



WOMEN AND GENDER STUDIES

Program Objectives

Women and Gender Studies (WGS) at USM is the longest standing feminist studies program in northern New England and it continues to be one of the most vibrant. With a faculty drawn from across the university WGS engages in transformative teaching, scholarship, and social change on campus and in the community. WGS not only contributes many courses to the university's general education curriculum, it also offers a socially-engaged and academically rigorous major and a minor. A Women and Gender Studies major does not dictate a career; much better than that, it provides you with many unusual and valuable skills and knowledge that can be applied to many career choices and in nearly every part of your life. It will enhance your work experiences, your involvement with other activities on campus, and your lives and relationships as they evolve after you graduate.

Degrees & Concentrations Offered

Graduation Planner: usm.maine.edu/advising/degreeplanning

Degree Offered: Bachelors of Arts

Major Offered: Women and Gender Studies

Minor Offered: Women and Gender Studies

Women and Gender Studies Program

Portland Campus, 94 Bedford Street
(207) 780-4289

E-mail: wgs@usm.maine.edu

Web Address: usm.maine.edu/wgs

Facebook: [USM Women & Gender Studies](#)

YouTube: [USM students on why Women and Gender Studies rocks](#)

Career Possibilities*

Positions in the Arts
Positions in Business
Community Organizer
Educator
Government Agent
Health and Social Services Agent
Positions in Healthcare
Positions in Higher Education
Positions in the Media
Positions in the Medical Field
Non-profit Organization Agent
Politician
Public Service Agent

* Additional education, training or experience may be required.

Acquired Transferable Skills

Ability to Comprehend the US from a Trans-national Perspective
Advanced Knowledge of Issues Relevant to Gender in Different Social and Geographic Locations
Capacity to Discuss Controversial Topics
Creative Problem Solving
Knowledge of Wide Ranging Historical and Political Events
Written and Oral Presentation
Research
Social Perceptiveness
Strong Critical Thinking

For more information on transferable skills go to:
usm.maine.edu/community-engagement-career-development/career-tools

What can I do with this major?*

AREA	EMPLOYERS	INFORMATION/STRATEGIES
Business & Industry	Public & private corporations Consulting firms Marketing companies Public relations agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obtain a minor or double major in business. • Gain experience through internships and service learning. • When job searching, seek employers interested in hiring “any major”. • Understand the top skills employers desire & be prepared to demonstrate them, such as: communication (oral & written), leadership, and teamwork.
Healthcare & Human Services	Organizations devoted to gender and health including: reproductive health, HIV/AIDS, trans health organizations, Organizations responding to rape and domestic violence, Organizations responding to poverty and homelessness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obtain summer jobs, volunteer positions, or internships to test a field of interest & gain experience. • Talk to professionals in fields of interest & arrange shadowing or informational interview opportunities. • Maintain a high GPA for admission into graduate schools. • Acquire knowledge of government & community resources available. • Research state licensure requirements in fields such as counseling. • Develop strong communication and public speaking skills. • Seek leadership roles on campus such as a peer mentor, resident advisor, or orientation leader.
Nonprofit	Human rights organizations Nonprofit organizations Trade or professional Associations Educational Organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn how to write grants and gain an understanding of budgeting & fiscal management. • Research organization’s values to find a good fit with yours. • Consider earning a graduate degree for more job opportunities and advancement.

*To learn about these areas and much more visit: whatcanidowiththismajor.com/major • © 2011 What Can I Do With This Major

Enrichment Opportunities

Internships

For more information contact the Women and Gender Studies Program. usm.maine.edu//community-engagement-career-development/internships

Study Abroad

For more information contact the USM Office of International Programs. usm.maine.edu/international/study-abroad

Clubs & Organizations

Gender Studies Student Organization
For a complete list of student organizations: webapp.usm.maine.edu/pathways/list

USM Corporate Partners

The USM Corporate Partners are over 350 business people, from nearly 100 companies. usm.maine.edu/corporatepartners

Helpful Career Links

USMCareerConnections:

USM’s career network for job and internship searches. usm.maine.edu/community-engagement-career-development/usmcareerconnections

O*NET OnLine:

Learn more about a career opportunity by researching it with O*NET. onetonline.org

Occupational Outlook Handbook:

Learn more about a career opportunity by researching it with OOH. bls.gov/oooh

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS To name a few...

[AAUW – American Association of University Women](#)

[GLSEN – Gay, Lesbian, Straight Education Network](#)

[MWPC – Maine Women’s Policy Center](#)

[NWSA – National Women’s Studies Association](#)

[WCW – The Wellesley Centers for Women](#)

[Women Unlimited Maine](#)

[WPATH – The World Professional Association for Transgender Health](#)



PORTLAND • GORHAM • LEWISTON • ONLINE

Office of Community Engagement and Career Development • usm.maine.edu/cecd

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