Gender is one of the most fundamental organizing principles of individual lives and social, political and religious structures, yet is often the least examined. Gender Studies looks at ideas about masculinity, femininity, and sexuality in order to understand how gender influences life and opportunities at the biological, cultural, and political level.

Gender Studies majors explore the different ways gender and sexuality have been understood historically and globally as they gain cutting-edge scientific knowledge about gender, gender expressions and sexualities and identify inequities related to these categories of identities. Students will pay particularly close attention to how ideas and practices of justice evolve based on particular notions of gender and sexuality. Our majors learn to look at problems from multiple angles using different methods of discovery while developing strong skills in critical problem solving, research, data collection, and writing.

**WHAT WILL YOU LEARN IN THIS MAJOR?**

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**IN THIS MAJOR YOU WILL:**

- **Examine** gender as a complex and changing social construction that intersects with class, race, age, ethnicity, and other categories of identity, nationality, sexual orientation.

- **Engage** in lively discussions with your professors and peers about groups, experiences, and ideas that have been underrepresented in traditional academic work.

- **Write** analyses and research papers using a variety of methods. Through papers, projects and discussions, students will have the opportunities to integrate theory, self-reflection and action.

**FIRST COURSES IN THE MAJOR**

- **GEN 101**: Introduction to Gender Studies
- **GEN 205**: Gender and Justice
- **GEN 255**: The Biology of Gender and Sexuality

"Because gender is such a fundamental part of the human experience, the courses that I have taken cover a broad spectrum of disciplines which include sociology, psychology, philosophy, biology, history, literature, and criminal justice. Looking at gender from all of these different perspectives has helped me realize just how much gender informs every aspect of our lives and how important it is to address the inequalities that stem from gender stereotypes."

— Sharlene Johson, Junior
WHAT CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS WILL YOU DEVELOP IN THIS MAJOR?

- Summarize, analyze, compare, evaluate, interpret and synthesize ideas.
- Present ideas verbally and in writing: interpret data, shape information into specific points and arguments.
- Design projects, develop hypotheses, perform research, organize information, and solve problems.

WHAT MINOR MIGHT BE A GOOD COMPLEMENT TO THIS MAJOR?

- Africana Studies
- Criminology
- Economics
- English
- Counseling
- Latin American and Latinx Studies
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Sustainability and Environmental Justice

For more information about minors, go to: www.jjay.cuny.edu/minors

WHAT OPPORTUNITIES WILL THIS MAJOR OFFER YOU?

- Internships
- Ongoing research opportunities with faculty
- As an interdisciplinary major, students can receive a solid foundation in the liberal arts and social sciences to be attractive applicants for graduate and law schools as well as employers

THIS MAJOR CAN BE A GREAT FOUNDATION FOR A WIDE RANGE OF JOBS, BUT SOME POSSIBILITIES TO CONSIDER ARE:


- **Law/Government/Public Sector**: potential employers include any law firm, but also National Women's Law Center, Center for Reproductive Law and Policy, Empire State Pride Agenda, Human Rights Watch, Lambda Legal Defense Fund, New York Civil Rights Coalition, Legal Aid, American Civil Liberties Union

- **Business and Marketing**: potential employers include Womenkind LLC, Scenario DNA, Fortune 500 Companies—Human Resources, Nielson, Addis Creeson. Any organizations that engage in consumer analysis, since gender is central to how businesses market goods.

- **Mental Health & Human Services**: potential employers include Partnership with Children of NYC, Brooklyn Bureau of Community Service, Public Health Solutions, MIC—Women’s Health Services, GMHC-Gay Men’s Health Clinic.