By choosing to pursue work in women and gender studies, students at all levels engage in an interdisciplinary exploration of gender in social, political, cultural, and economic life; gender in history; women and the media; feminist theory; the relationship between sex and gender; the impact of sex, race, class, disability, and sexual orientation on people’s lives; and the ways in which gender stereotypes influence the self in relationship to others. Students in many courses have the opportunity to investigate these issues in a cross-cultural and global perspective.

Undergraduate Programs
The Women and Gender Studies Program offers two interdisciplinary minors. The minor in women and gender studies and the minor in LGBTQ studies are open to students from any major. Students have the opportunity to earn credit toward the minor while doing an internship that helps prepare them for the work place, a service learning course that combines work in a specific course with a service project, or research on gender issues on Mason’s campus. Students pursuing these minors can take advantage of the many activities and resources provided by the Women and Gender Studies Center.

The program also sponsors the concentration in women and gender studies in the BA in integrative studies.

Graduate Programs
The program sponsors the concentration in women and gender studies in the master’s degree in interdisciplinary studies (MAIS). This concentration promotes advanced scholarship that transcends traditional boundaries. Students combine required coursework in women and gender studies with courses in a discipline of interest such as history, literature, sociology, anthropology, health, education, philosophy, social work, conflict analysis and resolution, or the arts.

The program also offers a graduate certificate in women and gender studies. Students may take this as a stand-alone certificate or pursue it concurrently with any graduate degree program. A portion of the certificate coursework may be applied to the degree with the approval of the director of the graduate degree and dean. Students must apply and be accepted to a graduate certificate program.

Women and Gender Studies Center
The academic program in women and gender studies is integrated with the Women and Gender Studies Center. The center organizes a wide variety of lectures, conferences, workshops, and other public events throughout the year. The center houses a library and functions as a community space for students and faculty.

Faculty

Core Faculty
Adams, Hattery (Director), Lewis

Program Faculty
Baily, Davis, Diener, Dunne, Fuchs, Hanrahan, Harvey, Hirsch, Jones, Jordan, J. Kim, Manuel-Scott, Rudes, Xiong

Affiliate Faculty

Programs
• LGBTQ Studies Minor
• Women and Gender Studies Graduate Certificate
• Women and Gender Studies Minor