WOMEN’S AND GENDER STUDIES

BA IN WOMEN’S AND GENDER STUDIES
The most crucial insights and strategies regarding social justice were developed by the field of Women’s and Gender Studies, including:

- Intersectional analysis, such as how gendered roles and power structures interlock with race, dis/ability, sexuality, class, and more
- LGBTQ+ rights and freedoms
- Sexual and reproductive health
- Combatting gender and sexual violence and abuse
- Equal pay and representation
- The power of marginalized communities to change policies and systems
- Indigenous feminist strategies to fight climate change

Our WGS major is interdisciplinary, so students can easily double major by designing an individualized curriculum that combines courses from a more traditional arts and sciences major. Students who major, double major, or minor in Women’s and Gender Studies develop a deeper understanding of gender issues and gain a new perspective on their work in such disciplines as law, education, nursing, business, economics, the sciences, and the humanities.

PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION
- 1/3 of Pace graduates have careers in nonprofit fields
- The nonprofit sector is the third largest workforce in the U.S.
- Knowledge about inclusion, gender diversity, and social change will be increasingly critical in the workforce

Our major particularly focuses on preparing students for careers in the nonprofit sector and our graduates find jobs in advocacy, educational, cultural, and social justice organizations. Take our groundbreaking WS 180 “Nonprofit Skills for Social Justice,” where you will learn the strategies nonprofits and social movements use to end oppression and violence. Learn, critique, and develop tactics for fundraising, marketing, social media messaging, strategic planning, and volunteer recruitment from a feminist and anti-racist perspective.

In addition, against the backdrop of Pace’s signing of the Okanagan Charter for wellness and our Campus Pride-ranking as the most queer-friendly campus in the country, our department has pioneered an inclusive sex education and reproductive health course, WS 297S, that teaches you how to advocate for your own health and that of your family and community. When you take the course, you have the option to receive further training to earn a career credential for your resume.

We hope you join our department if you are interested in advocating for dignity in how we all live and love. The Women’s and Gender Studies department on Pace University’s New York City campus offers a Bachelor of Arts in Women’s and Gender Studies (WGS) and three minors: WGS, Queer Studies, and Nonprofit Studies. The WGS major signals to employers that you have the tools to create equitable social change regarding gender and its intersections with race, disability, sexuality, class, the environment, and more. Build a specialized portfolio of your own research plus skills for the nonprofit sector (education, health, philanthropy, community services) and policymaking.

SUCCESS STARTS HERE
“Pace opened my eyes to Women’s and Gender Studies not only as the perfect major, but as a truly essential one that everyone should consider. It tells history through the voices of powerful women and minorities whose testimonies and impacts have been erased or diminished. Due to my WGS major, during sophomore year I was hired as an intern at Sanctuary for Families, New York City’s top leading service provider for victims of domestic violence, sex-trafficking, and gender-based violence.”

-Maria Elisa Escobar ’22

“My Women’s and Gender Studies classes have given me the knowledge to analyze the complexities of both large-scale political issues and how systems of oppression function in the lives of individuals. With the support of my professors, I have had internships that have included research, working at the UN, and campus activism. The Women’s and Gender Studies department has truly shaped my college career and helped me develop a creative mindset for problem solving that I will carry with me long after Pace.”

-Sydney Korman (She/Her) ’20

We have working relationships with a variety of humanitarian organizations and non-profits that advocate for women, girls, and LGBTQ+ communities. Our department participates in Pace’s consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council, including workshops and events with the Commission on the Status of Women. We regularly organize events that focus on careers in the nonprofit sector for students, inviting our alumni in advocacy, cultural, or social justice organizations to share advice and networking strategies with our students. Beyond the classroom, students engage in multiple internships and go on to flourish in graduate school, careers, or research opportunities, such as through prestigious Fulbright Fellowships.

www.pace.edu/dyson/wgs
MINORS
WOMEN’S AND GENDER STUDIES

NONPROFIT STUDIES
The courses, internships, and professional opportunities in this minor are offered by our partners in the Master of Public Administration program, and by the Wilson Center for Social Entrepreneurship. Nonprofit Studies offers students the knowledge, skills, and hands-on experience needed for a purpose-driven career in museums, foundations, economic development and environmental organizations, advocacy and arts organizations, and other nonprofits.

QUEER STUDIES
This cutting-edge minor examines lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ) topics, history, public policy issues, and culture. It is organized around the notion that sexuality is at the center of the human experience, from the formation of the individual to the organization of diverse societies. Our courses take a historical and cross-cultural look at the significance of sexual desire and gender identification.

WORK, PUBLISH, AND ADVOCATE ALONGSIDE FACULTY EXPERTS
Our faculty will ask you to advocate or craft policy with us. We will give you opportunities to publish with us. We will invite you to speak at the United Nations. We will request you to co-design artistic and creative programming. We will build community with you and other students to ensure an academically provocative, intellectually challenging, and collaborative learning environment. We will support your applications for grants for independent projects and conference presentations.

We will offer mini grants to fund your own creative, practitioner, or academic senior capstone.

At graduation, you will join a new generation of leaders, visionaries, and thinkers who will address our world’s problems. You will join our alumni network and always be a part of our WGS community.

FACULTY
CY DELGADO, PHD, assistant professor, Women’s and Gender Studies
Research areas: sexual cultures; queer/trans theory, aesthetics and politics; critical geographies; Latinx American studies.
Quote: “For me, teaching is a both a creative doing and a place – to think together, to rehearse critique and to foster our craft collectively.”

EMILY BENT, PHD, associate professor, Women’s and Gender Studies
Research areas: girls’ activism; feminist girls and girlhoods; girls’ human rights; girls and global development; youth and social justice.
Quote: “I love that I get to introduce students to the importance of feminist organizing and resistance.”

MEGHANA NAYAK, PHD, professor, Political Science; chair, department of Women’s and Gender Studies; affiliate faculty, Women’s and Gender Studies.
Research areas: gender violence; migrant studies; transnational feminist theory and advocacy; race and global politics.
Quote: “It is such an honor to witness and learn from my students’ intellectual journeys.”

NANCY REAGIN, PHD, professor, Women’s and Gender Studies and History.

INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES
Our department advises students to take multiple internships to build professional skills and resumes, and to understand better the world of work and advocacy. We’ve placed students as interns at the following organizations, among others:

• The National Organization for Women
• Planned Parenthood
• Doctors Without Borders
• GOAL
• The New York Women’s Foundation
• The Trust for Public Land
• The Hunger Project
• Yonkers Partners in Education
• The Legal Aid Society
• Local, state, and national political campaigns
• Endeavor
• The Robin Hood Foundation
• Safe Horizon
• Sanctuary for Families
• Stoked Mentoring
• The After School Corporation
• The United Nations
• Legal Rights Advocacy for migrants
• The Urban Justice Center (Domestic Violence Project)
• Housing Works
• The New York Urban League
• Sesame Street Workshop
• Vera Institute of Justice
• Covenant House
• The National Council for Research on Women

Research areas: gender and nationalism; fandoms, media, and politics; transnational feminism; gender and consumer cultures.
Quote: “I know a class is going well when I turn up on time, and find that the students began discussing the material 10 minutes early, because they didn’t want to wait!”

An exciting roster of additional instructors includes creative writers, gender and economics policy experts, artists, historians, and nonprofit directors.

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