WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES (BA)

The Department of Women’s and Gender Studies provides students with a strong educational foundation for life-long learning. It nurtures students’ abilities to think critically and to examine social and cultural circumstances that too often remain unquestioned. The curriculum also emphasizes the development of strong written & oral communication skills.

A thirteen-course major is offered, consisting of a six-course common core, four courses in a concentration, and three electives.

As a Women’s and Gender Studies major, a student will take courses such as:

- Women and Film
- Women in the Middle East
- Feminist Theories
- Gender and Education
- Deconstructing the Diva
- Gender, Community & Activism: Community-Based Learning in WGS
- Growing Up Female in the U.S.
- Growing up Latino/Latina in the United States
- Gender Violence and Resistance
- Women and Politics
- Mothering, Work, and Reproductive Justice
- Black Women’s Experiences
- Antiracist Feminisms
- Introduction to Transgender Studies
- Queer Theory

Program Requirements | Quarter Hours
--- | ---
Liberal Studies Requirements | 84
Major (Core + Concentration + Electives) Requirements | 48
Open Electives | 60
Total hours required | 192

**Learning Outcomes**

Students will be able to:

1. Identify the meanings and historical constructions of gender and/or women’s experiences in transnational contexts.

2. Explain the connections between scholarship and/or creative work and activism in the interdisciplinary field of Women’s and Gender Studies.

3. Differentiate among a variety of theoretical frameworks and methodologies central to the interdisciplinary field of Women’s and Gender Studies.

4. Make use of concepts of intersectionality in their written and/or experiential work.

5. Articulate the relationship between individual experiences - their own and others’ - and broader systemic inequalities.

**College Core Requirements**

**Study in the Major Field**

The student’s course of study in the College consists of three parts: Liberal Studies, the major field, and electives. Together these three parts contribute to the liberal education of the student which is the common purpose of all study in the College. By “liberal education” the College understands not only a deep and thorough knowledge of a particular area of study but a knowledge of the diverse areas of study represented by criticism, history, the arts, the behavioral and social sciences, philosophy, religious studies, the natural science, and mathematics.

The major field program generally is built upon a set of core courses and a specialized “concentration.” The number of courses required for a major varies by department. Most students go beyond the minimum requirements, electing additional courses which both broaden and deepen their understanding of their chosen discipline.

Because no academic major program is built in isolation, students are required to pursue a number of electives of the student’s choice. The inherent flexibility of this curriculum demands that the student consult an academic advisor at each stage in the total program and at least once prior to each registration.

Students will be prompted to visit the College Office for their official graduation check early in their senior year.

**Declaration of Major, Minor and Concentration**

All students in the College are required to declare a major field prior to beginning their junior year. The student will then be assigned a faculty advisor in the major field department or program and should make an appointment to see that advisor at his or her earliest convenience.

Students must declare or change majors, minors, and concentrations, via Campus Connection. However, for the purpose of exploring the possibility of changing a major field, the student should consult an academic advisor in the Office for Academic Advising Support.

**The Modern Language Requirement (MLR)**

All students will be required to demonstrate competence in a modern language (i.e., a language other than English) equivalent to the proficiency attained from one year of college-level language study. This Modern Language Requirement (MLR) may be demonstrated by:

- placing into 104 or above on the DePaul language placement exam
- completing the last course or earning AP/IB credit for the last course in the first-year college sequence of any language (e.g. 103 for DePaul language classes)
- completing a college course or earning AP/IB credit for a college course beyond the first-year level in any language (e.g. 104 or above for DePaul language classes)
- completing the final course of a four-year sequence of the same modern language in high school*
- completing a proctored exam by BYU and passing the exam (see the Department of Modern Languages website for registration details)
- completing a proctored Written Proficiency Test (WPT) by Language Testing International (LTI) and achieving a score of Beginner High...
or school, followed by Undergraduate Academics and scroll down. Schools section of the University Catalog. Select the appropriate college.

Honors program requirements can be found in the individual Colleges & Liberal Studies Requirements of the college; see the LAS website for more information.

Please note: Modern Languages courses with an E-designation are taught in English and may not be applied to the Modern Language Requirement.

Students who complete an Inter-College Transfer (ICT) to the College will abide by the MLR in place on the effective date of the ICT, regardless of when they first matriculated at DePaul.

Students who have met the MLR and wish to pursue further work in the language may elect the "Modern Language Option" (see below).

**The Modern Language Option (MLO)**
The Modern Language Option is available to all BA students who wish to study a modern language beyond the level required by their College, and to all other undergraduate students without a modern language requirement who wish to study a language at any level.

Students selecting the MLO may substitute a sequence of three courses in the same language for three domain courses.

The three MLO substitutions must be made in three different domains, and any substitutions must be consistent with the principle that students complete at least one course in each learning domain.

MLO substitutions may not be used to replace requirements in the Math & Computing, and Scientific Inquiry, domains.

Students majoring in one modern language may use the Modern Language Option for study of a second language at the Intermediate level or above.

Modern Languages courses with an E-designation are taught in English and may not be applied to the Modern Language Option.

**NOTE:** Please contact your college/school regarding additional information and restrictions about the Modern Language Option.

**External Credit and Residency**
A student who has been admitted to the College begins residency within the college as of the first day of classes of the term in which the student is registered. Students in residence, whether attending on a full-time or part-time basis, may not take courses away from DePaul University without the written permission of the college. Permission must be obtained in advance of registration to avoid loss of credit or residency in the college; see the LAS website for more information.

**Liberal Studies Requirements**
Honors program requirements can be found in the individual Colleges & Schools section of the University Catalog. Select the appropriate college or school, followed by Undergraduate Academics and scroll down.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Year Program</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chicago Quarter</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LSP 110 DISCOVER CHICAGO</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or LSP 111 or EXPLORE CHICAGO</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Learning Domains**

**Arts and Literature (AL)** (https://catalog.depaul.edu/undergraduate-core/liberal-studies-program/liberal-studies-learning-domains/arts-and-literature/)
- 2 Courses Required

**Historical Inquiry (HI)** (https://catalog.depaul.edu/undergraduate-core/liberal-studies-program/liberal-studies-learning-domains/historical-inquiry/)
- 2 Courses Required

**Math and Computing (MC)** (https://catalog.depaul.edu/undergraduate-core/liberal-studies-program/liberal-studies-learning-domains/math-and-computing/)
- 2 Courses Required
  [1 CR Course and 1 SR Course]

**Philosophical Inquiry (PI)** (https://catalog.depaul.edu/undergraduate-core/liberal-studies-program/liberal-studies-learning-domains/philosophical-inquiry/)
- 2 Courses Required

Students must earn a C- or better in this course.

1 Readiness for MAT 120 is determined by the math placement test taken online after admission. Students may need to take developmental coursework prior to MAT 120. The MAT 120 requirement may be waived by credit already earned for advanced math coursework or by passing a dedicated proficiency exam. Students who complete MAT 120 and both a Computational Reasoning course and a Statistical Reasoning course in the Math and Computing Domain take one less Learning Domain course. Students may not apply the course reduction to any Domain where only one course is required, and cannot be applied to the SI Domain.

2 A student majoring in Women's and Gender Studies (WGS) is required to complete the Capstone offered by the WGS Department. This is the case even if a student is double majoring (or pursuing a dual degree) and the secondary major (or degree) requires its own Capstone. A WGS major in the University Honors Program shall take the University Honors Capstone and the WGS Capstone.

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Women's and Gender Studies (BA)

Religious Dimensions (RD) (https://catalog.depaul.edu/undergraduate-core/liberal-studies-program/liberal-studies-learning-domains/religious-dimensions/)
  • 2 Courses Required

Scientific Inquiry (SI) (https://catalog.depaul.edu/undergraduate-core/liberal-studies-program/liberal-studies-learning-domains/scientific-inquiry/)
  • 2 Courses Required
    [1 Lab Course and 1 SWK Course]

Social, Cultural, and Behavioral Inquiry (SCBI) (https://catalog.depaul.edu/undergraduate-core/liberal-studies-program/liberal-studies-learning-domains/social-cultural-and-behavioral-inquiry/)
  • 2 Courses Required

Notes
Courses offered in the student’s primary major cannot be taken to fulfill LSP Domain requirements. If students double major, LSP Domain courses may double count for both LSP credit and the second major. Students who choose to take an experiential learning course offered by the major may count it either as a general elective or the experiential learning requirement.

In meeting learning domain requirements, no more than one course that is outside the student’s major and is cross-listed with a course within the student’s major, can be applied to count for LSP domain credit. This policy does not apply to those who are pursuing a double major or earning BFA or BM degrees.

Major Requirements

Course Requirements

Common Core

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Quarter Hours</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WGS 100</td>
<td>WOMEN'S LIVES: RACE/CLASS/GENDER (Students are encouraged to take this before taking additional coursework in the major)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGS 200</td>
<td>WOMEN'S STUDIES IN TRANSNATIONAL CONTEXTS</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGS 250</td>
<td>INTERSECTIONAL &amp; TRANSNATIONAL FEMINIST FORMATIONS</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGS 300</td>
<td>FEMINIST THEORIES</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGS 391</td>
<td>METHODS AND SCHOLARSHIP IN WOMEN'S STUDIES</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGS 395</td>
<td>WOMEN'S STUDIES ADVANCED SEMINAR</td>
<td>4</td>
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Concentration

Students must also complete a four-course concentration. All students develop an Individualized Concentration in consultation with their faculty advisor.

WGS students have developed concentrations in areas such as Arts & Activism; International Perspectives; Social Policy & Social Justice; Women of Color & Feminist Thought; Gender & Sexualities; among others. We encourage students to develop an individualized program of study that best suits their academic interests and career goals, and are committed to working closely with students as they develop their major concentration and interdisciplinary curricular focus.

Major Field Electives

Three additional electives chosen by the student from the list of courses approved for the Women’s and Gender Studies major.