



**Twin Cities Campus**

**Feminist Studies Ph.D.**

*Gender, Women and Sexuality*

**College of Liberal Arts**

Link to a [list of faculty](#) for this program.

**Contact Information:**

Department of Gender, Women, and Sexuality Studies, 425 Ford Hall, 224 Church Street SE, Minneapolis, MN 55455 (612-624-6006)

Email: [gwss@umn.edu](mailto:gwss@umn.edu)

Website: <http://www.gwss.umn.edu>

- Program Type: Doctorate
- Requirements for this program are current for Fall 2019
- Length of program in credits: 56 to 58
- This program does not require summer semesters for timely completion.
- Degree: Doctor of Philosophy

Along with the program-specific requirements listed below, please read the [General Information](#) section of the catalog website for requirements that apply to all major fields.

The PhD program in feminist studies is designed to help students develop a high level of competence in feminist theories, research methods, interdisciplinarity, and pedagogies. The program is especially strong on feminist theory and issues related to women's diversity, nationally and globally. To guarantee a high level of interdisciplinary exchange, the program is designed to bring feminist studies doctoral students together with graduate minor students who are pursuing a disciplinary specialty in their own home department. The program's interdisciplinary curriculum emphasizes the interaction of social conditions such as class, ethnicity, race, sexualities, and national identity with gender. These interactions and their effects are examined in cultural productions such as media representations or colonialist paradigms in social systems and relations of power; in aspects of science such as genetics and new technologies; in epistemologies and philosophy; in professional areas such as health care to public policy; and in social, political, and environmental justice studies.

**Program Delivery**

This program is available:

- via classroom (the majority of instruction is face-to-face)

**Prerequisites for Admission**

The preferred undergraduate GPA for admittance to the program is 3.50.

A MA in gender, women, and/or sexuality studies or a related field will be considered important, but is not required.

Other requirements to be completed before admission:

Preference is given to students with academic training or an undergraduate degree in gender, women, and/or sexuality studies or a related field. Extensive political work in these areas will also be considered important but not required.

**Special Application Requirements:**

Applicants for the Ph.D. program must submit scores from the General (Aptitude) Test of the GRE, three letters of recommendation, a writing sample, a current curriculum vitae, and a clearly written statement of career interests, goals, and objectives by electronic application through the Graduate Office (Apply Yourself). Graduate study in the program begins in the fall semester following admission. The application deadline is December 1; all applications are evaluated once each year in December.

International applicants must submit score(s) from one of the following tests:

- TOEFL
  - Internet Based - Total Score: 79
  - Internet Based - Writing Score: 21
  - Internet Based - Reading Score: 19
  - Paper Based - Total Score: 550
- IELTS
  - Total Score: 6.5
- MELAB
  - Final score: 80

The preferred English language test is Test of English as Foreign Language



Key to [test abbreviations](#)(TOEFL, IELTS, MELAB).

For an online application or for more information about graduate education admissions, see the [General Information](#) section of the catalog website.

## Program Requirements

20 to 22 credits are required in the major.

12 credits are required outside the major.

24 thesis credits are required.

This program may not be completed with a minor.

Use of 4xxx courses towards program requirements is not permitted.

A minimum GPA of 3.50 is required for students to remain in good standing.

At least 4 semesters must be completed before filing a Degree Program Form.

The course and credit requirements for the PhD fall into roughly two categories: interdisciplinary courses satisfying core requirements, and courses constituting or enhancing a concentration.

Students are expected to participate in the department colloquium series of faculty, student, and guest lecturer presentations.

### Interdisciplinary Core and Required Courses

#### Required Core

[GWSS 8108](#) - Genealogies of Feminist Theory (3.0 cr)

[GWSS 8109](#) - Feminist Knowledge Production (3.0 cr)

[GWSS 8107](#) - Feminist Pedagogies (3.0 cr)

[GWSS 8997](#) - Dissertation Seminar (3.0 cr)

#### Colloquia Credits

Take 4 or more credit(s) from the following:

•[GWSS 8996](#) - Feminist Studies Colloquium (1.0 cr)

### GWSS Seminars

Take 6 or more credit(s) from the following:

•[GWSS 8210](#) - Seminar: Feminist Theory & Praxis (3.0 cr)

•[GWSS 8220](#) - Seminar: Science, Technology & Environmental Justice (3.0 cr)

•[GWSS 8230](#) - Seminar: Cultural Criticism and Media Studies (3.0 cr)

•[GWSS 8490](#) - Seminar: Transnational, Postcolonial, Diaspora (3.0 cr)

•[GWSS 8250](#) - Seminar: Nation, State, and Citizenship (1.0 - 3.0 cr)

•[GWSS 8260](#) - Seminar: Race, Representation and Resistance (3.0 cr)

•[GWSS 8270](#) - Seminar: Theories of Body (3.0 cr)

•[GWSS 8103](#) - Feminist Theories of Knowledge (3.0 cr)

•[GWSS 5104](#) - Transnational Feminist Theory (3.0 cr)

•[GWSS 5406](#) - Black Feminist Thought in the American and African Diasporas (3.0 cr)

### Research Methods & Tools

Take at least 6 Research Methods & Tools credits from the list below, or chosen in consultation with the director of graduate studies.

Up to 6 of these credits can be applied to the 12-credit requirement for outside coursework.

Take 0 - 6 credit(s) from the following:

•[GWSS 8201](#) - Feminist Theory and Methods in the Social Sciences (3.0 cr)

### Outside Coursework

Take at least 12 credits outside the major. Courses are chosen in consultation with the director of graduate studies.

### Thesis Credits

Take 24 or more credit(s) from the following:

•[GWSS 8888](#) - Thesis Credit: Doctoral (1.0 - 24.0 cr)