

# Women's studies

**Convener:** Associate Professor Maila Stevens

Women's studies offers a unique opportunity from which to study a variety of topics and issues relating to gender and society. The program places particular emphasis on recent developments in Australian and Asia-Pacific feminisms and in gender relations. Subjects within women's studies draw on examples from Australia and the Asia-Pacific region in order to develop students appreciation of Australia's location within the Asia-Pacific region and the implications of Australia's own colonial history. Situated within one of the leading history departments in Australia, the interdisciplinary program in women's studies both draws on and extends the department's research interests.

Women's studies addresses a range of issues that include gender, family and mothering; gender and sexuality; gender and colonialism; and Australian and Asian feminisms. The program draws on a core of subjects taught by lecturers in women's studies and a wide range of subjects available within other areas of study. These include subjects drawn from criminology, English, art history, cinema studies, history and philosophy of science, anthropology, political science, and linguistics.

## Prerequisites

The women's studies program commences at either first or second year. The general prerequisite for entry at second year is the completion of 50 points of first year in any area of study within the Faculty of Arts.

## Requirements for a major

A major in women's studies usually consists of nine 12.5 point subjects, totalling 112.5 points. It comprises:

- two first year subjects from any area of study, one of which may be 131-116 Sex, Gender and Power: An Introduction (*p.205*) (25 points) and;
- seven second/third year subjects (87.5 points), which must include:
  - two subjects from the list of core subjects below and;
  - five subjects from the list of optional subjects below.

## Women's studies subjects

Students must take **two** of the following subjects at second/third year toward their women's studies major.

<b>Core subjects (second/third year)</b>	Sem.
<b>Women's studies/history</b>	
131-024 The Body: History, Sex & Gender ( <i>p.219</i> )	N/A
131-032 Contesting Genders: 1792 to the 1950s ( <i>p.219</i> )	N/A
131-033 A History of Sexualities ( <i>p.207</i> )	2
131-034 Gender, Culture and Identity Politics ( <i>p.207</i> )	1

Students must take **five** of the following subjects at second/third year toward their women's studies major.

Students should also note that they must consult the relevant area of study entries in the Handbook to make sure that they meet the prerequisites, if any, for entry to these subjects.

<b>Optional subjects (first year)</b>	Sem.
131-116 Sex, Gender and Power: An Introduction ( <i>p.205</i> )	1

<b>Optional subjects (second/third year)</b>	Sem.
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<b>Anthropology</b>	
121-066 Sexing the Self ( <i>p.57</i> )	2

<b>Cinema studies</b>	
107-037 Film and the Body ( <i>p.108</i> )	N/A
107-079 Feminist Film and Television Theory ( <i>p.108</i> )	N/A
107-083 Film Noir: Style and History ( <i>p.106</i> )	2
107-088 Love Stories: Film and Narrative Theory ( <i>p.107</i> )	1

<b>English</b>	
106-043 The Victorian 'Supernatural' ( <i>p.145</i> )	1
106-058 Sex, Sentiment & the 18th Century Novel ( <i>p.152</i> )	N/A
106-067 Feminist Cultural Studies ( <i>p.152</i> )	N/A
106-020 Reading Sexuality ( <i>p.143</i> )	2
106-052 Gothic Fictions ( <i>p.146</i> )	2

<b>French</b>	
116-024 Women & Representation in French Society ( <i>p.174</i> )	1

<b>History/women's studies</b>	
131-038 Gender and Development ( <i>p.207</i> )	2

<b>Islamic studies</b>	
110-090 Gender and Islam ( <i>p.241</i> )	2

<b>Linguistics and applied linguistics</b>	
175-022 Language & Gender ( <i>p.272</i> )	N/A

<b>Optional subjects (second/third year)</b>	Sem.
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<b>Philosophy</b>	
161-022 Philosophy of Feminism ( <i>p.290</i> )	1

<b>Political science</b>	
166-024 International Gender Politics ( <i>p.302</i> )	2
166-032 Sexual Politics ( <i>p.303</i> )	1
166-011 The Politics of Sexual Reform Movements ( <i>p.301</i> )	2
166-105 Gender and Politics in Southeast Asia ( <i>p.304</i> )	2

<b>Social theory</b>	
136-075 Identities in Conflict ( <i>p.324</i> )	2
136-077 Psychoanalysis and Social Theory ( <i>p.324</i> )	1

<b>Sociology</b>	
166-090 Love, Family and Sexuality ( <i>p.332</i> )	N/A

<b>Optional subjects (third/fourth year)</b>	Sem.
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<b>Criminology</b>	
191-020 Women, Gender and Crime ( <i>p.130</i> )	2
191-026 Crime and Culture ( <i>p.130</i> )	1

## Honours entry

The prerequisites for entry to Fourth Year Honours in Women's Studies are:

- completion of all the requirements for the BA and;
- completion of a major in Women's Studies and;
- an average grade of H2B or higher over the second/third year subjects within the major.

Prospective honours students are required to consult with the convener of women's studies during semester 2 of the year prior to honours entry. At this time they must complete a satisfactory thesis proposition form, available from the convener.

## Honours requirements

### Pure Honours

Students undertaking pure Honours in Women's Studies must complete:

- 131-506 Women's Studies Thesis (*p.352*) or 131-507 Women's Studies Thesis (MYE) (*p.352*) (37.5 points) and;
- one compulsory subject 131-063 Representations of Gender (*p.214*) (12.5 points) and;
- four honours subjects in women's studies selected from the list below (or alternative subjects arranged with the women's studies coordinator) (50 points).

### Combined Honours

Students undertaking combined Honours in Women's Studies and another area of study must complete:

- 131-506 Women's Studies Thesis (*p.352*) or 131-507 Women's Studies Thesis (MYE) (*p.352*) (37.5 points) and;
- 131-063 Representations of Gender (*p.214*) or 131-132 Gender, Globalisation and Development (*p.217*) and;
- one honours subject in women's studies selected from the list below (or alternative subjects arranged with the women's studies coordinator) (25 points) and;
- three honours subjects in the combined area of study (totalling 37.5 points).

or

- honours thesis in the combined area of study (37.5 points) and;
- two honours subjects in the combined area of study (totalling 25 points) and;
- 131-063 Representations of Gender (*p.214*) or 131-132 Gender, Globalisation and Development (*p.217*) and;
- two honours subjects in women's studies selected from the list below or alternative subjects arranged with the women's studies coordinator (totalling 37.5 points).

## For more information

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<b>Fourth year subjects</b>	Sem.
<b>Cinema studies</b>	
107-051 Melodrama, Class and the Cinema ( <i>p.107</i> )	1
107-088 Love Stories: Film and Narrative Theory ( <i>p.107</i> )	1
107-092 Postmodernism and the Cinema ( <i>p.109</i> )	N/A
107-093 Dream Screen: Film and Psychoanalysis ( <i>p.109</i> )	N/A
166-054 The Body and the State ( <i>p.309</i> )	N/A
<b>Criminology</b>	
191-020 Women, Gender and Crime ( <i>p.130</i> )	2
191-026 Crime and Culture ( <i>p.130</i> )	1
<b>English</b>	
106-018 Stardom, Media, Culture ( <i>p.148</i> )	2
106-072 Reading the Subject: Freud/Lacan/Fiction ( <i>p.149</i> )	1
106-076 Feminist Readings ( <i>p.149</i> )	2
106-087 Lesbian and Gay Theory ( <i>p.150</i> )	1
106-088 Body Cultures ( <i>p.153</i> )	N/A
106-092 Theorising the Spectator ( <i>p.153</i> )	N/A
<b>Geography</b>	
121-516 Gender, Environment and Development ( <i>p.136</i> )	2
<b>History</b>	
131-063 Representations of Gender ( <i>p.214</i> )	1
131-132 Gender, Globalisation and Development ( <i>p.217</i> )	2
131-135 Gender and Colonialism: 1788-1945 ( <i>p.217</i> )	2
131-092 Art, Family & Politics: The Renaissance ( <i>p.214</i> )	1
<b>Political science</b>	
166-054 The Body and the State ( <i>p.309</i> )	N/A
166-107 Human Rights Theory & Practice: S.E.Asia ( <i>p.307</i> )	2
<b>Social theory</b>	
136-082 Imagined Societies ( <i>p.324</i> )	2

## Fourth year subjects

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### 131-506 Women's Studies Thesis

**Credit points:** 37.5 **HECS-band:** 1

**Coordinator:** Assoc Prof M Stivens

**Prerequisites:** Admission to the Postgraduate Diploma or Fourth Year Honours in Women's Studies.

**Contact:** Regular meetings with the supervisor (*Year long*).

**Description:** An approved topic selected in consultation with the convenor of women's studies.

**Assessment:** A thesis of 12 000 words.

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### 131-507 Women's Studies Thesis (MYE)

**Credit points:** 37.5 **HECS-band:** 1

**Coordinator:** Assoc Prof M Stivens

**Prerequisites:** Mid-year admission to the Postgraduate Diploma or Fourth Year Honours in Women's Studies.

**Contact:** Regular meetings with the supervisor (*Semester 1, repeat 2*).

**Description:** An approved topic selected in consultation with the convenor of women's studies.

**Assessment:** A thesis of 12 000 words.