Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at LSU

Introduction to the Program

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This brief presentation answers three questions:

- What is the academic focus of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at LSU?
- What are our graduates doing?
- How does our program work and what are our classes like?

What is Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies?

An interdisciplinary program

Tanya Rawal, PhD

- VP for Social Change at STAR.
- Research specialist on violence against women and on gender in political economy who publishes in Salon, openDemocracy, TWM

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Alumni: Where are they now?

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Racheal Hebert, LCSW

- Founder and CEO of STAR.
- Named "Baton Rouge's Most Influential Woman in Business" by BRBR 2020.

The Undergraduate Concentration

WGSS 2500
Introduction to WGSS
(ILC)
3 hrs

WGSS 2900
Gender, Race & Nation
(ILC)
3 hrs

WGSS 3150
Survey of Feminist
Theory
3 hrs

WGSS 4500 Seminar (take 2 x= 6 hrs) + 18 hours approved electives incl. one *cross-cultural* course (NB: flexibility for double majors!)



Course Spotlight #1 WGSS 2500: Introduction to Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

In-person enrollment limited to 40 students

Broad introduction to core concepts and questions that unite WGSS scholars:

- 1. How are sex and gender socially constructed?
- 2. How do social systems advantage or disadvantage individuals on the basis of gender, sexuality, race, class, and other social differences?

3.



Course Spotlight #2

WGSS 4500 Special Topics Seminar

- Enrollment limited to 15
- Recent offerings include:
- Masculinity, Violence and US Culture (Bryan McCann, Communication Studies)
- Black Fe & SAN SAN TENT STATE STATE OF STATE O

Final Thoughts

Authors Barbara F. Luebke and Mary Ellen Reilly in *Women's Studies Graduates: The First Generation* observed a unique common skillset among Women's Studies graduates:

- Empowerment and self-confidence
- Critical thinking
- Community-building

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