Gender Studies
Bachelor of Arts

The Gender Studies major explores how gender and sexuality influence constructions of human identity historically and culturally, and how these in turn shape human development, behavior, and the processes of justice. Students in the major will learn to examine gender and sexuality from a broad variety of academic perspectives. As such, they become versatile thinkers with strong skills in critical problem solving, research, data collection, and writing. The Gender Studies major has been designed in the best tradition of liberal arts study: courses are structured to support independent inquiry, ethical reflection, and critical thought, and they culminate in a final research project that enables students to test their skills on a question of their own choosing. Students graduating with a BA in Gender Studies go on to a wide variety of careers and post–graduate study, including the arts, business, education, health care, media, politics, law, public policy and social work.

Credits required. 36

Coordinator. Professor Katie Gentile, Department of Counseling (212.237.8110, kgentile@jjay.cuny.edu).

COURSES

PART ONE. HISTORICAL AND THEORETICAL FOUNDATIONS  CREDITS: 12

Required
- GEN 101 Introduction to Gender Studies or ISP 145 Why Gender Matters
- GEN 205 Gender and Justice
- GEN 255/BIO 255 The Biology of Gender and Sexuality
- GEN 364/HIS 364 History of Gender and Sexuality: Prehistory to 1650

PART TWO. CRITICAL METHODS  CREDITS: 3

Required
- GEN 333/PHI 333 Theories of Gender and Sexuality

PART THREE. RESEARCH METHODS  CREDITS: 3

Choose one
- HJS 315 Research Methods in Humanities and Justice Studies
- SSC 325 Research Methods in the Behavioral Sciences

PART FOUR. SENIOR SEMINAR  CREDITS: 3

Required
- GEN 401 Senior Seminar

PART FIVE. GENDER STUDIES AREA ELECTIVES  CREDITS: 15

Students select five electives from Gender Studies-designated courses and may substitute a semester-long internship in a gender-related field for one elective. To ensure that students are exposed to significant and significantly different approaches to thinking about gender and sexuality, students must take at least one course in each of the following categories:

Category A. U.S. and/or Global Ethnic/Racial, Gender, and Sexual Diversity

These courses focus on non–dominant U.S. constructions of gender and sexuality internationally and among diverse communities and cultures in the United States. Recognizing that gender and sexuality are defined as much by their positioning within global political, social and economic systems as by their individual racial, ethnic, religious, class or sexual identity, this cluster offers a comparative look at both the individual and the global aspects of gender and sexuality. Courses that satisfy this requirement will examine the diversity of histories, experiences and cultures within the United States or internationally.

- AFR 245 Psychology of the African-American Family
- ART 222 Body Politics and Art in Global and Historical Perspectives
- ART 224/AFR 224 African-American Women in Art
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- COR 320 Race, Class and Gender in a Correctional Context
- DRA 243 Black Female Sexuality in Film
- GEN 356/HIS 356 Sexuality, Gender and Culture in Muslim Societies
- HIS 270 Marriage in Medieval Europe
- HIS 375 Female Felons in the Premodern World
- LLS 255 The Latin American Woman in Global Society
- LLS 265/HIS 265 Class, Race, and Family in Latin American History
- SOC 333 Gender Issues in International Criminal Justice

**Category B. Art, Media, Literary and Cultural Representations of Gender and Sexuality**

These courses focus on the study of art, media, literature and cultural production both as sites of theoretical and political work about gender and sexuality and as sources of the construction and representation of gendered/sexed identities. Courses that satisfy this requirement will examine forms of expression and representation, such as literature, art, philosophy, theory, and cinema, as constitutive and contested arenas of sexuality and gender.

- ART 224/AFR 224 African American Women in Art
- DRA 243 Black Female Sexuality in Film
- DRA 245 Women in Theatre
- LIT 316 Gender and Identity in Literary Traditions

**Category C. Socio–Political and Economic Systems and Gender and Sexuality**

These courses address the construction of gender and sexuality within the legal, economic and social structures of our society. They look at the very pragmatic ways that societies both reinforce and undermine gender and sexuality through their policies and social practices. Courses that satisfy this requirement will investigate historical or contemporary gender and sexuality within law, sociology, economics, government, criminology and psychology.

- AFR 245 Psychology of the African–American Family
- AFR 248 Men: Masculinities in the United States
- ANT 210/PSY 210/SOC 210 Sex and Culture
- COR 230/PSC 230 Sex Offenders in the Criminal Justice System
- COR 320 Race, Class and Gender in a Correctional Context
- CRJ 420/SOC 420 Women and Crime
- CSL 260 Gender and Work Life
- ECO 327 Political Economy of Gender
- HIS 270 Marriage in Medieval Europe
- HIS 375 Female Felons in the Premodern World
- LLS 265/HIS 265 Class, Race, and Family in Latin American History
- POL 237 Women and Politics
- POL 318 The Law and Politics of Sexual Orientation
- POL 319 Gender and the Law
- PSC 235 Women in Policing
- PSY 234 Psychology of Human Sexuality
- PSY 333 Psychology of Gender
- SOC 215 Social Control and Gender: Women in American Society
- SOC 333 Gender Issues in International Criminal Justice

Students must consult with the Gender Studies Major Coordinator to ensure adequate coverage. Individual courses count toward one category of elective only.
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In addition to the regularly offered electives listed above, a number of unique electives that count toward the major will be offered each semester. The Director of the Gender Studies Program will compile a list each semester and disperse it amongst Gender Studies majors and minors.

CREDITS REQUIRED FOR THE MAJOR: 36