WOMEN, GENDER & SEXUALITY STUDIES (HBA)
Department of Historical Studies

Relations of gender affect every aspect of society. 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. WGS 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.

MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR TIME AT UTM!

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...
Take WGS215H5 to study key historical changes in public policies affecting Canadian women in such areas as the workplace; education; poverty-welfare; sexuality, reproductive, immigration, and refugee laws; and global issues. Learn about queer theory, diasporic gender relations, and masculinity in Sexualities Studies. WGS370H5 examines the role of love in the construction of gendered identity and sexuality.

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.

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

Revised on: 9/9/2021

## WOMEN, GENDER & SEXUALITY STUDIES MAJOR Program Plan

### 1ST YEAR

It is recommended that you enrol 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.

**Plan Your Academics**

- Develop foundational academic skills and strategies by enrolling in a [utmONE](http://utmONE) course. Build community and gain academic support through LAUNCH. Join a RGASC Peer Facilitated Study Group.

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

- Attend the Get Experience Fair through the Career Centre (CC) to learn about on- and off-campus opportunities.

**Build Skills**

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

- Visit the UTM Library Reference Desk.

**Build A Network**

- Attend events held by the International Education Centre (IEC), whether you are an international or domestic student. Explore your culture and other cultures through weekly or biweekly conversations, Language Conversation Circles, debates, and activities to enhance your global and intercultural mindset.

- Engage in programs like the Global and Intercultural Fluency Training Series (GIFTS) or 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.

**Build A Global Mindset**

- 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.

**Plan For Your Future**

- Explore careers through the CC's Job Shadowing Program.

- Considering further education? Attend the CC's Further Education Showcase. Talk to professors – they are potential mentors and references.

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

### 2ND YEAR

Enrol in WGS200Y5. Why not apply for the Research Opportunity Program (ROP) course WGS099Y5? Visit the IEC website for ROP Course Prerequisites. Attend the RGASC's P.A.R.T. to stand out when applying.

**Plan Your Academics**

- 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 Counsellor.

**Build Skills**

- Use the Career Learning Network (CLNx) to find postings for on- and off-campus work and volunteer opportunities.

- Work on-campus through the Work-study program. View position descriptions on the CLNx.

**Build A Network**

- Do you have a professor you really like or 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 (IEU).

- Join UTM’s Women and Gender Equity Centre.

**Build A Global Mindset**

- Earn credits overseas! Apply to study for a summer, term or year at one of 140+ universities. Speak to the IEC for details about Course Based Exchange, funding and travel safety.

**Plan For Your Future**

- What’s your next step after undergrad?

- Entering the workforce? Evaluate your career options through a CC Employment Strategies appointment.

- Considering further education? Research application requirements, prepare for admission tests (LSAT, GMAT) and research funding options (OGS, SSHRC).

### 3RD YEAR

Enrol in 2.0 WGS credits at the 300/400 level. Attain 3.5 credits from any WGS courses or from a list of electives in the Academic Calendar.

**Plan Your Academics**

- See the issues and histories you have been studying come to life! Speak to the Historical Studies Academic Counsellor about enroling in WGS343H5 The Montreal Experience: Sex and Gender in la Cité.

**Build Skills**

- Explore your interests. Interested in increasing awareness about gender and equality? Consider working with the UTM Women and Gender Equity Centre.

**Build A Network**

- Are you into promoting mindfulness and building community? Investigate the UTM Library Ambassador Program.

**Build A Global Mindset**

- Establish a professional presence on social media (e.g., LinkedIn).

**Plan For Your Future**

- Get published in Prandium: the Journal of Historical Studies at UTM, or volunteer as an editor or reviewer for Atlantis, the journal of the Women’s and Gender Studies at Recherches Féministes (WGSRF).

- Learn about working abroad. Read up on worldwide employment trends and industry outlooks through GoinGlobal. Attend the Go Global Expo. See if you are eligible for International Experience Canada.

### 4TH OR FINAL YEAR

Enrol in 0.5 WGS credits at the 400 level. Consider a practical work-based experience through the Practicum course WGS435Y5. Speak to the Historical Studies Academic Counsellor for application information.

**Plan Your Academics**

- Log on to ACORN and confirm graduation request.

**Build Skills**

- Skills are transferable to any job regardless of where you develop them. Need to strengthen your organisational skills? Consider a role as the CSE Community Engagement Assistant.

**Build A Network**

- Join a professional association. Check out the WGSRF or the Canadian Research Institute for the Advancement of Women.

**Build A Global Mindset**

- Go to a conference such as the Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences or the International Conference on Advances in Women’s Studies.

**Plan For Your Future**

- Market your skills to employers. Get your resume critiqued at the CC. Attend the CC workshop Now That I’m Graduating What’s Next?

- Write a strong application for further education. Attend the CC’s Mastering the Personal Statement workshop.
Skills developed in Women, Gender & Sexuality Studies

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.

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 listing of clubs on campus visit www.utm.utoronto.ca/clubs.

Services that support you

- Accessibility Services (AS)
- Career Centre (CC)
- Centre for Student Engagement (CSE)
- 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)

Department of Historical Studies

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FUTURE STUDENTS

Admission to UTM

All program areas require an Ontario Secondary School Diploma, or equivalent, with six Grade 12 U/M courses, or equivalent, including English. The admission average is calculated with English plus the next best five courses. The approximate average required for admission is mid- to high-70s. More information is available at utm.utoronto.ca/viewbook.

**NOTE:** During the application process, applicants will select the Humanities admissions category, but will not officially be admitted to a formal program of study (Specialist, Major, and/or Minor) until after first year.

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. What is the role of diasporic Black women in producing and practicing Black Feminisms? Find out in WGS340H5.

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.

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