

# Women and Gender Studies

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## Department Information

- **Program Director:**  
Ashley Baggett, Ph.D.
- **Department Web Site:**  
[www.ndsu.edu/wgs/graduate\\_certificate\\_in\\_women\\_and\\_gender\\_studies/](http://www.ndsu.edu/wgs/graduate_certificate_in_women_and_gender_studies/) ([http://www.ndsu.edu/wgs/graduate\\_certificate\\_in\\_women\\_and\\_gender\\_studies/](http://www.ndsu.edu/wgs/graduate_certificate_in_women_and_gender_studies/))
- **Application Deadline:**  
Rolling admission

The North Dakota State University (NDSU) Women and Gender Studies (WGS) program is an interdisciplinary academic program that focuses on women and gender issues in society, while integrating the teaching, research, and service goals of our land grant university. The program offers a graduate certificate in Women and Gender Studies that is open to students enrolled in graduate degree programs at NDSU as well as professionals who are not currently pursuing a masters or doctorate.

To begin your certificate studies in the WGS program, contact the Director, Dr. Ashley Baggett, at [ashley.baggett@ndsu.edu](mailto:ashley.baggett@ndsu.edu).

## Career Opportunities ([https://www.ndsu.edu/wgs/undergraduate\\_major\\_and\\_minor/major\\_and\\_minor/](https://www.ndsu.edu/wgs/undergraduate_major_and_minor/major_and_minor/))

Graduate students completing the Women and Gender Studies certificate enrich the study of their discipline by receiving additional instruction in the way in which gender and sexuality functions. The perspectives and application of feminist theory deepens research in their respective field.

Increasingly, employers seek candidates who understand and support diversity and inclusiveness, which is a foundational principle in the Women and Gender Studies program. The Women and Gender Studies certificate provides the valuable expertise to advance professionals in the workplace. Educators can gain graduate credit hours necessary to increase their salary. Doctoral scholars improve their marketability by demonstrating versatility in their research and are eligible to seek positions with dual appointments in their home field and in Women and Gender Studies.

## The Curriculum ([https://www.ndsu.edu/wgs/graduate\\_certificate\\_in\\_women\\_and\\_gender\\_studies/](https://www.ndsu.edu/wgs/graduate_certificate_in_women_and_gender_studies/))

Women and Gender Studies certificate students complete 5 credit hours in core courses. These include WGS 793: Professional Development, WGS 797S: Research, and WGS 793: Community Outreach. The Professional Development credit hour is an independent study for engagement with the field through activities such as conference presentations or event organizing. The Research credit hour is for the development of an original research paper on a gender-related topic. Lastly, the Community Outreach independent study is the capstone. As a field committed to fostering justice for all, students complete a capstone that places feminist theory into practice.

In addition to the core courses, Women and Gender Studies certificate students explore issues of gender and sexuality through completion of 9 elective credits. These are tailored towards their individual field and include Education, Sociology, Public Health, History, and others.

To be admitted to the WGS Certificate Program, the applicant must be a current degree-seeking student in a graduate program at an educational institution of recognized standing, with a 3.0 GPA or higher. Submit a short statement of purpose (no more than two double-spaced pages) indicating 1) reasons for pursuing a graduate certificate in WGS, 2) the experiences you've had (e.g., informal, academic, professional, volunteer) that are related to this graduate certificate, and 3) your professional goals and how this graduate certificate program will help you accomplish those goals.

To apply, please go to the Admission Information page. Decisions will be made on an ongoing, rolling basis.

Course requirements for the graduate certificate in WGS will build upon existing graduate curriculum, most of which are accessible to all disciplines. This program requires 9 credit hours of coursework (may be combined with coursework for your primary degree program); 1 credit hour of professional development; a research component worth 1 credit hour; and a community project or grant application worth 3 credit hours, for a total of 14 credit hours.

Current List of Graduate Courses that are suggested by WGS (list is not all-inclusive, and some programs are restricted to their enrolled students):

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Required Courses</b>		
WGS 795: Practicum/Professional Development		1
WGS 796: Special Topics/Research		1
WGS 797S: Comprehensive Project/Capstone		3
<b>Graded Coursework</b>		

Social/Cultural Development - Select one class from the following:		3
EDUC 712	Social, Cultural and Political Dimensions of Schools	
ENGL 656	Literacy, Culture and Identity	
HDFS 813	Social and Emotional Development Across the Lifespan	
SOC 610	Social Inequality	
SOC 612	Sociology of Gender	
Tools for Making Change - Select one class from the following:		3
EDUC 730	Leadership, Planning and Organizational Behavior	
EDUC 808	Empowerment & Transformative Education	
PH 704	Public Health Management and Policy	
SOC 624	Feminist Theory and Discourse	
MGMT 630	Leadership in Organization	
Open Elective - Select one from the following:		3
CJ 665	Gender, Race and Ethnicity in Criminal Justice	
ENGL 654	Language Bias	
HIST 626	Women in American History	
HDFS 714	Contemporary Youth Issues	
SOC 617	Sociology Of The Family	

**Total Credits****14****Ashley Baggett, Ph.D.**

Associate Professor and Director of WGS  
Louisiana State University, 2014

Research Interests: Women's History/Gender Studies, 19th Century U.S., Southern History

**Alison Bertolini, Ph.D.**

Associate Professor, English and Women and Gender Studies  
Louisiana State University, 2009

Research Interests: Contemporary American Literature, Gender Studies, Ethnic Literature, Postcolonial Literature, Women's Studies

**Dena Wyum, M.S.**

Lecturer, Human Development and Family Science  
North Dakota State University, 2008

**Allied Faculty****Kelly Cameron, Ph.D.**

Senior Lecturer, English  
Texas Christian University, 2012

Research Interests: Feminist Approaches to Rhetoric and Cultural Rhetorics

**Kristen Fellows, Ph.D.**

Assistant Professor, Sociology and Anthropology  
University of Pennsylvania, 2013

Research Interests: Feminist Archaeology and Anthropology, Ethnohistory and Oral Histories

**Holly Hassel, Ph.D.**

Professor, English  
University of Nebraska, 2002

Research Interests: Feminist Pedagogy

**Christi McGeorge, Ph.D.**

Professor, Human Development and Family Science  
University of Minnesota, 2005

Research Interests: Influence of Heterosexism and Homophobia on Clinical Practice and Training, Gender Equity in Therapy, Gender Equity in Higher Education

**Carrie Anne Platt, Ph.D.**

Associate Professor, Communication  
University of Southern California, 2008

Research interests: Rhetorical Approaches to Emerging Technologies and Identity in Public Culture As Well as Digital Media and Communication Pedagogy

**Christina Weber, Ph.D.**

Associate Professor, Sociology and Anthropology  
State University of New York (Buffalo), 2005

Research Interests: The Sociology of Memory and Trauma, Photography's Impact of the Historical Understanding of the Great Depression, Women and the Dust Bowl