree in Gender and Women's Studies provides advanced feminist training in gender analysis for students with a variety of academic backgrounds and career plans. The degree engages the multidisciplinary perspectives associated with gender studies and women's studies: queer studies, transgender studies, sexuality studies, race and ethnicity studies, disability studies, area and global studies, cultural studies, postcolonial and transnational studies.

The M.A. curriculum in Gender and Women's Studies draws from the strengths of current course offerings in the program, as well as from methodologies and course offerings in other fields and departments. Some courses investigate these topics at the global level while others focus on the local, regional or national levels. The curriculum ensures an overarching transnational and cross-cultural framework. Courses use interdisciplinary methodologies and/or disciplinary approaches.

The degree program is designed to be a two-year full-time sequence. All students are expected to maintain satisfactory progress in the graduate program in accordance with the regulations of the Graduate School and department policies.

**ADMISSIONS**

This master’s program is offered for work leading to the Ph.D. Students may not apply directly for the master’s. If you are interested in applying for the Ph.D. program, please see admissions information here (http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/gender-womens-studies/gender-womens-studies-phd/#admissionstext).

**FUNDING**

Resources to help you afford graduate study might include assistantships, fellowships, traineeships, and financial aid. Further funding information (https://grad.wisc.edu/funding/) is available from the Graduate School. Be sure to check with your program for individual policies and restrictions related to funding.

**PROGRAM RESOURCES**

We offer TA positions to new M.A. students, including tuition remission, stipend and health insurance. We award new students at least 2 semesters of guaranteed funding and sometimes offer additional positions. Availability of positions may be different for international students; eligibility is determined at admission. There are a limited number of TA positions; so do not count on these as support for the entire 2 years of study. We encourage students to apply for positions elsewhere on campus.

**REQUIREMENTS**

### MINIMUM GRADUATE SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

Review the Graduate School minimum academic progress and degree requirements (http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/#policiesandrequirementstext), in addition to the program requirements listed below.

### MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

#### MODE OF INSTRUCTION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mode of Instruction Definitions</th>
<th>Face to Face</th>
<th>Evening/Weekend</th>
<th>Online</th>
<th>Hybrid</th>
<th>Accelerated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accelerated: Accelerated programs are offered at a fast pace that condenses the time to completion. Students typically take enough credits aimed at completing the program in a year or two.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evening/Weekend: Courses meet on the UW–Madison campus only in evenings and/or on weekends to accommodate typical business schedules. Students have the advantages of face-to-face courses with the flexibility to keep work and other life commitments.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Face-to-Face: Courses typically meet during weekdays on the UW-Madison Campus.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hybrid: These programs combine face-to-face and online learning formats. Contact the program for more specific information.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Online: These programs are offered 100% online. Some programs may require an on-campus orientation or residency experience, but the courses will be facilitated in an online format.</td>
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</table>

### CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement Detail</th>
<th>Detail</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Credit Requirement</td>
<td>30 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Residence Credit Requirement</td>
<td>16 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Graduate Coursework Requirement</td>
<td>21 of the 30 credits must be graduate-level coursework. Details can be found in the Graduate School’s Minimum Graduate Coursework (50%) policy (<a href="https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1244/">https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1244/</a>).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall Graduate GPA Requirement</td>
<td>3.00 GPA required. This program follows the Graduate School’s GPA Requirement policy (<a href="https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1203/">https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1203/</a>).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Grade Requirements</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Assessments and Examinations
Students complete either a thesis or exam, and can read more about them here: https://gws.wisc.edu/ma-requirements/.
Language
No language requirements.

REQUIRED COURSES
30 credits, 15 of which must be in courses in the Department of Gender and Women’s Studies.

GEN&WS 810 Gender and Women’s Studies: The Emergence and Transformation of a Field
GEN&WS 800 Research Methods in Gender & Women’s Studies
GEN&WS 830 Contemporary Theorizing in Gender and Women’s Studies
GEN&WS 790 Research & Thesis: Master's and Professional Level or exam

GRADUATE SCHOOL POLICIES
The Graduate School’s Academic Policies and Procedures (https://grad.wisc.edu/acadpolicy/) provide essential information regarding general university policies. Program authority to set degree policies beyond the minimum required by the Graduate School lies with the degree program faculty. Policies set by the academic degree program can be found below.

MAJOR-SPECIFIC POLICIES

PRIOR COURSEWORK
Graduate Work from Other Institutions
This program follows the Graduate School’s policy for Satisfying Requirements with Prior Graduate Coursework from Other Institutions. (https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1216/)

UW–Madison Undergraduate
This program follows the Graduate School’s policy for Satisfying Requirements with Coursework from Undergraduate Career at UW–Madison. (https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1216/)

UW–Madison University Special
This program follows the Graduate School’s policy for Transfer from UW–Madison University Special Student Career at UW–Madison. (https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1216/)

PROBATION
This program follows the Graduate School’s Probation policy. (https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1217/)

ADVISOR / COMMITTEE
This program follows the Graduate School’s Advisor policy (https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1232/) and the Graduate School’s Committees policy (https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1201/).

CREDITS PER TERM ALLOWED
Students in the MA program are expected to carry 6 credits per semester. They may carry up to 12 although we do not encourage more than 9. Students who would like to carry fewer than 6 credits must apply in writing to the DGS for a waiver of this requirement and are not eligible to work as TAs.

TIME CONSTRAINTS
This program follows the Graduate School’s Time Limits policy. (https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1221/)

GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS
These resources may be helpful in addressing your concerns:
• Bias or Hate Reporting (https://doso.students.wisc.edu/bias-or-hate-reporting/)
• Graduate Assistantship Policies and Procedures (https://hr.wisc.edu/policies/gapp/#grievance-procedure)
• Hostile and Intimidating Behavior Policies and Procedures (https://hr.wisc.edu/hib/)
  • Office of the Provost for Faculty and Staff Affairs (https://facstaffprovost.wisc.edu/)
  • Dean of Students Office (https://doso.students.wisc.edu/) (for all students to seek grievance assistance and support)
  • Employee Assistance (http://www.eao.wisc.edu/) (for personal counseling and workplace consultation around communication and conflict involving graduate assistants and other employees, post-doctoral students, faculty and staff)
  • Employee Disability Resource Office (https://employeedisabilities.wisc.edu/) (for qualified employees or applicants with disabilities to have equal employment opportunities)
  • Graduate School (https://grad.wisc.edu/) (for informal advice at any level of review and for official appeals of program/departmental or school/college grievance decisions)
  • Office of Compliance (https://compliance.wisc.edu/) (for class harassment and discrimination, including sexual harassment and sexual violence)
  • Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards (https://conduct.students.wisc.edu/) (for conflicts involving students)
  • Ombuds Office for Faculty and Staff (http://www.ombuds.wisc.edu/) (for employed graduate students and post-docs, as well as faculty and staff)
  • Title IX (https://compliance.wisc.edu/titleix/) (for concerns about discrimination)

Students should contact the department chair or program director with questions about grievances. They may also contact the L&S Academic Divisional Associate Deans, the L&S Associate Dean for Teaching and Learning Administration, or the L&S Director of Human Resources.

OTHER
n/a

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

GRADUATE SCHOOL RESOURCES
Take advantage of the Graduate School’s professional development resources (https://grad.wisc.edu/pd/) to build skills, thrive academically, and launch your career.
LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Demonstrate the ability to read, understand, and critique the major concepts and theories related to feminism, women, and gender, and apply these critical perspectives across disciplines.

2. Understanding of historical and contemporary agency by people across a spectrum of gender and the ways this agency has shaped lives in various geographic settings.

3. Demonstrate the ability to analyze the intersections between gender and other socially meaningful categories, such as race, class, gender identity, ethnicity, disability, nation, religion, and sexuality, and to explain how gender functions as a social institution.

4. Demonstrate the ability to conduct interdisciplinary feminist analysis that (1) includes a critical literature review, (2) selects appropriate research methodologies, and (3) proposes an appropriate research design to collect, analyze, interpret, and present findings.

5. Develop and utilize strong cultural competencies (e.g., sensitivity to race/ethnicity/gender/disability/sexual orientation issues) to allow them to enter into various cultural, social, economic, civic, academic, and workplace settings.

6. Acknowledge and engage in ethical courses of action in research and collaborative practice.

PEOPLE

FACULTY & STAFF
GWS Faculty (https://gws.wisc.edu/people/faculty-lecturer-directory/)

GWS Staff (https://gws.wisc.edu/people/staff/)