

## **COURSES**

Most of our courses are available for an Honors Contract; please contact your instructor directly for more information. Obtaining Honors credit for general coursework can include writing an essay or research paper, completing a project with a local community service agency, or developing a creative project related to your coursework. Our program provides great flexibility and creativity in allowing students to create and choose their own unique projects. You and your instructor can discuss options of interest to you both personally and professionally. This is your chance to set yourself apart from future job or graduate school applicants!

Course offerings for Honors students include:

WST 100 Women, Gender, and Society  
WST 300 Women and Gender in Contemporary Society  
WST 313 Women and Sexuality  
WST 340 Gender Science and Technology  
WST 345 Gender, Religion and Global Violence  
WST 360 Women as Healers  
WST 371 Sex and the City  
WST 373 Latina/Chicana Issues  
WST 375 Women and Social Change  
WST 376 Desperate Housewives  
WST 377 History of American Feminist Thought  
WST 378 Global Feminist Theory  
WST 380 Race, Gender, and Class  
WST 394 Women and International Health  
WST 394 Women, Work and Poverty  
WST 394 Queer Studies  
WST 394 Gender, Drugs and Alcohol  
WST 394: Troubling Masculinities  
WST 394 Gender, Food and Society  
WST 420 Women of Color in Film  
WST 421 Girlhood and Adolescence  
WST 431 Women, Film, and Culture  
WST 440 Politics of Women's Health  
WST 447 Gender, Culture and Development  
WST 460 Women and the Body  
WST 470 Women and Popular Culture  
WST 477 Women and Violence  
WST 484 Internship  
WST 498 Pro-Seminar

## **HONORS THESES IN WOMEN AND GENDER STUDIES**

Students are able to register for both WST 492 (Honors Research) and WST 493 (Honors Writing). You do not need to be a major to register for our honors courses. However, students should have coursework during your undergraduate experience that pertains to women and gender studies. This is an exciting opportunity for students to apply the theories they have learned about gender to their own original research here at ASU. Any faculty member in the program is eligible to be your thesis director and/or committee member. We highly encourage students to take in-person courses with our faculty to develop relationships that would be useful in the honors thesis stage. If you are registered for online courses, we also suggest meeting with your faculty during their office hours to get to know them in person.

The Women and Gender Studies Program offers support for advanced students to help pursue empirically-based Honors Theses in Women and Gender Studies. Students in the Honors Program do theses on a wide range of topics, using a range of methodologies, and the projects evolve from a blend of student interest and faculty expertise. To learn more about the sorts of projects involved in a Women and Gender Studies Thesis, you can speak with faculty about past project descriptions. Faculty are well-prepared to advise you on creating a methodologically sound, rigorous, and unique project for your Honors Thesis. Honors students in Women and Gender Studies have a particular advantage over honors students in other fields, because we already require that all of our majors complete either a professional seminar or internship as their senior capstone.

Prior to enrolling in thesis credit (492 or 493) all students must complete a thesis/creative project information session. Honors students in Women and Gender Studies committee structure is as follows: the minimum number of committee members will be two (rather than three), a director and second committee member, and only the director MUST be an ASU lecturer or tenure-line faculty member. Please contact Barrett Honors Advisors with any concerns or questions

### **RESEARCH**

Women and Gender Studies is an Interdisciplinary Program, providing faculty expertise from a variety of humanities and social science disciplines, including history, sociology, theatre studies, science and technology studies, and anthropology. We encourage our honors students (and all our majors) to get involved in existing faculty research programs. If you wish to design your own research project, you will be supported by faculty who can advise you on appropriate methods, theoretical frameworks, and research grants available to undergraduates.

### **HONORS DISCIPLINARY FACULTY ADVISOR**

The Honors Disciplinary Faculty Advisor is Heather Switzer. Please contact her to make an appointment to discuss any questions or concerns you might have about the Honors Program in Women and Gender Studies.

#### **Sujey Vega, PhD**

Assistant Professor of Women's Studies  
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Office Phone: (480)727-6173

### **UNDERGRADUATE ACADEMIC ADVISOR & INTERNSHIP COORDINATOR**

It's easy to combine our curriculum with internships, other majors, minors and fields of study. Visit or contact our adviser, Michelle McGibbney-Vlahoulis, for further information.

#### **Michelle McGibbney Vlahoulis**

Undergraduate Program Academic Advisor and Lecturer in Women and Gender Studies  
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### **CURRENT WOMEN AND GENDER STUDIES FACULTY**

As an Honors student in the Women and Gender Studies Program, you will develop relationships with faculty and graduate students with a variety of backgrounds and interests. A brief synopsis of faculty interests is provided below, and additional information, including publications, awards, current research projects, etc. are available on our website: <https://sst.clas.asu.edu/people/school-social-transformation-faculties-and-leadership-team>

**Dr. Lisa M. Anderson** ([lmanderson@asu.edu](mailto:lmanderson@asu.edu))

Associate Professor of Women and Gender Studies & Theatre and Faculty Head of Women and Gender Studies  
Areas of specialization and research interests: contemporary black feminist theatre and drama, the performance of gender, and race and gender in popular culture, African American theatre and theatre semiotics, black feminist aesthetics in contemporary drama, race and civil war films, and butch/femme embodiment in the US and México.

**Dr. Marlon Bailey**

Associate Professor of Women and Gender Studies

Areas of specialization and research interests: African Diaspora studies, queer diasporas, race, gender, and sexuality, queer theory, Black queer studies, theatre/performance studies, ethnography, and HIV/AIDS (cultural politics, research, and prevention of HIV/AIDS in Black communities).

**Dr. Alesha Durfee** ([alesha.durfee@asu.edu](mailto:alesha.durfee@asu.edu))

Associate Professor of Women and Gender Studies

Areas of specialization and research interests: structural inequalities, impacts of social policies, domestic violence and the justice system, child care utilization and policy, and welfare reform.

**Dr. Mary Margaret Fonow** ([marymargaret.fonow@asu.edu](mailto:marymargaret.fonow@asu.edu))

Professor of Women and Gender Studies, Director, School of Social Transformation

Areas of specialization and research interests: women and work in the global economy, law, policy and social movements, feminist methodology, transnational labor rights advocacy.

**Dr. Yasmina Katsulis** ([yasmina.katsulis@asu.edu](mailto:yasmina.katsulis@asu.edu))

Associate Professor of Women and Gender Studies

Areas of specialization and research interests: medical anthropology, applied anthropology, ethnographic methods, social and biological determinants of health at the local, national, and global levels, U.S. – Mexico border, HIV/AIDS prevention and risk, sexual health policies, prostitution, sex tourism, child welfare system, foster care, group homes.

**Dr. Sally Kitch** ([sally.kitch@asu.edu](mailto:sally.kitch@asu.edu))

Professor of Women and Gender Studies, Founding Director of the Institute for Humanities Research

Areas of specialization and research interests: feminist theory and epistemology, theories of transdisciplinarity, racial ideology, gender ideology in U.S. narrative history, gender representation in visual and narrative culture, and the material effects of such representation on the lived realities of diverse women's lives, Afghan Women's Leadership.

**Dr. Ann Hibner Koblitz** ([koblitz@asu.edu](mailto:koblitz@asu.edu))

Professor of Women and Gender Studies

Areas of specialization and research interests: Russian women in science, gender and science theory, and comparative aspects of women in science, technology and medicine, women in science, technology and medicine in Asia, Africa and Latin America.

**Dr. Karen J. Leong** ([karen.leong@asu.edu](mailto:karen.leong@asu.edu))

Associate Professor of Women and Gender Studies

Areas of specialization and research interests: discourses of gender, race, class, and nation, cultural and social history with an emphasis on women's experiences, the development and shifting of gender ideologies, racial identity formation, immigration policy and the formation of national identities, oral history projects.

**Dr. Heather Switzer** ([heather.switzer@asu.edu](mailto:heather.switzer@asu.edu))

Assistant Professor of Women and Gender Studies

Areas of specialization and research interests: gender and international development, feminist theories of development, girlhood studies with an emphasis on African contexts, development issues in Sub-Saharan Africa, critical globalization, human security studies, African gender and feminist theory, ethnographic methods, and narrative analysis.

**Dr. Sujey Vega** ([sujey.vega@asu.edu](mailto:sujey.vega@asu.edu))

Assistant Professor of Women and Gender Studies & Transborder Studies

Areas of specialization and research interests: Gender and the Immigrant Experience, Ethnography Chicana/Latina Lives, Latina/o Communities, Discourse, Space/Place, Transnationalism, Comparative Ethnic Studies, Religion, and Mormon Studies

**Dr. Rose Weitz** ([rose.weitz@asu.edu](mailto:rose.weitz@asu.edu))

Professor of Women and Gender Studies & Sociology

Areas of specialization and research interests: women, health, and the body, power, stigma, identity, health or illness, health care, medical sociology.

**Michelle McGibbney Vlahoulis** ([michelle.mcgibbney@asu.edu](mailto:michelle.mcgibbney@asu.edu))

Lecturer in Women and Gender Studies

Areas of specialization and research interests: feminist film criticism, women and popular culture, body image and social change.

**Dr. Kimberly Scott** ([kimberly.scott@asu.edu](mailto:kimberly.scott@asu.edu))

Associate Professor of Women and Gender Studies

Areas of Specialization: girls, science and technology, digital equity, intersectionality, and culturally responsive computing. Dr. Scott is the Executive Director of COMPUGIRLS, a culturally relevant technology program for adolescent girls (grades 8-12) from under-resourced school districts in the Greater Phoenix area.

### **WOMEN AND GENDER STUDIES PROGRAM: GENERAL INFORMATION**

Women and Gender Studies provides an interdisciplinary and global perspective on gender and serves as a vehicle for a critical exploration of roles and statuses of women and men, both past and present. The program examines cultural assumptions about women and men, the validity of research on gender, and the effects of political, economic and social systems on gender relations. Women and Gender Studies students participate in original research and writing and engage with the community in a variety of creative endeavors and social change activities. The curriculum prepares students for varied careers in business, community organizing, human relations, politics, counseling and teaching, as well as for admission to graduate and professional schools. We currently offer a B.A., minor and certificate program for our undergraduate students.

The Women and Gender Studies Program at Arizona State University has a number of activities that are designed to encourage and support students in the Barrett Honors College, and other outstanding students, to get the most of their interest in Women and Gender Studies at Arizona State University. Unlike any other liberal arts major, where you may rarely study about women and where you may have only one or two classes that consider diversity, with a major in Women and Gender Studies, you have completed a balanced program of study that takes into consideration issues of gender, race, and class as integral parts of your education. Forward-thinking employers more and more will be looking for employees with this broad perspective.

Our program is one of the largest, most vibrant Women and Gender Studies programs in the country, teaching more than 3000 students each year on topics including gender, health, sexuality, science and technology, work, globalization, ecology, social policy, violence prevention, media, film, performance and the arts. Our students participate in leadership activities and explore career interests through internships in the community. The faculty

## *WGS Honors Information 2015/2016*

in Women and Gender Studies value cultural diversity and global engagement, and we work hard to ensure that our program reflects these core values.

We believe knowledge about women and gender leads to action, and the proof is in the leadership that our Alumni provide to the region and the nation. Our graduates have found successful careers in law, education, business, government, and in the nonprofit sector serving the needs of their communities. Many have gone on to pursue their graduate studies at such prestigious universities as UCLA, the University of Texas, Smith, and Stony Brook.

We conceive of the classroom as a knowledge-building community where students can engage with real-life issues. Such communities help students to develop tools for life-long learning. Our goal is to create an interactive learning environment that values diversity and multiple perspectives.

Our students are able to attend faculty and graduate student brown-bags in a seminar setting, as well as large public lectures, including our annual Feldt/Barbanell Women of the World Lecture Series, which brings to ASU prominent individuals to address issues of a global nature and their effects on women. They also have access to a number of competitive scholarship opportunities, including the Uta Behrens Book Scholarships (awarded during Spring Semester for the following academic year), the Uta Behrens First Generation Scholarship in Women's Studies, the Dean's Circle Scholarship (awarded during Spring Semester for the following academic year), Essay Contests (occasional/will be announced), Annual Honors Awards for Outstanding Seniors, and the Jenny Norton Research Scholarship for GLBT issues. Women and Gender Studies students are some of the most politically and socially active students on campus; recent activities have included the Body Image Rally, the Domestic Violence Awareness Rally, and our annual Women's Leadership Conference. They have also established an Alumni Associate specifically for Women and Gender Studies graduates.

**For more information please come and visit us on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor of Wilson Hall or the main office of the School of Social Transformation located in Wilson 125 and our phone number is (480)-965-7682.**