Women's Studies (WOMS)

Courses numbered 100 to 299 = lower-division; 300 to 499 = introductory and advanced; 500 to 799 = undergraduate/graduate.

WOMS 150. Workshop  2 credit hours
Topics vary by semester. Past topics have included assertion training and rape information and prevention. Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 150A. Women and Compassion Fatigue  1 credit hour
High turnover rates in fields associated with caregiving are often associated with “burnout” or compassion fatigue. Course examines factors that contribute to compassion fatigue, how to recognize it, and the ways in which it may interfere with effectiveness, and strategies to combat it. Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 150C. Assertion Training for Women  1-3 credit hours
Workshop; teaches women to develop assertion skills. Considers some of the changing roles and values of women in society today and how these create a need for women to be assertive in their professional and personal choices. Examines barriers that exist to assertive behavior and ways to overcome them. Course includes diversity content. Graded Cr/NCr.

WOMS 150N. Introduction to Domestic Violence  1 credit hour
Introductory course examines historical, personal, social and legal perspectives of domestic violence and intimate partner violence. Explores cultural images and messages related to intimate relationships in the media, and analyzes how those messages influence beliefs about relationships. Looks at the consequences of domestic violence, how the community responds to it, and what resources exist to provide assistance. Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 150O. Sexual Assault Issues  1 credit hour
Introductory course explores cultural myths and stereotypes about rape, law enforcement and legal system issues pertaining to sexual assault and abuse; community resources providing help; and other related issues. These topics are explored through course readings, lecture, class discussion, films and guest discussions. Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 180. Special Topics  1-3 credit hours
Topics vary by semester. Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 180B. Violence Against Women in America  3 credit hours
Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 180D. Introduction to Women's Studies  3 credit hours
Students analyze the varieties of women's experience in contemporary American society, consider how gender relations may be changing, and investigate the historical social, political, economic, and cultural forces that shape lives relative to gender. Feminist thinking within and across academic disciplines frames the exploration of these topics. Students explore relations of inequality organized along lines of race, ethnicity, nationality, class, sexuality, ability, appearance, age, and other categories of difference, in addition to gender. Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 190. Diverse Women in Popular Culture  3 credit hours
General education introductory course. Examines how women of various races, classes and ethnicities are represented in a wide variety of popular media. Encourages the critical analysis of why and how these popular representations are politically and socially significant in shaping society's perceptions of women. Also explores women's popular genres. Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 287. Women in Society: Social Issues  3 credit hours
General education introductory course. Examines women's efforts to claim their identities from historical, legal and social perspectives. Includes recent laws relating to women, contemporary issues (such as rape, day care, working women, the future of marriage), agencies for change, theories of social change, and the relationship of women's rights to human rights. Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 306. Introduction to Gender Studies  3 credit hours
General education advanced further study course. Cross-listed as SOC 306. Serves as an introduction to the sociology of gender. Explores how gender is socially constructed through culture, everyday interactions, the media, and institutions such as the family, education, and work. Considers the consequences of gender for relationships, sexuality, economic opportunity, and well-being, with a goal of connecting theory and research on gender to personal experiences. Examines how gender intersects with other forms of social inequality, including race, social class, and sexual orientation. Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 316. Men and Masculinities  3 credit hours
General education advanced issues and perspectives course. Cross-listed as SOC 316. Presents the sociological perspectives on contemporary masculinities. Students are exposed to developmental changes in masculinity across the life course and such topics as: masculine socialization, race/ethnicity variations, work, relationships, sexualities, media, family and the men's movement. Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 325. Women in the Political System  3 credit hours
Cross-listed as POLS 325. Examines the political process of policy making, using policies of current interest concerning women. Explores the association of societal gender role expectations with existing and proposed public policies that pertain to women's lives. Course includes diversity content. Prerequisite: 6 hours of social science or instructor's consent.

WOMS 330. Women's Personal Narrative  3 credit hours
Cross-listed as ENGL 336. Explores the literary genre of the journal as practiced by both historical and modern women. Examines works by both well-known diarists and little-known notebook keepers. In-class writing and out-of-class assignments; students are encouraged to do daily work in a journal of their own. Course includes diversity content. Prerequisites: ENGL 101, 102.

WOMS 334. Islam  3 credit hours
Cross-listed as REL 334. Introduction to Islam, one of the major world religions. Looks at how Islamic practices and beliefs affect the lives of people around the world. Specific attention is paid to the gendered dimensions of life, what it means to be a Muslim man or woman. Students have an opportunity to interview women and men from the Muslim community in Wichita. Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 338. Philosophy of Feminism  3 credit hours
General education advanced further study course. Cross-listed as PHIL 338. Explores philosophical issues raised by the feminist movement emphasizing conceptual and ethical questions. Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 340. Human Sexuality  3 credit hours
Cross-listed as SCWK 340. Provides a forum for information and discussion on topics relating to physical, psycho-social and cultural components of human sexuality. Includes female and male sexual attributes and roles, sexual problems, alternate lifestyles, birth control, values, sexuality and cultural components of sexuality. Course includes diversity content.
WOMS 345. Gender, Alcohol and Addictions  3 credit hours
Provides information about women's dependencies and their relationship to constructions of gender. Examines dependencies on substances and processes (alcohol, street and prescription drugs, eating disorders, and dysfunctional relationships) in their social and personal context. Examines theories of treatment and recovery in relation to feminist theory and women's roles in codependency. Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 361. Women and Work  3 credit hours
General education advanced further study course. Examines the image and reality of women's employment from minimum wage work to corporate board rooms, as well as women's unpaid work. It explores the impact of cultural values, societal arrangements and public policy on occupations, wages and family life. Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 370. Women in World Religions  3 credit hours
Cross-listed as REL 370. Examines past and present roles and statuses of women in various religious traditions of the world, e.g., Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism and Taoism. Examines the portrayal of women's roles in various religious and philosophical texts, and the redefinition of women's roles in the modern age within the contexts of these belief systems. Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 380. Special Topics  1-3 credit hours
Focuses on intermediate topics of interest to women's studies. Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 380A. Women & Eating Disorders  1 credit hour
Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 380AA. Women and Diversity  3 credit hours
Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 380AB. Black Women in America  3 credit hours
Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 380AC. Women in the Middle East  3 credit hours
Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 380AD. Black Women in America II  3 credit hours
Course continues and advances the study of questions, issues, themes of WOMS 380AB, Black Women in America. Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 380AE. Intro to Black Women's Studies  3 credit hours
Black women's history, lives, political thought and cultural practices. Compares black women's own self-perceptions and behaviors with the social norms and ideals about women within the Black community and in the larger society. Examines the racial/sexual politics of black women's lives. Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 380AF. Diversity, Human Rights and the Law  3 credit hours
Examines the role of gender in shaping public policies, primarily in the United States. Looks at the historical context and processes shaping public policy in a number of areas, such as education, family, work, crime and health. Examines the nature of contemporary policy in these areas, the role of female activists in shaping these policies, and the impact of these policies on the lives of women. Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 380G. Women in Music: Blues - Present  3 credit hours
Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 380I. Hip Hop and Feminism  1-3 credit hours
Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 380Q. Women and Animal Rights  3 credit hours
Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 380S. Black Women Writers  3 credit hours
Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 380Z. Domestic Violence  3 credit hours
Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 381. Special Topics  1-3 credit hours
Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 381A. Women in Other Cultures  3 credit hours
Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 381B. Sex, Work and Culture  3 credit hours
Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 381C. Writing by Women  3 credit hours
Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 381D. Women and Social Action  3 credit hours
Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 381F. Women and Sexuality  3 credit hours
Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 382. Feminism and Girl Culture  3 credit hours
Addresses issues of girl culture as a part of Third Wave feminism in an engagement with earlier forms of feminism. The media both shape and reflect the culture we live in. Current representations of female empowerment are quite different from the sparse stereotypes of the 1970s. Examines and analyzes to what extent those representations that are a part of girl culture can be deemed feminist and thus a challenge to patriarchal conceptions of girls (or girlhood). Emphasizes critical analysis and should enable critique of visual culture as well as questioning the culture in ways not previously done. Topics include: Wonder Woman (sheroes), girl talk (Sex in the City), tough girls (Buff the Vampire Slayer), video game vixens, and feminist girl-zines (Bitch Magazine). Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 383. Issues & Perspective on African Women & Globalism  3 credit hours
General education advanced issues and perspectives course. Cross-listed as WOMS 513, ETHS 381AC. For those whose primary notions of Africa derive from little or unconfirmed information. Uses research, writing and other expressions by African women to present women dealing with their postcolonial and globalized national contexts. When possible, a teleconference with an author is arranged for a more global learning experience. Learning through local African communities, dramatic/artistic expressions and group projects is encouraged. Aims to help students develop critical and independent thinking about Africa, African women and their global engagement. Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 384. Paul  3 credit hours
Cross-listed as REL 384. Introduces students to the life, world and writings of the apostle Paul. His journey through the ancient Mediterranean world speaking to women and men about his understanding of the gospel is appreciated and used to examine the development of the early church. Highlights issues in Paul's letters such as women and gender, the socio-historical situation of the early church, and the question of authorship. Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 385. Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Studies  3 credit hours
General education advanced further study course. Cross-listed as SCWK 385. Focuses on Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender people, their history and culture, considering sexualities and genders as identities, social statuses, categories of knowledge, and as lenses to help us frame how we understand our world. Course examines a broad range of contemporary gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender issues in various contexts including mass media, literary, sociological, political, racial,
socioeconomic, biomedical and sexual. Students have the opportunity to develop critical thinking skills and practical academic skills vital to university success. Course includes books, articles, films, guest speakers. Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 386. Women and Sports  3 credit hours
Examines the relationship of gender to definitions of athleticism as well as how women have negotiated the contradiction between the cultural equation of masculinity and athleticism. Special attention is given to Title IX and its role in increasing benefits and opportunities for U.S. women to play sports as well as the impact it has had on the development of intercollegiate women's athletics. Also considers the impact of homophobia on women's sports, the sexualization of women athletes, and new questions raised for sex-segregated sports by the fluidity of biological sex and transgendered athletes. Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 387. Women in Society: Cultural Images  3 credit hours
General education advanced further study course. Examines the impact of cultural images and ideas in women's lives. Emphasis is on the intersection of gender and race in the shaping of social experience and political interest. Major topics include ideology as vehicle through which women come to belong to and negotiate society; privilege, intellectual origins of ideas about gender and race, and differences in status among women that impact their lives, their relations with men and with each other. Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 390. Motherhood  3 credit hours
Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 391. Women's Global Issues  3 credit hours
General education advanced further study course. Explores women's issues from a global perspective in relation to policies approved by the International Women's Decade conferences of the United Nations. Emphasizes understanding the impact of nationalism, race, class and cultural values in creating obstacles to women's full participation in society. Explores strategies for achieving full human rights for women. Course includes diversity content. Prerequisites: one course in women's studies and one course in history or political science.

WOMS 420. Women and the Bible  3 credit hours
Cross-listed as REL 420. Examines the roles and statuses of women in biblical narrative, poetry and law, as well as the position of women in various Near Eastern societies. Attention may be given to the ways in which later theologians, novelists and artists have refashioned and re-evaluated the biblical portrayal of women in their works. Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 480. Special Topics  1-3 credit hours
Provides an introduction to the exploration of various women's studies' themes. Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 480A. Hollywood Melodrama  3 credit hours
Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 481. Cooperative Education  1-4 credit hours
Provides a field placement that integrates theory with a planned and supervised professional experience designed to complement and enhance the student's academic program. Course includes diversity content. Graded Cr/NCr.

WOMS 481N. Internship  1-3 credit hours
Complements and enhances the student's academic program by providing an opportunity to apply and acquire knowledge in a workplace environment as an intern. Graded Cr/NCr. Prerequisite: departmental consent.

WOMS 482. Latinas in Culture and Society  3 credit hours
Examines what it means to be a Latina and a feminist in U.S. culture, confronting racism and sexism as well as being empowered through Latina identity. The exploration of Latina identity results in creative transformation and a new understanding of the relationship of self to community. Materials drawn from Chicana feminist studies in prose, poetry, criticism and film, and from presentations by guest speakers. Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 508. Women and the Environment  3 credit hours
On completion of this course, students should be able to appreciate and understand: environmental challenges at a local, regional and global scale; gender and environment; the role of women in the environment; case studies of women's leadership and contribution to environmental custodianship; critical analysis and military-industrial discourse in relation to gender; relationships between environment and interactions with different types of global, illicit trade. Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 510. Hollywood Melodrama: The Woman's Film  3 credit hours
Melodrama, as a "woman's genre," is important to the development of feminist film criticism, which interrogates the contradictory meanings of motherhood and family within this culture. Through readings and films, this course provides a stylistic, literary and cultural/historical background for this 19th-century form with a specific focus on the woman's film and the family melodrama which highlight woman's position within the home. Uses textual analysis and some psychoanalytic criticism to explore and critique the fantasies and desires expressed in the visual excesses of film melodrama. Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 511. Women in Early America, 1600-1830  3 credit hours
General education advanced further study course. Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 513. Issues and Perspectives on African Women and Globalism  3 credit hours
General education advanced issues and perspectives course. Cross-listed as WOMS 383, ETHS 381AC. For those whose primary notions of Africa derive from little or unconfirmed information. Uses research, writing and other expressions by African women to present women dealing with their postcolonial and globalized national contexts. When possible, a teleconference with an author is arranged for a more global learning experience. Learning through local African communities, dramatic/artistic expressions and group projects is encouraged. Aims to help students develop critical and independent thinking about Africa, African women and their global engagement. Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 514. Women in the Middle East  3 credit hours
Examines Arab women of the Middle East. Focuses on women in the region historically designated as the fertile plains—Egypt, Lebanon, Syria, Jordan and the Palestinian Territories. Covers the impact of Western colonialism and global geopolitics on women's lives; women's activism in relation to nationalism and women's rights; Western racial stereotypes of Arab women and men and their role in foreign intervention in the 20th and 21st centuries. Provides case study in the relationship of nationalism and women's rights as framed by Arab women's studies. Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 516. Sociology of Gender Roles  3 credit hours
General education advanced further study course. Cross-listed as SOC 516. Analyzes the institutional sources of male and female roles, the source of changes in these roles, the consequent ambiguities and conflicts. Course includes diversity content. Prerequisite: SOC 111.

WOMS 523. Feminist Film Criticism  3 credit hours
Applies critical methods of analysis from the field of feminist film studies (such as psychoanalysis, ideology critique, close textual analysis, narrative and genre criticism) to the representation of women
in film. Emphasizes historical development of feminist film theory and criticism as it relates to classical Hollywood narrative, film genres and avant-garde film. Course includes diversity content. Prerequisite: 3 hours of upper-level humanities or 3 hours of upper-level women's studies.

WOMS 530. The American Woman in History 3 credit hours
Cross-listed as HIST 530. Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 532. Women in Ethnic America 3 credit hours
Cross-listed as HIST 532. An in-depth, thematic understanding of the historical experiences of women of color across space and time in U.S. history. Employing a female-centered framework of analysis, course probes the intersections of race, class, gender and sexuality in women's lives. Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 533. Women and the Law 3 credit hours
Introduces the legal aspects of women's rights, including the equal rights amendment to the U.S. Constitution, right to choose a name, sex discrimination in employment, education, and credit; welfare and criminal justice. Also considers women in the field of law, such as lawyers and legislators. Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 534. Psychology of Women 3 credit hours
General education advanced issues and perspectives course. Cross-listed as PSY 534. Psychological assumptions, research and theories of the roles, behavior and potential of women in contemporary society. Course includes diversity content. Prerequisite: PSY 111.

WOMS 536. Writing by Women 3 credit hours
Cross-listed as ENGL 536. Explores various themes in critical approaches to literature composed by women writers, especially those whose works have been underrepresented in the literary canon. Genres and time periods covered, critical theories explored, and specific authors studied vary in different semesters. Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 537. Contemporary Women's Drama 3 credit hours
Examines contemporary plays by and about women to discover and explore the insights of the various playwrights into the lives and roles of women. In addition to reading and analyzing plays, students write plays of their own. Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 541. Women, Children and Poverty 3 credit hours
General education advanced issues and perspectives course. Cross-listed as SCWK 541. Addresses the problem of poverty among women in the U.S. today, and examines existing and proposed public policies designed to alleviate the problem. Explores theoretical models of poverty policy analysis and the role of values in their formulation and implementation. Discusses issues of age, race and family; special attention is given to poverty among Kansas families. Course includes diversity content. Prerequisite: 6 hours of social sciences.

WOMS 542. Women in Other Cultures 3 credit hours
Cross-listed as ANTH 542. Deals with the place of women in primitive and other non-Western societies, in various aspects of culture: political, economic, social, religious, domestic, intellectual, psychological and aesthetic. Compares and contrasts societies in order to see how different kinds of roles for women are related to different kinds of societies. Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 543. Women & Health 3 credit hours
Cross-listed as NURS 543. Examines the historical development of the women's health movement, focuses on current issues relevant to women and health care, and explores the roles of women in the health care system and as consumers of health care. Examines self-care practices of women and studies ways to promote positive health practices. Open to non-nursing majors. Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 570. Directed Readings 1-3 credit hours
For students who wish to pursue special reading or research projects not covered in coursework. Prerequisite: instructor's consent. Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 571. Contemporary Issues and Perspectives: LGBTQ 3 credit hours
General education advanced issues and perspectives course. Cross-listed as SCWK 571. Explores contemporary issues within the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer communities. Explores personal attitudes regarding the social context for LGBTQ persons as well as other issues which have emerged as matters of concern and celebration with LGBTQ individuals and communities. Empowerment principles are employed and used to highlight a positive and affirming framework of the LGBTQ community. Students acquire basic skills in understanding issues of diversity and other contemporary conditions of life and culture. Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 579. Asian Women in Modern History 3 credit hours
Cross-listed as HIST 579 and ETHS 579. Examines women's historical and contemporary experiences in Asian America and eight major countries in modern Asia. Covers topics on Asian women's activism in relation to nationalism and women's rights. Investigates Asian women's roles and statuses in the family and society and their educational attainment and contributions to the export-oriented industrialization of the Asia-Pacific region. Examines the intra-regional migration of female guest workers among various countries in Asia. Traces the ways in which the changes in immigration laws during the 20th century affect patterns of Asian women's migration to the United States. Introduces writing that integrates Asian women's lives and Asian American experiences into the discourses on ethnicity, national origin, class, gender and sexual orientation in the United States and the Asia-Pacific region. Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 580. Special Topics 1-3 credit hours
Focuses on advanced topics of interest to women's studies. Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 580AB. Women and Reform in America, 1830-Present 3 credit hours
Focuses on women, gender, and reform in U.S. history from 1830 to 2000 by examining the lives, experiences, and interactions with social, political, and economic systems of women. Students read articles, books, and primary documents that examine women’s experiences from the emergence of a domestic economy in the 1830s to 21st century popular culture with specific focus on topics such as the Cult of True Womanhood, slavery, Civil War and Reconstruction, Progressivism, suffrage, WWII, postwar feminism, and popular culture. In the end, students should walk away with an understanding of women in early U.S. history and of the major historical debates concerning women’s and gender history. Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 580G. Women in China and the Chinese Diaspora 3 credit hours
Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 580J. Domestic Violence 3 credit hours
Cross-listed as SCWK 590, CJ 381V and CJ 783F. Deals with the roots of domestic violence embedded in family roles, legal systems, religious beliefs, and the psychology of women, children and men. Also covers the consequences and prevention of family abuse. Includes discussion of literature and films. Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 580N. Gender, Race, Knowledge 3 credit hours
General education advanced issues and perspectives course. Course includes diversity content.
WOMS 580T. Women & Aging  3 credit hours
Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 580X. Sex, Work and Culture  3 credit hours
Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 580Z. Femme Fatale and Fighting FToy in Film  3 credit hours
Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 585. The Femme Fatale In Film Noir  3 credit hours
From the 1970s to the present, feminism has exerted a profound influence on theories of cinema. By focusing on film noir as a genre expressed visually and thematically, this course explores various filmic representations of women, and how and why these representations are politically, socially and theoretically significant. We apply various critical methods of analysis (psychoanalysis, ideology critique, close textual analysis, narrative, style/genre) to approach women's representation, in particular, the femme fatale (dark lady, evil seductress) within the classic film noir era which occurred between 1944 and 1958. Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 586. Gender, Race, Knowledge  3 credit hours
General education advanced issues and perspectives course. Examines construction of objects that lie at the boundary between popular and academic or "official" knowledge (understanding of objects, people, events and activities). Examines those objects within gender and race frameworks in women's studies. Thematically organized, problem focused and methodologically interdisciplinary. Past topics include "America, Post 9/11," "A Genealogy of the Middle East," science, modernity and anthropology. Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 587. Theories of Feminism  3 credit hours
Because feminism is not a single ideological stance or perspective, course examines a variety of ideas underlying feminist cultural critiques and visions for social change. Discusses the contribution of women's studies to various academic disciplines. Course includes diversity content. Prerequisites: WOMS 287, 387, or 6 hours of women's studies courses, or instructor's consent.

WOMS 588. Gender, Race and the West/East Divide  3 credit hours
General education advanced issues and perspectives course. Examines critically the role of gender and race in the making of a supposed essential divide between the West and the East. Students are introduced to Edward Said's concept of Orientalism and the field of critique that targets how Europe and the U.S. craft an identity the West via its other, called variously, the Orient, Islam, the Muslim world, and the Arab world. Questions explored include: What is Orientalism? What is the relationship between colonialism/imperialism and the representation of the Orient or the East? How, for whom, and for what purposes do gender and race matter in this construct of a divide between West and East? These questions are examined across genres and media — i.e., in travel accounts, film, literature, policy making and news reportage. Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 591. Sexual Assault Issues  1 credit hour
Cross-listed as SCWK 591. Explores the cultural myths and stereotypes about sexual assault, the legal system methods of self-protection, community resources providing help for victims, and other related issues. Primary focus is on education to not only prevent, but eradicate sexual assault. Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 701. Selected Topics in Women's Studies  3 credit hours
Repeatable for credit up to 6 hours. Prerequisite: departmental consent. Course includes diversity content.

WOMS 701A. Map Intersections of Gender  3 credit hours
Course includes diversity content.