

WOMEN'S, GENDER, AND SEXUALITY STUDIES, B.S.

Seven Penn State campuses are scheduled for closure after Spring 2027: DuBois, Fayette, New Kensington, Mont Alto, Shenango, Wilkes-Barre, and York. New students are not being admitted at these campuses.

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus

End Campus: University Park

Degree Requirements

For the Bachelor of Science degree in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, a minimum of 120 credits is required:

Requirement	Credits
General Education	45
Electives	21-30
Requirements for the Major	57

3-12 of the 45 credits for General Education are included in the Requirements for the Major. This includes: 0-3 credits of GH courses, 3-6 credits of GQ courses, and 0-3 credits of GS courses.

Per Senate Policy 83-80.5, the college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of course work in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned. For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.

Requirements for the Major

To graduate, a student enrolled in the major must earn a grade of C or better in each course designated by the major as a C-required course, as specified by Senate Policy 82-44 (<https://senate.psu.edu/students/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/>).

Code	Title	Credits
Prescribed Courses		
<i>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
WMNST 301N	Sexualities, Gender and Power: Feminist Thought and Politics	3
WMNST 492W	Contemporary Feminist Analysis: The Capstone Senior Seminar	3
Additional Courses ¹		
<i>Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
WMNST 400N	Debates in Contemporary Feminism	3
or WMNST 401 Doing Feminism: Theory and Practice		
Select 3 credits from the following:		3
WMNST 83N	First-Year Seminar in Women's Studies	
WMNST 100	Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies	
WMNST 105N	Living in a Diverse World	
WMNST 106N	Representing Women and Gender in Literature, Art and Popular Cultures	
Select 3 credits from the following:		3
WMNST 494	Research Project	
WMNST 495	Internship	

WMNST 496	Independent Studies	
Select 3 additional credits at the 400 level		3
Select 3 credits that focus on non-Western women		3
Select 3 credits that focus on women of color in the United States		3
Select 6 credits that focus on women's health and sexuality or women in science and technology		6
Select 6 credits of natural or social sciences		6
Select 6 credits of arts and humanities		6
Supporting Courses and Related Areas		
Select 15 credits total from the following groups with at least 3 credits from each group:		15
Quantification (GQ) and Research Methods		
Values, Ethics, and Scientific Inquiry		
Social and behavioral sciences, health sciences, or natural sciences		

¹ The same course may be used to fulfill more than one requirement within Additional Courses.

General Education

Connecting career and curiosity, the General Education curriculum provides the opportunity for students to acquire transferable skills necessary to be successful in the future and to thrive while living in interconnected contexts. General Education aids students in developing intellectual curiosity, a strengthened ability to think, and a deeper sense of aesthetic appreciation. These are requirements for all baccalaureate students and are often partially incorporated into the requirements of a program. For additional information, see the General Education Requirements (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/baccalaureate-degree-general-education-program/>) section of the Bulletin and consult your academic adviser.

The keystone symbol appears next to the title of any course that is designated as a General Education course. Program requirements may also satisfy General Education requirements and vary for each program.

Foundations (grade of C or better is required and Inter-Domain courses do not meet this requirement.)

- Quantification (GQ): 6 credits
- Writing and Speaking (GWS): 9 credits

Breadth in the Knowledge Domains (Inter-Domain courses do not meet this requirement.)

- Arts (GA): 3 credits
- Health and Wellness (GHW): 3 credits
- Humanities (GH): 3 credits
- Social and Behavioral Sciences (GS): 3 credits
- Natural Sciences (GN): 3 credits

Integrative Studies

- Inter-Domain Courses (Inter-Domain): 6 credits

Exploration

- GN, may be completed with Inter-Domain courses: 3 credits
- GA, GH, GN, GS, Inter-Domain courses. This may include 3 credits of World Language course work beyond the 12th credit level or the requirements for the student's degree program, whichever is higher: 6 credits

University Degree Requirements

First Year Engagement

All students enrolled in a college or the Division of Undergraduate Studies at University Park, and the World Campus are required to take 1 to 3 credits of the First-Year Seminar, as specified by their college First-Year Engagement Plan.

Other Penn State colleges and campuses may require the First-Year Seminar; colleges and campuses that do not require a First-Year Seminar provide students with a first-year engagement experience.

First-year baccalaureate students entering Penn State should consult their academic adviser for these requirements.

Cultures Requirement

6 credits are required and may satisfy other requirements

- United States Cultures: 3 credits
- International Cultures: 3 credits

Writing Across the Curriculum

3 credits required from the college of graduation and likely prescribed as part of major requirements.

Total Minimum Credits

A minimum of 120 degree credits must be earned for a baccalaureate degree. The requirements for some programs may exceed 120 credits. Students should consult with their college or department adviser for information on specific credit requirements.

Quality of Work

Candidates must complete the degree requirements for their major and earn at least a 2.00 grade-point average for all courses completed within their degree program.

Limitations on Source and Time for Credit Acquisition

The college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of course work in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned. Credit used toward degree programs may need to be earned from a particular source or within time constraints (see Senate Policy 83-80 (<https://senate.psu.edu/students/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/>)). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.