Women's and Gender Studies Certificate

Post-Baccalaureate Certificate
https://www.towson.edu/cla/departments/womengender/grad/womengenderpbc/

Program Director: Dr. Kate Wilkinson
Phone: 410-704-5744
Email: kwilkinson@towson.edu

Students already enrolled in a master’s degree program, other than Women’s and Gender Studies, or those who wish to enhance their skills and understanding of specialized arena in Women’s and Gender Studies may elect to pursue the Certificate in Women’s and Gender Studies.

Advising
The graduate program director acts as the certificate student’s adviser during the first term of matriculation when a program of study is planned and drafted. The student is transferred to a different adviser after the first term of enrollment.

Application of Units Earned in the WMST Certificate Program
Units earned for the Graduate Certificate Program with a grade of “B” or better may be applied to the master’s degree in Women’s and Gender Studies. The certificate student must complete formal application to the WMST M.S. degree for admission.

Admission Requirements
• A bachelor’s degree from a regionally accredited college or university** (as certified by an official transcript) with a minimum GPA of 3.00, and 2.75 for conditional admission. GPA calculations for admission are based upon the last 60 units of undergraduate and post-baccalaureate study.
• Nine units earned at the baccalaureate level in Women’s and Gender Studies and/or the Social Sciences (Anthropology, Sociology, Geography, Political Science, Psychology, Economics or a social science-based interdisciplinary course). Three (3) of these nine (9) units must include one course in Women’s and Gender Studies. Students with no prior course work in Women’s and Gender Studies must enroll in either WMST 231, which is an introduction to Women’s and Gender Studies, or WMST 337, a course on feminist theory. Given these two courses (WMST 231 and WMST 337) are undergraduate-level courses, students will not receive graduate credit for completion of this requirement. An applicant who has not taken an undergraduate course in Women’s and Gender Studies but who has relevant applied experience including, but not limited to, work in a women’s center, work for a women’s organization, or work on a project focusing specifically on women’s and gender issues, may be exempted from the requirement.
• A detailed essay of four-five, double-spaced pages emphasizing the applicant’s specific plans for focused graduate study.
• Two letters of recommendation, at least one from a college/university instructor from whom applicant has learned from in a course setting, accompanied by a completed Graduate Program Recommendation Form.

• In addition, certificate applicants who are currently enrolled in a master’s degree program at Towson University or elsewhere shall submit a transcript of their progress in that master’s program as evidence of good standing.

Apply online (http://www.towson.edu/academics/graduate/admissions/apply) through Graduate Admissions.

Non-immigrant international students: See additional admission information in Graduate Admissions (https://www.towson.edu/academics/graduate/admissions/apply/international.html)

**See Exceptions to Policy in Graduate Admissions (http://www.towson.edu/academics/graduate/admissions/apply/policies.html)

Certificate Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WMST 603</td>
<td>THE DIVERSITY OF WOMEN</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WMST 607</td>
<td>ADVANCED FEMINIST THEORY</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Electives
Select nine units in graduate-level, WMST-designated courses selected with the approval of the student’s adviser ¹

Total Units 15

¹ Limit of one 500-level WMST course to be included in the certificate program.

WMST 620 nor any WMST 700 or 800 course may be included in the certificate program.

1. Students can understand and can evaluate/critique feminist arguments and theories as demonstrated in a term paper that is clearly and knowledgeably written.
2. Students can demonstrate ability to identify and evaluate prevailing normative assumptions that underlie social practices and policies that hinder women's agency.

Courses
WMST 532 WOMEN’S CULTURE AND CREATIVITY (3)
Study of the historical conditions influencing women’s creativity, the nature of women’s aesthetic achievements, and the emergence of new female cultural and artistic traditions. Prerequisite: WMST 231 or WMST 232 or consent of instructor.

WMST 533 WOMEN AND AGING (3)
American society’s view of older women and the impact of stereotypes and images on their self-concepts. Prerequisite: 3 credits in women’s studies or social sciences.

WMST 535 WOMEN, WORK AND FAMILY (3)
Women’s work examined historically and cross-culturally from an interdisciplinary perspective. Women’s work in traditional societies, effects of industrialization on women’s work, and women’s paid and unpaid work in contemporary societies. Prerequisite: 3 lower division credits in women’s studies or consent of instructor.
WMST 536 WOMEN AND MEDICINE (3)
How gender has influenced the structure, content, and practice of medicine in the 19th and 20th centuries, with emphasis on disease theory and treatment, physicians’ involvement in social policy, and women’s challenges to medical authority. Special focus on the history of nursing, women’s entry into medical practice, and women’s health movements past and present. Prerequisite: 3 credits in women’s studies or social sciences.

WMST 538 WOMEN AND SEXUALITY (3)
Examination of the politics of sexuality: the interaction between cultural definitions and evaluations of women’s sexualities and women’s social and legal states; and women’s attempts to achieve sexual autonomy. Emphasis on how the meaning of sexuality changes over time and how women respond to these changes, and their effect on women. Prerequisite: 3 credits in women’s studies or social sciences.

WMST 539 REPRODUCTIVE TECHNOLOGIES AND THE FUTURE OF MOTHERHOOD (3)
Reproductive science and contraceptive technologies affecting contemporary society, focusing on ethical and legal issues and changing definitions of motherhood. Prerequisites: two science courses or one math and one science course. GenEd II.A.2.

WMST 540 WOMAN AS A CITIZEN (3)
Role of gender in defining citizenship; critical analysis of the principles of citizenship promulgated by leading contributors to Western political thought. Prerequisites: none.

WMST 545 WOMEN, ENVIRONMENT AND HEALTH (3)
Relationships between economic development, health and the environment from a global perspective with a focus on women’s roles in environmental management; how women’s activism effects social and public policy agendas. Prerequisites: none.

WMST 550 B-MORE: BALTIMORE AND URBAN COMMUNITIES (3)
Analyzes significant political, economic, and cultural issues facing Baltimore and other urban communities including poverty, discrimination, economic development, and the criminal justice system; special attention to gender, race, class, and youth activism.

WMST 570 TOPICS IN WOMEN'S STUDIES (3)
An interdisciplinary examination of selected issues, themes, or topics in women's studies. Variation in content in different semesters. May be repeated for a maximum of 6 units when a different topic is covered. Prerequisite: one women’s studies course or consent of instructor.

WMST 581 THE EROTIC IMAGINATION IN CHRISTIANITY AND HINDUISM (3)
Explores use of sexual imagery to understand the human-divine relationship in Christianity and Hinduism. Critical analysis of the ways that erotic religious traditions both re-inscribe and destabilize cultural norms of gender and sexuality. Prerequisite: WMST 231 or RLST 105 or by consent of instructor.

WMST 591 DIRECTED READING IN WOMEN'S STUDIES (1-4)
Independent reading in women’s studies with emphasis on interdisciplinary relationships. Topics selected by student in consultation with instructor. May be repeated for a maximum of 6 credits when a different topic is covered. Prerequisites: 15 hours in interdisciplinary or departmental women’s studies courses; minimum 3.00 GPA average in women’s studies; department consent.

WMST 601 WOMEN AND GENDER IN THE WORKPLACE (3)
Examination of the organization of work and the role of gender in the division of labor, power and authority, income and other rewards, in diverse work settings. Prerequisite: graduate standing.

WMST 603 THE DIVERSITY OF WOMEN (3)
Examination of feminist scholarship on race, class and sexualities, particularly with regard to the distribution of power within a variety of institutions. A required course for the WMST Master’s Program. Non-WMST Graduate students are asked to join the wait list and will be accepted into the class as space permits. Prerequisite: graduate standing.

WMST 604 Women and NFP Leadership; Governance and Advocacy (3)
Role of governance and advocacy in the not-for-profit organization with attention to women’s roles and issues; topics include strategic planning, board governance and community power-building. Prerequisite: Graduate Standing.

WMST 605 WOMEN IN AN INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT (3)
Examination of the diverse experiences of women in a variety of national and international contexts. Particular attention will be devoted to how global forces impact women’s lives today and the diverse ways that women struggle against inequality. Prerequisite: graduate standing.

WMST 607 ADVANCED FEMINIST THEORY (3)
Major feminist theories on women's experience, emphasizing the areas in the graduate concentrations: workplace, health, public policy and international. A required course for the WMST Master’s Program. Non-WMST Graduate students are asked to join the wait list and will be accepted into the class as space permits. Prerequisite: graduate standing.

WMST 609 APPLIED RESEARCH METHODS AND SKILLS I (3)
How to interpret, evaluate, and conduct research about women and gender issues in organizations and society, using the computer, the Internet, and statistical software for accessing and producing information. Prerequisites: graduate standing and adequate computer skills.

WMST 611 WOMEN, PUBLIC POLICY AND SOCIAL CHANGE (3)
How public policy affects the experiences of women and men, and groups to which they belong. Includes study of components of public policy-making, case studies of gender-related public policy, and methods of instituting change. A required course for the WMST Master’s Program. Non-WMST Graduate students are asked to join the wait list and will be accepted into the class as space permits. Prerequisite: graduate standing.

WMST 613 WOMEN AND HEALTH (3)
An interdisciplinary study of women’s health from a holistic perspective that builds on socioeconomic, political and biological aspects of women’s health. Prerequisite: graduate standing.

WMST 620 FIELD EXPERIENCE (3)
Non-culminating field placement for students in organizations or agencies (including governmental) working on projects that serve women. Course includes a proposal, regular meetings with adviser a journal and a final written report of the project. May be repeated once for a maximum of 6 credits by student not electing the WMST 796 Internship option; site of placement may not be repeated. Prerequisites: Completion of a minimum of 9 credits toward a master’s in WMST and approval of the student’s adviser and graduate program director.

WMST 670 SPECIAL TOPICS IN WOMENS STUDIES (3)
Topics pertaining to WMST graduate concentrations. May be repeated two times for a total of 9 credits maximum.

WMST 673 SPECIAL TOPICS IN WOMENS STUDIES (3)
Topics pertaining to WMST graduate concentrations. May be repeated two times for a total of 9 credits maximum.
WMST 695 INDEPENDENT STUDY (3)
Study and research including writing a research paper on a selected topic in women's studies. May be repeated with a different topic for a maximum of 6 units. Prerequisites: 15 undergraduate or 9 graduate units in women's studies; graduate standing and consent of women's studies prior to registration.

WMST 796 INTERNSHIP (3)
Intensive hands-on experience in approved organization related to student's concentration. Written report required upon completion. Must be taken in two separate semesters for a total of 6 credits. Prerequisite: Minimum of 9 credits completed in graduate program in Women's Studies and consent of student's graduate adviser.

WMST 897 WOMEN'S STUDIES THESIS (6)
Original research on a topic related to the student's concentration using acceptable research methods and design. May be based in extensive library, survey or field research. A thesis prospectus detailing the nature and scope of the investigation and the methods to be employed must be submitted and approved in advance to the student's adviser and the graduate director. Students will be required to do an oral presentation of their thesis in a meeting with their graduate adviser and one other WMST faculty. Must be taken in two separate semesters for a total of 6 credits. Prerequisites: Completion of a minimum of 21 credits toward the M.S. in WMST and completion of WMST 609.

WMST 898 WOMEN'S STUDIES THESIS (3)
The previous course, WMST 897, taken over two consecutive semesters.

WMST 899 THESIS CONTINUUM (1)
Continuation of thesis beyond the 6 units.