

PHILOSOPHY: GENDER AND WOMEN'S STUDIES (PH.D.)

Offered by: Philosophy (Faculty of Arts)

Degree: Doctor of Philosophy

Program Description

The graduate option in Gender and Women's Studies is an interdisciplinary program for students who meet the degree requirements in Philosophy who wish to earn 9 additional credits of approved coursework focusing on gender and women's studies, and issues in feminist research and methods. The student's doctoral thesis must be on a topic centrally relating to issues of gender and/or women's studies.

Note: For information about Fall 2025 and Winter 2026 course offerings, please check back on May 8, 2025. Until then, the "Terms offered" field will appear blank for most courses while the class schedule is being finalized.

Thesis

A thesis for the doctoral degree must constitute original scholarship and must be a distinct contribution to knowledge. It must show familiarity with previous work in the field and must demonstrate ability to plan and carry out research, organize results, and defend the approach and conclusions in a scholarly manner. The research presented must meet current standards of the discipline; as well, the thesis must clearly demonstrate how the research advances knowledge in the field. Finally, the thesis must be written in compliance with norms for academic and scholarly expression and for publication in the public domain.

Required Courses (24 credits)

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Course	Title	Credits
PHIL 607	Pro-Seminar 1.	6
PHIL 682	Pro-Seminar 3.	6
PHIL 685	Fundamentals of Logic.	3
PHIL 690	Candidacy Paper.	3
WMST 601	Feminist Theories and Methods.	3
WMST 602	Feminist Research Symposium.	3

Complementary Courses (24-30 credits)

Students admitted to Ph.D. 1 require ten complementary courses.

Students admitted to Ph.D. 2 require eight complementary courses.

Minimum two courses from the following:

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Course	Title	Credits
PHIL 651	Seminar: Ancient Philosophy 2.	3
PHIL 656	Medieval Philosophy.	3
PHIL 661	Seminar: 18th Century Philosophy.	3
PHIL 667	Seminar: 19th Century Philosophy.	3
PHIL 675	Seminar: Contemporary European Philosophy.	3

and/or any other course at the 500, 600, or 700 level in the History of Philosophy recommended/accepted by the student's advisory committee. Depending on the topics covered, PHIL 607 Pro-Seminar 1. and PHIL 682 Pro-Seminar 3. may count toward the area requirements.

Minimum of two courses from the following:

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Course	Title	Credits
PHIL 627	Seminar: Critical Philosophy of Race.	3
PHIL 634	Seminar: Ethics.	3
PHIL 642	Seminar: Feminist Theory.	3
PHIL 643	Seminar: Medical Ethics.	3
PHIL 644	Political Theory.	3
PHIL 648	Seminar: Philosophy of Law.	3

and/or any other course at the 500, 600, or 700 level in Value Theory recommended/accepted by the student's advisory committee. Depending on the topics covered, PHIL 607 Pro-Seminar 1. and PHIL 682 Pro-Seminar 3. may count toward the area requirements.

Minimum of two courses from the following:

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Course	Title	Credits
PHIL 610	Seminar on Advanced Logic 2.	3
PHIL 611	Seminar: Philosophy of Logic and Mathematics.	3
PHIL 615	Seminar: Philosophy of Language.	3
PHIL 619	Seminar: Epistemology.	3
PHIL 621	Seminar: Metaphysics.	3
PHIL 670	Seminar: Contemporary Analytic Philosophy.	3

and/or any other course at the 500, 600, or 700 level in Metaphysics and Epistemology recommended/accepted by the student's advisory committee. Depending on the topics covered, PHIL 607 Pro-Seminar 1. and PHIL 682 Pro-Seminar 3. may count toward the area requirements.

One additional course selected from the list of Women's Studies graduate course offerings, or other graduate option-approved courses from participating departments.

The remaining course(s) must be at the 500, 600, or 700 level and are to be chosen in consultation with the student's advisory committee.

Language Requirement

One research language at the advanced level or two research languages at the intermediate level.