Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies (WGSS) provides a rich and complex understanding of the range of socially-informed gendered experiences. The program seeks to foster feminist interdisciplinary and intersectional teaching, learning and research on gender worldwide by reaching across epistemological, analytical, and theoretical divisions. Our program fosters innovative teaching and cutting-edge research by focusing on the formation of gender and its intersections with other relations of power, such as class, race, culture, ethnicity, religion, ability, age, sexuality, and nationality. WGSS is interdisciplinary and transnational in its scope, breadth, and depth. We offer courses that explore people's historical lives and contemporary gendered experiences from around the world and across cultures.

We want to help you maximize your university experience, so we have provided information and interesting suggestions to get you started, although there are many more! As you review the chart on the inside pages, note that many of the suggestions need not be restricted to the year they are mentioned. In fact, activities such as joining an academic society, engaging with faculty and seeking opportunities to gain experience should occur in each year of your study at UTM. Read through the chart and create your own plan using My Program Plan found at www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans.

Programs of Study (POST)

- Major Program ERMAJ1443 Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies (Arts) / Women and Gender Studies (Arts)
- Minor Program ERMIN1443 Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies (Arts) / Women and Gender Studies (Arts)

Check out...

WGS345H5: Genealogies of South Asian Feminisms to study the histories of activism for and by women in South Asia. Learn about queer theory, diasporic gender relations, and masculinity in Sexualities Studies. WGS367H5: Women in Health covers feminist theories and frameworks examining the interconnections between women, health and biomedicine in North America and transnationally.

What can I do with my degree?

The career you choose will depend on your experience and interests. Visit the Career Centre to explore your career options.

Careers for graduates: Health professional; Social worker; Human resources; Researcher; Journalist; Lawyer; Policy analyst; Teacher; Professor; Communications; Arts and culture.

Workplaces: Arts organizations; Community development; Commerce; Government; Law; Education; Health organizations; Human resources.
## HOW TO USE THIS PROGRAM PLAN

Read through each year. Investigate what appeals to you here and in any other Program Plans that apply to you.

Visit [www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans) to create your own plan using My Program Plan. Update your plan yearly.

### 1st YEAR

- **Enroll in WGS101H5.**
  - Choose a program of study (Subject POS) once you complete 4.0 credits. Use the Degree Explorer and the Academic Calendar to plan your degree.

- **Build a Global Mindset**
  - Engage with the many programs offered by the International Education Centre (IEC), whether you are an international or domestic student. Consider joining the Canada Eh? day trips or English Language Conversation Circles to deepen your global mindset.

- **Build a Network**
  - Networking simply means talking to people and developing relationships with them. Start by joining the Women & Gender Studies Alliance (WGSA). Go to the Women and Gender Studies (WGS) Program Meet and Greet to meet professors and students.

- **Plan for Your Future**
  - Attend the Program Selection & Career Options workshop offered by the Office of the Registrar and the CC.
  - Check out Careers by Major at the CC to see potential career options.

### 2nd YEAR

- **Enroll in WGS200Y5.** Why not apply for the Research Opportunity Program (ROP) course WGS09Y5? Visit the EEU website for ROP Course Prerequisites. Attend the RGASC’s PART to stand out when applying.

- **Build A Curriculum**
  - Use the Co-Curricular Record (CCR). Search for opportunities beyond the classroom, and keep track of your accomplishments.

- **Build Skills**
  - Attend the Get HIred Fair through the Career Centre (CC) to learn about on- and off-campus work and volunteer opportunities.

- **Plan for Your Future**
  - Considering further education? Attend the CC’s Job Shadow Program.

### 3rd YEAR

- **Enroll in 2.0 WGS credits at the 300 level and 1.0 WGS credits at the 400 level.** Attain 2.5 credits from any WGS courses or from a list of electives in the Academic Calendar.

- **Build A Curriculum**
  - Use the Career & Co-Curricular Learning Network (CLN) to find postings for on- and off-campus work and volunteer opportunities.

- **Build Skills**
  - Do you have a professor you want to connect with? Ask them a question during office hours. Discuss an assignment. Go over lecture material. Don’t be shy! Learn Tips On How to Approach a Professor available through the Experiential Education Unit (EEU).

- **Build a Global Mindset**
  - Participate in International Education Week and engage in programs like Global and Intercultural Fluency Training Series (GIFTS) to build on your leadership and communication skills in global citizenship.

- **Plan for Your Future**
  - Explore careers through the CC’s Job Shadow Program.
  - Considering further education? Attend the CC’s Graduate & Professional Schools Fair. Talk to professors – they are potential mentors and references.

### 4th OR FINAL YEAR

- **Enroll in 0.5 WGS credits at the 400 level.** Consider a practical work-based experience through the Practice course WGS435Y5. Speak to the Historical Studies Academic Advisor for application information.

- **Build a Curriculum**
  - Throughout your undergraduate degree:
    - use the Degree Explorer to ensure you complete your degree and program requirements.
    - see the Office of the Registrar and the Historical Studies Academic Advisor.

- **Build Skills**
  - Explore your interests. Interested in increasing awareness about gender and equality? Consider working with the UTM Women and Gender Equity Centre.
  - Skills are transferable to any job regardless of where you develop them. Need to strengthen your organizational skills? Consider a role as the CSE Community Engagement Assistant.

- **Plan for Your Future**
  - Are you into promoting mindfulness and building community? Investigate the UTM Library Ambassador Program.
  - Join a professional association. Check out the WGSRF or the Canadian Research Institute for the Advancement of Women.

- **Build a Global Mindset**
  - Expanding your intercultural awareness and developing intercultural skills will help you in your academics, personal growth and are highly sought out by employers.

- **Plan for Your Future**
  - Engage in programs like ISTEP and THRIVE to support your transition out of the University.
  - Market your skills to employers. Get your resume critiqued at the CC. Attend the CC workshop Now That I’m Graduating: What’s Next?

### 170+ UNIVERSITY EXCHANGE

- **Build a Network**
  - Attend the WGS Feminist Lunch Series events held throughout the academic year to network with WGS faculty and students and learn from scholars, activists, and industry professionals.

- **Build Skills**
  - Get published in Prandium: the Journal of Historical Studies at UTM.

- **Plan for Your Future**
  - Based Exchange, funding and travel safety. Attend Global Learning Week to learn about the various opportunities available to you!

- **Build a Global Mindset**
  - Apply to study for a summer term, or year at one of 170+ universities. Speak to the IEC for details about Course Based Exchange. **Earn credits overseas!**

- **Build Skills**
  - Learn about and prepare for a future UTM Abroad Experience through the IEC to strengthen and enhance your intercultural skill set, and learn about other cultures while sharing your own.

- **Plan for Your Future**
  - What’s your next step after undergrad?
  - Considering further education? Research application requirements, prepare for admission tests (LSAT, GMAT) and research funding options (OGS, SSHRC).

### PROGRAM PLANS

Visit [www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans) for the online version and links.

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*Consult the Academic Calendar for greater detail on course requirements, program notes and degree requirements.

Revised on: 10/16/2023
To be competitive in the job market, it is essential that you can explain your skills to an employer. Visit the Career Centre to learn how to articulate and market the following skills:

**Communication:** formulate and defend positions; write detailed research papers and summarize concepts and ideas; read and think critically; use unfamiliar materials and generate new ideas; and read and analyze texts.

**Research:** evaluate ideas and research; gather information and data; and interpret research and data.

**Critical thinking & problem-solving:** analyze and synthesize; recognize assumptions and make inferences; and create research designs.

**Organizational & Leadership:** understand difference and discover the intersections between racism, homophobia, sexism, classicism, and other forms of oppression; and develop the ability to assess needs.

**Services that support you**

- Accessibility Services (AS)
- Career Centre (CC)
- Centre for Student Engagement (CSE)
- Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Office (EDIO)
- Experiential Education Unit (EEU)
- Health & Counselling Centre (HCC)
- Indigenous Centre (IC)
- International Education Centre (IEC)
- Office of the Registrar (OR)
- Recreation, Athletics and Wellness Centre (RAWC)
- Robert Gillespie Academic Skills Centre (RGASC)
- UTM Library, Hazel McCallion Academic Learning Centre (HMALC)

**Get involved**

Check out the 100+ student organizations on campus. Here are a few:

- Women and Gender Studies Student Alliance
- UTM Student Union (UTMSU)
- UTM Athletics Council (UTMAC)
- UTM Women’s Centre
- UTM Women and Gender Equity Centre
- OUT@UTM
- Positive Space Committee

For a full listing of clubs on campus visit the Student Groups and Societies Directory

**Sneak Peek**

What role can public policy play in overcoming gender inequalities? Take a look in WGS215H5. You’ll investigate key historical and contemporary changes in public policies affecting Canadian women in such areas as education, sexuality, immigration and global issues. How is Black Feminist Performance read, interpreted, and experienced in popular culture and daily life? Find out in WGS415H5.

We offer our students the opportunity to combine theory and practice through a part-time unpaid placement with a community agency, government body, educational or social change organization. Past placements have included: Interim Place women’s shelter, Peel Poverty Action Group, Barbra Schlifer Commemorative Legal Clinic, Women’s Health in Women’s Hands Clinic, Rainbow Refugee Railroad, Ontario Pay Equity Commission, Mississauga City Disability Office, amongst others.

**Department of Historical Studies**

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