

# WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES

NYC



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 a **Bachelor of Arts in Peace and Justice Studies (PJS)**, as well as four minors: WGS, Queer Studies, Peace and Justice Studies, and Nonprofit Studies, for students who are planning careers in advocacy, social justice work and/or nonprofit, educational, or cultural organizations. This unique constellation of programs and opportunities will enable students to learn perspectives and skills that will help them grow, prepare them for the professional world, and encourage them to contribute to their communities. Critical analysis of power and domination enables students to propose ways to advocate for justice, rights, and collaboration in local and global contexts.

## BA IN WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES

The WGS academic discipline emphasizes the importance of women's experience and gender across cultures, while including other categories of analysis such as race, class, sexual orientation, ability, ethnicity, nationality, and age. Examining history, literature, sociology, psychology, and other subjects, this discipline seeks to understand gender roles in past and contemporary societies, gendered power structures, and the representation of women and men in the arts and humanities. Students also explore how gender is a constantly changing category that influences law, social policies, popular culture, and everyday life.

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.

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. **1/3 of Pace graduates have careers in nonprofit fields.**

## BA IN PEACE AND JUSTICE STUDIES

The PJS program at Pace University examines direct, structural, symbolic, and environmental violence; social justice; theories and practice of nonviolence and conflict transformation; conflict resolution techniques including negotiation, mediation and facilitation; and interdisciplinary perspectives on peace building and peace making. The program reflects our commitment to theory and practice in this interdisciplinary field and is consistent with Pace University's institutional mission of civic engagement and global citizenship.

## 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**

Our New York City campus is located minutes from the Financial District, United Nations, World Trade Center, the courts, and the theater district, and is immersed in a diverse, urban community. Drawing on this setting, we offer faculty with specialties in peace and conflict studies, nonviolence, gender, humanitarian aid, religion and peace building, post-colonial theory, developmental studies, and reconciliation and transitional justice. Beyond the classroom, students engage in a wide range of service learning placements and internships.

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## MINORS PEACE AND JUSTICE STUDIES 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.

### PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION

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 on 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.

You will take a sequence of classes so that you are well versed in different concepts and theories, learn how to conduct research that can influence policies, and receive the opportunity to design your own senior capstone project. At graduation, you will join a new generation of leaders, visionaries, and thinkers who will address our world's problems.

### FACULTY

**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.

**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!"

### 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

**EMILY WELTY, PHD**, associate professor of Women's and Gender Studies; director, Peace and Justice Studies program.

**Research areas:** humanitarian aid, nonviolent social movements, peacebuilding and the arts, religion and peacebuilding.

**Quote:** "Teaching is both my passion and my vocation – I find so much joy and meaning in engaging with our smart, opinionated and curious students!"