Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies introduces students to the processes by which gender and sexuality are socially constructed in different historical, geographical, and cultural contexts, with particular attention to the intersection of gender and sexuality with other categories of difference such as race, class, ability, religion, and national origin. WGSS majors gain a broad understanding of feminist and queer thinking and activism. They learn to use interdisciplinary methodologies for feminist and queer research and pursue a deeper understanding of the issues that interest them through the development of an area of concentration and a senior capstone project. WGSS also offers three minors (women's studies, queer studies, and women's leadership and social change) that complement any major.

The WGSS major and minors emphasize the development of skills in critical and creative thinking, interdisciplinary research, and written and verbal communication. In addition to engaging with feminist and queer histories, cultural production, and political movements, students learn to apply an analysis of gender and sexuality to a broad range of topics. Our students pursue careers and graduate study in diverse fields like education, social work, medicine, law, community activism, religious studies, literature, and the arts. The flexibility offered by the WGSS major enables students to tailor their education to their own interests and goals while providing them with a strong foundation in feminist and queer approaches to knowing and shaping the world.

Program Goals

• Students will understand how gender and sexuality are constructed in relation to one another and to other social structures.
• Students will understand the role of gender and sexuality in cultures and histories.
• Students will learn to think critically.

Majors & Minors

Major

Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies Major—BA (https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/womens-gender-sexuality-studies/womens-gender-sexuality-studies-ba)

Minor

Queer Studies Minor (https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/queer-studies/queer-studies-minor)
