

# WOMEN AND GENDER STUDIES

## Contact Information

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Liberal Arts

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## Faculty

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M.A., San Diego State University

**Soni Verma**  
**Professor, Psychology/Women and Gender Studies**  
B.A., Lady Shri Ram College for Women  
M.A., Delhi University  
M.S., National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences

## Degrees/Certificates

### Women's Studies

#### AA Degree

Women's Studies is an interdisciplinary major based on the premise that gender is a historical variable that affects the social, economic and political structure of our society as well as the everyday lives of women and men. Employing a wide range of perspectives from disciplines such as history, literature, philosophy, sociology, psychology, art, anthropology and biology, students will explore and examine how these disciplines pertain to women and how women have contributed to the cultural and sociological landscape.

The AA degree provides students with core courses in Women's Studies. Students may utilize the Women's Studies curriculum to fulfill transferable general education requirements for CSU and UC systems as well as lower division Women's Studies courses for transfer to four-year institutions with women's studies majors. In all cases, students should consult with a counselor for more information on university admission and transfer requirements. Students must fulfill the following major requirements with grades of "C" or better, complete a minimum of 60 degree-applicable semester units (12 of which must be completed at Sierra College) with a grade point average of at least 2.0 and complete one of the following three general education patterns:

- Sierra College Associate Degree Requirements (<http://catalog.sierracollege.edu/archive/2022-2023/student-resources/general-education/associate-degree-requirements/>);
- California State University General Education Breadth (<http://catalog.sierracollege.edu/archive/2022-2023/student-resources/general-education/california-state-university-general-education-breadth-requirements/>) pattern;
- Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) (<http://catalog.sierracollege.edu/archive/2022-2023/student-resources/general-education/intersegmental-general-education-transfer-curriculum-igetc/>).

#### Required Courses

Code	Title	Units
WMST 0001	Introduction to Women's Studies	3
<b>Select 15 units from the following:</b>		<b>15</b>
ANTH 0027	Anthropology of Sex, Gender and Sexuality	
ARHI 0132	History of Women in Art	
ENGL 0027	Literature by Women	
HIST 0027	Women in American History	

PHIL 0027	Introduction to Philosophy of Women in Western Cultures
POLS 0027	Women and Politics in a Global Society
PSYC 0127	Psychology of Women
PSYC 0130	Human Sexuality
SOC 0005	Sociology of Women's Health
SOC 0027	Sociology of Gender
WMST 0002	Introduction to LGBT Studies/Queer Theory (also LGBT 0001)
WMST 0003	Introduction to Women, Gender and Religion (also HUM 0009)
WMST 0004	Feminism and Social Action (also SOC 0010)

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**Total Units**
**18**

## Courses

Understanding course descriptions (<http://catalog.sierracollege.edu/archive/2022-2023/student-resources/course-information/understanding-course-descriptions/>)

### WMST 0001. Introduction to Women's Studies

*Units: 3*

Prerequisite: Eligibility for ENGL N

Hours: 54 lecture

Introduction to the origins, purpose and methods of Women's Studies. The subject matter will explore a wide range of social issues affecting women of diverse backgrounds and identities. Gender will be studied as it intersects with race, ethnicity, sexuality, class, dis/ability, age, religion, nationality and other systems of difference. (C-ID SJS 120) (CSU, UC)

### WMST 0002. Introduction to LGBT Studies/Queer Theory

*Units: 3*

Also known as LGBT 1

Advisory: Eligibility for ENGL 1A

Hours: 54 lecture

A broad and general exploration of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Studies and its relationship to Feminism. Emphasis on Sexual Orientation/Gender Identity and Expression and their intersections with Race/Ethnicity, Class, the LGBT Rights movement in the United States and globally. (C-ID SJS 130) (CSU, UC)

### WMST 0003. Introduction to Women, Gender and Religion

*Units: 3*

Also known as HUM 9

Advisory: Eligibility for ENGL 1A

Hours: 54 lecture

Religion from a feminist perspective through a cross-cultural examination of major religious traditions of the East and West, as well as tribal faith practices. Emphasis on the historical role of women and gender in rituals, sacred texts, institutional structures, doctrine and religious iconography with respect to the impact on contemporary women regarding faith, politics and identity. (CSU, UC)

### WMST 0004. Feminism and Social Action

*Units: 3*

Also known as SOC 10

Advisory: Completion of ENGL N with grade of "C" or better

Hours: 54 lecture

Examines sociological underpinnings of social action and explores unique contributions of feminism in challenging traditional gender scripts. Provides an overview of the ways in which women engage in deliberative social action to change the conditions of their lives and of their communities. Emphasizes sociological theory as applied to issues related to the institutions of family, health, religion, employment, sexual harassment, housing, and interpersonal violence. (CSU, UC)

### WMST 0095. Internship in Women and Gender Studies

*Units: 0.5-4*

Designed for advanced students to work in an area related to their educational or occupational goal. Provides new on-the-job technical training under the direction of a worksite supervisor, allowing students to expand knowledge and skills in the chosen field. Mandatory orientation session and faculty approval to determine eligibility. One unit of credit is equal to each 60 hours of non-paid work, or each 75 hours of paid work. Students may earn up to a total of 16 units in internship courses (any course numbered 95 and PDEV 94). (CSU-with unit limitation)

## Program Student Learning Outcomes (PSLOs)

- Differentiate between sex and gender in the context of shifting definitions of woman.
- Define and deconstruct explicit and implicit privilege including, but not limited to, white privilege, male privilege and heterosexual privilege.
- Evaluate the social construction of gender and explore how it pertains to the particular inquiry of study undertaken (e.g., sexuality; queer theory; anthropology; art history).
- Apply cross-cultural, transnational or global awareness to "significant questions" concerning women and gender.
- Appraise gendered construction of knowledge and social institutions and how they directly apply to the subject under scrutiny.