

Gender and Women's Studies

Why Gender & Women's Studies?

Gender and Women's Studies majors and minors gain awareness of their own abilities, a keen sense of justice, and a self-assurance that enables them to act reflectively. Gender and Women's Studies leads women to raise questions about equity and fairness and to develop the self-assurance that leads them to act constructively to improve community life. Because Gender and Women's Studies students have learned to see what is invisible to many others, they have unusually positive impacts on the societies in which they live.

If I focus on Gender and Women's Studies in college, what can I do *after* college?

Gender and Women's Studies majors and minors apply their knowledge and understanding in a diversity of fields. Many graduates work for justice within society in service-oriented fields; still others apply their knowledge in the corporate world.

What have Saint Mary's graduates done with their Gender and Women's Studies coursework?

- Urban Center for Children and the Family
- Director of Programming for at risk students at a public university
- Missionary Sister
- Teaching
- Social Services / Non-Profit Organizations
- Center for Social Concerns
- Poverty law service--intake person for women in trouble
- Legislative aide and assistant to judge
- National lobbying agencies
- Peace Corps
- Publishing Houses
- Executive Secretary of a major financial firm
- Founder of consulting firm that prepares for and facilitates meetings
- Computer research in an environmentally sensitive agency

Gender and Women's Studies majors and minors have also entered Graduate School in Law, Cultural Studies, Communication Studies, English, Sociology, French, Psychology, Theology, Social Work, Public Service, and Women's Studies.

Details:

The Gender & Women's Studies Major is 25–28 hours. Therefore, a student would need to complete 2-3 courses toward the major in the 4 semesters at SMC.

All GWS majors complete the following:

- GWS 207 Introduction to Gender and Women's Studies 3 hours (***Holy Cross Students are welcome to take this course prior to transfer***)
- GWS 350 Feminist Theory 3 hours
- GWS 360 Doing Feminism: Issues in Research and Practice 3 hours
- GWS 497 Independent Study: Capstone 1 hour

Students then choose 6 courses from an interdisciplinary selection of courses. Some of these courses will overlap with Sophia requirements as well.