

# WOMEN'S STUDIES AND GENDER STUDIES

LUC.EDU/CAS

Loyola University Chicago's College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) offers undergraduates a comprehensive liberal arts education that introduces them to various disciplines and viewpoints in the natural sciences, social sciences, and humanities. CAS students develop valuable career and life skills, including critical thinking, strong verbal and writing abilities, comprehensive general knowledge, social awareness, and research competencies. As the largest of Loyola's 10 schools, CAS has extensive resources, providing students with modern labs and electronic classrooms, opportunities to participate actively in research, and a distinguished faculty of teacher-scholars.

Recent growth and renovation at both Loyola's Lake Shore and Water Tower Campuses have enhanced living and learning for students. Recent additions to the Lake Shore Campus include the Norville Center for Intercollegiate Athletics, a state-of-the-art facility that includes a new strength and conditioning center, a sports medicine facility, student athlete activity spaces, and offices for athletics administrators. Future enhancements include a new student union and academic building, among others.

For more information about what's new at Loyola, visit [» LUC.edu/undergrad/whatsnew](https://luc.edu/undergrad/whatsnew).



*Founded in 1979, Loyola's Women's Studies program is the first of its kind at a Jesuit institution and has served as a model for women's studies programs at other Jesuit and Catholic universities.*

## THE PROGRAM

**BA in Women's Studies and Gender Studies (as a second major)**

Founded in 1979, Loyola's Women's Studies and Gender Studies (WSGS) program was the first women's studies program at a Jesuit institution and since then has served as a model for women's studies programs at other Jesuit and Catholic universities. Our mission is to introduce students to feminist scholarship and gender theory across the disciplines and the professional schools; to provide innovative, challenging, and thoughtful approaches to learning; and to promote social justice.

The WSGS program offers an undergraduate major and minor within the College of Arts and Sciences, a second major, a graduate concentration, and a master's degree. Students may choose from more than 20 class sections each semester, which include introductory courses and courses cross-listed with other departments. More than 500 students take these courses each semester, and about 60–90 students participate in the program as majors or minors.

The program is interdisciplinary and includes courses in the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences, as well as business, law, and social work. WSGS faculty seek to integrate knowledge about women, gender, and sexuality into the theories and practices of various disciplines and professions.

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## THE PROGRAM [CONTINUED]

Graduates pursue careers in fields such as education, business, health and human services, law and government, and environmental and nonprofit organizations. Graduates commonly finish the program having gained deeper self-awareness and confidence; critical thinking skills; an awareness of the intersections between gender, race, class, and sexuality; and a profound understanding of the operations of power in modern societies.

Students with a WSGS degree are prepared for advanced degrees in a number of fields, including counseling, education, history, literature, social work, sociology, and public administration, as well as women's studies/gender studies.

The WSGS program sponsors the Feminist Forum, an undergraduate activist organization, and collaborates with a number of other student groups on campus. The program also sponsors and co-sponsors guest lectures, special events, and outreach programs for the community. Past speakers have included Gloria Steinem, founding editor of *Ms.* magazine; Julie Dash, director of *Daughters of the Dust*; Barbara Ehrenreich, journalist and author of *Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By in America*; Shirin Ebadi, winner of the 2003 Nobel Peace Prize; Lisa Ling, correspondent for the National Geographic Channel; and Sheryl WuDunn, author of *Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide*.

### Minor In Women's Studies and Gender Studies

The WSGS minor consists of five courses (15 credit hours).

The one required course is Women's Studies and Gender Studies (WSGS) 201: Issues in Feminism, which carries core credit in the department of the course instructor. The other four courses are electives from courses cross-listed with the WSGS program.

### Major In Women's Studies and Gender Studies (BA)

The revised WSGS BA program was offered for the first time in the 2010 – 2011 academic year. Students take a total of 36 credit hours, including:

- WSGS 101** Introduction to Women's Studies & Gender Studies  
**WSGS 201** Contemporary Issues in WSGS

Information in this brochure is correct as of July 2011.

For the most up-to-date information, visit [LUC.edu/undergrad/academics](http://LUC.edu/undergrad/academics)

Loyola is an equal opportunity educator/employer.

- WSGS 330** History of Feminist Thought  
**WSGS 391** Methodologies in WSGS  
**WSGS 398** WSGS Internship (or cross-listed service-learning course)  
**WSGS 399** WSGS Capstone
- One course in theory  
 Five elective courses from WSGS and cross-listed offerings

### Core Curriculum

Loyola's Core Curriculum focuses on desired outcomes in addition to academic disciplines. This varied curriculum instills important skills which prepare students for success regardless of desired career paths. These skills include communications, critical thinking, ethical awareness, information literacy, quantitative and qualitative analysis, research methods, and technological literacy. Students develop these skills by completing Loyola's 10 required areas of knowledge through coursework, which includes college writing seminar(s), artistic knowledge and experience, historical knowledge, literary knowledge, quantitative analysis, scientific literacy, societal and cultural knowledge, philosophical knowledge, theological and religious studies, and ethics. Loyola's Core integrates values across the curriculum through 12 credit hours completed in the Core, major, or electives. These values focus on understanding and promoting justice, understanding diversity in the U.S. and the world, understanding spirituality or faith in action in the world, and promoting civic engagement or leadership. This 45-credit hour curriculum makes up about one-third of a student's coursework, is complemented by a major and electives, and may be completed at any time during the Loyola academic experience.

For more information, please visit [LUC.edu/core](http://LUC.edu/core).

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