

Gender studies

Convener: Associate Professor Maila Stevens

Gender studies (formerly 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 gender 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 gender studies both draws on and extends the department's research interests.

Gender studies addresses a range of issues that include gender, family and mothering; gender and sexuality; gender and colonialism; gender and identity; gender and nationalism; and Australian and Asian feminisms. The program draws on a core of subjects taught by lecturers in gender studies and a wide range of subjects available within other areas of study. These include subjects drawn from anthropology, art history, Australian studies, cinema studies, criminology, English, French, history, history and philosophy of science, Islamic studies, linguistics and applied linguistics, philosophy, political science, social theory and sociology.

Prerequisites

The gender 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 gender studies usually consists of nine 12.5 point subjects, totaling 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.4*) (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.

Gender studies subjects

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

Core subjects (second/third year)	Sem.
Gender studies/history	
131-024 The Body: History, Sex & Gender (<i>p.4</i>)	2
131-032 Contesting Genders: 1792 to the 1950s (<i>p.16</i>)	N/A
131-033 A History of Sexualities (<i>p.16</i>)	N/A
131-034 Gender, Culture and Identity Politics (<i>p.5</i>)	1
131-038 Gender and Development (<i>p.6</i>)	2

Students must take **five** of the subjects at second/third year toward their gender 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.

Optional subjects (first year)	Sem.
131-116 Sex, Gender and Power: An Introduction (<i>p.4</i>)	2

Optional subjects (second/third year)	Sem.
--	------

Anthropology	
121-066 Sexing the Self (<i>p.4</i>)	N/A

Australian studies	
100-210 From Mateship to Mardi Gras (<i>p.3</i>)	Summer

Cinema studies	
107-037 Film and the Body (<i>p.4</i>)	N/A
107-079 Feminist Film and Television Theory (<i>p.2</i>)	1
107-083 Film Noir: Style and History (<i>p.4</i>)	N/A
107-088 Love Stories: Film and Narrative Theory (<i>p.5</i>)	N/A

English	
106-043 The Victorian 'Supernatural' (<i>p.6</i>)	1
106-058 Sex, Sentiment & the 18th Century Novel (<i>p.14</i>)	N/A
106-067 Feminist Cultural Studies (<i>p.14</i>)	N/A
106-020 Reading Sexuality (<i>p.4</i>)	1
106-052 Gothic Fictions (<i>p.6</i>)	2

French	
116-024 Women & Representation in French Society (<i>p.9</i>)	N/A

Islamic studies

Optional subjects (second/third year)	Sem.
110-090 Gender and Islam (<i>p.3</i>)	N/A
Linguistics and applied linguistics	
175-022 Language & Gender (<i>p.6</i>)	N/A
Philosophy	
161-022 Philosophy of Feminism (<i>p.8</i>)	N/A
Political science	
166-105 Gender and Politics in Southeast Asia (<i>p.11</i>)	N/A
Social theory	
136-075 Identities in Conflict (<i>p.3</i>)	N/A
136-077 Psychoanalysis and Social Theory (<i>p.2</i>)	2
Sociology	
166-090 Love, Family and Sexuality (<i>p.3</i>)	1
Optional subjects (third/fourth year)	Sem.
Criminology	
191-422 Women, Gender and Crime (<i>p.4</i>)	2
191-428 Crime and Culture (<i>p.4</i>)	1

Honours entry

The prerequisites for entry to fourth year honours in gender studies are:

- completion of all the requirements for the BA and;
- completion of a major in gender 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 gender 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 gender studies must complete:

- 131-506 Gender Studies Thesis (*p.2*) or 131-507 Gender Studies Thesis (MYE) (*p.2*) (37.5 points) and;
- one compulsory subject 131-452 Representations of Gender (*p.13*) (12.5 points) or 131-447 Gender, Globalisation and Development (*p.12*) and;
- four honours subjects in gender studies selected from the list below (or alternative subjects arranged with the gender studies coordinator) (50 points).

Combined honours

Students undertaking combined honours in gender studies and another area of study must complete:

- 131-506 Gender Studies Thesis (*p.2*) or 131-507 Gender Studies Thesis (MYE) (*p.2*) (37.5 points) and;
 - 131-452 Representations of Gender (*p.13*) or 131-447 Gender, Globalisation and Development (*p.12*) and;
 - one honours subject in gender studies selected from the list below (or alternative subjects arranged with the gender studies coordinator) (25 points) and;
 - three honours subjects in the combined area of study (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 (25 points) and;
 - 131-452 Representations of Gender (*p.13*) or 131-447 Gender, Globalisation and Development (*p.12*) and;
 - two honours subjects in gender studies selected from the list below or alternative subjects arranged with the gender studies coordinator (37.5 points).

For more information

Associate Professor Maila Stevens
 Department of History
 Third Floor, John Medley Building
 The University of Melbourne
 Victoria 3010
 Tel. +61 3 8344 5970
 Email: m.stevens@unimelb.edu.au
 Web: <http://www.gender-studies.unimelb.edu.au>

Fourth year subjects		Sem.
Cinema studies		
107-431	Postmodernism and the Cinema (<i>p.3</i>)	1
107-432	Melodrama, Class and the Cinema (<i>p.5</i>)	N/A
107-463	Dream Screen: Film and Psychoanalysis (<i>p.3</i>)	1
107-088	Love Stories: Film and Narrative Theory (<i>p.5</i>)	N/A
Classical studies		
107-439	Sex, Gender & Society in Greece and Rome (<i>p.4</i>)	1
Criminology		
191-422	Women, Gender and Crime (<i>p.4</i>)	2
191-428	Crime and Culture (<i>p.4</i>)	1
English		
106-403	Reading the Subject: Freud/Lacan/Fiction (<i>p.9</i>)	2
106-409	Stardom, Media, Culture (<i>p.15</i>)	N/A
106-436	Lesbian and Gay Theory (<i>p.15</i>)	N/A
106-443	Body Cultures (<i>p.11</i>)	1
106-448	Theorising the Spectator (<i>p.12</i>)	2
Geography		
121-516	Gender Issues in Development (<i>p.2</i>)	2
History		
131-447	Gender, Globalisation and Development (<i>p.12</i>)	1
131-452	Representations of Gender (<i>p.13</i>)	1
131-454	Art, Family & Politics: The Renaissance (<i>p.13</i>)	1
131-455	Gender and Colonialism: 1788-1945 (<i>p.20</i>)	N/A
Political science		
166-417	Human Rights Theory & Practice: S.E.Asia (<i>p.8</i>)	1
Social theory		
136-482	Imagined Societies (<i>p.2</i>)	2

Fourth year subjects

131-506 Gender Studies Thesis

Availability: 4th year

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

Coordinator: Maila Stivens

Prerequisites: Admission to the postgraduate diploma or fourth year honours in gender studies.

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

Description: An approved topic selected in consultation with the convenor of gender studies.

Assessment: A thesis of 12 000 words.

131-507 Gender Studies Thesis (MYE)

Availability: 4th year

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

Coordinator: Maila Stivens

Prerequisites: Mid-year admission to the postgraduate diploma or fourth year honours in gender studies.

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

Description: An approved topic selected in consultation with the convenor of gender studies.

Assessment: A thesis of 12 000 words.