

GENDER AND SEXUALITY STUDIES - B.A.

College of Sciences and Humanities
School of Multidisciplinary Social Sciences and Humanities
www.kent.edu/multidisciplinary-studies

About This Program

Our Gender and Sexuality Studies program offers a multidisciplinary approach to understanding the complexities of gender and sexuality in contemporary society. With passionate faculty, engaging coursework and a welcoming community, you will have the opportunity to explore your interests, develop critical thinking skills and make a positive impact in the world. Read more...

Contact Information

- **Andrew Barnes** | abarnes3@kent.edu | 330-672-8947
- Speak with an Advisor
- Chat with an Admissions Counselor

Program Delivery

- **Delivery:**
 - In person
- **Location:**
 - Kent Campus

Examples of Possible Careers and Salaries*

General and operations managers

- 4.4% about as fast as the average
- 3,712,900 number of jobs
- \$102,950 potential earnings

Human resources specialists

- 6.2% faster than the average
- 944,300 number of jobs
- \$72,910 potential earnings

Lawyers

- 4.1% about as fast as the average
- 864,800 number of jobs
- \$151,160 potential earnings

Legal support workers, all other

- -1.2% decline
- 51,300 number of jobs
- \$68,760 potential earnings

Management analysts

- 8.8% much faster than the average
- 1,075,100 number of jobs
- \$101,190 potential earnings

Office and administrative support workers, all other

- -7.8% decline
- 232,900 number of jobs
- \$46,040 potential earnings

* Source of occupation titles and labor data comes from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' Occupational Outlook Handbook. Data comprises projected percent change in employment over the next 10 years; nation-wide employment numbers; and the yearly median wage at which half of the workers in the occupation earned more than that amount and half earned less.

Admission Requirements

The university affirmatively strives to provide educational opportunities and access to students with varied backgrounds, those with special talents and adult students.

First-Year Students on the Kent Campus: First-year admission policy on the Kent Campus is selective. Admission decisions are based upon cumulative grade point average, strength of high school college preparatory curriculum and grade trends. Students not admissible to the Kent Campus may be administratively referred to one of the seven regional campuses to begin their college coursework. For more information, visit the admissions website for first-year students.

First-Year Students on the Regional Campuses: First-year admission to Kent State's campuses at Ashtabula, East Liverpool, Geauga, Salem, Stark, Trumbull and Tuscarawas, as well as the Twinsburg Academic Center, is open to anyone with a high school diploma or its equivalent. For more information on admissions, contact the Regional Campuses admissions offices.

International Students: All international students must provide proof of proficiency of the English language (unless they meet specific exceptions) through the submission of an English language proficiency test score or by completing English language classes at Kent State's English as a Second Language Center before entering their program. For more information, visit the admissions website for international students.

Former Students: Former Kent State students who have not attended another institution since Kent State and were not academically dismissed will complete the re-enrollment process through the Financial, Billing and Enrollment Center. Former students who attended another college or university since leaving Kent State must apply for admissions as a transfer or post-undergraduate student.

Transfer Students: Students who attended an educational institution after graduating from high school or earning their GED must apply as transfer students. For more information, visit the admissions website for transfer students.

Admission policies for undergraduate students may be found in the University Catalog's Academic Policies.

Students may be required to meet certain criteria to progress in their program. Any progression requirements will be listed on the program's Coursework tab

Program Requirements

Major Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Major Requirements (courses count in major GPA)		
GSS 10100	INTRODUCTION TO GENDER AND SEXUALITY STUDIES	3
GSS 30500	METHODOLOGIES AND PRAXIS IN GENDER AND SEXUALITY STUDIES	3
GSS 40450	GENDER AND SEXUALITY ROUNDTABLE	3
GSS 40591	SEMINAR IN GENDER AND SEXUALITY STUDIES	3
Discourse, Identity and Human Dynamics Elective, choose from the following:		3
ENG 31012	GENDER AND LANGUAGE	
ENG 33013	AFRICANA WOMEN'S LITERATURE	
ENG 34021	WOMEN'S LITERATURE	
HIST 31075	HISTORY OF WOMEN IN THE UNITED STATES	
LGBT 40201	TRANSGENDER STUDIES	
PACS 31002	GENDER, POWER AND CONFLICT	
POL 40470	WOMEN, POLITICS AND POLICY	
WMST 30202	FEMINIST HUMOR: DISARMING LAUGHTER, DISRUPTIVE DISCOURSE	
Thematic Elective, choose from the following:		3
AFS 33110	BLACK WOMEN, CULTURE AND SOCIETY: HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVES	
AFS 33120	THE BLACK MAN: HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVES	
AFS 33130	GENDER AND SEXUALITY IN AFRICA AND THE AFRICAN DIASPORA	
HIST 31077	HISTORY OF SEXUALITY IN THE UNITED STATES	
LGBT 30120	LGBTQ RIGHTS AND CONTEMPORARY ISSUES	
WMST 30201	WITCHES: THE MONSTROUS FEMININE	
WMST 30302	GLOBAL FEMINISMS: A WORLD AND CENTURY OF WOMEN'S ACTIVISM	
WMST 32323	RAPE CULTURE: RETHINKING DANGER, POWER, SEX AND FEMINIST FRAMINGS	
Theory and Thought Elective, choose from the following:		3
AFS 43100	RACE, CLASS AND FEMINIST THOUGHT	
LGBT 40202	QUEER THEORY	
PHIL 31040	FEMINIST PHILOSOPHY	
WMST 30001	ARENAS FOR FEMINIST THOUGHT: TOUCHY SUBJECTS, UNSETTLED MATTERS AND FEMINIST RESPONSE-ABILITY	
Major Electives, choose from the following:		9
AFS 33120	THE BLACK MAN: HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVES	
AFS 33130	GENDER AND SEXUALITY IN AFRICA AND THE AFRICAN DIASPORA	
AFS 43100	RACE, CLASS AND FEMINIST THOUGHT	
BSCI 10001	HUMAN BIOLOGY (KBS)	
COMM 35912	GENDER AND COMMUNICATION	
CRIM 36800	LGBTQ POPULATIONS IN THE JUSTICE SYSTEM	
CRIM 37411	WOMEN IN CRIME AND JUSTICE	
ENG 31012	GENDER AND LANGUAGE	
ENG 33013	AFRICANA WOMEN'S LITERATURE	
ENG 34021	WOMEN'S LITERATURE	
HED 44025	WOMEN'S HEALTH ISSUES	

HED 46057	ADVANCED HUMAN SEXUALITY
HIST 31033	WITCHES AND EUROPEAN HISTORY, 1500-1800
HIST 31075	HISTORY OF WOMEN IN THE UNITED STATES
HIST 31077	HISTORY OF SEXUALITY IN THE UNITED STATES
IHS 32544	HUMAN SEXUALITY
JWST 30100	JEWISH WOMEN IN THE MODERN WORLD
LGBT 30120	LGBTQ RIGHTS AND CONTEMPORARY ISSUES
LGBT 40201	TRANSGENDER STUDIES
LGBT 40202	QUEER THEORY
PACS 31002	GENDER, POWER AND CONFLICT
PHIL 31040	FEMINIST PHILOSOPHY
POL 40470	WOMEN, POLITICS AND POLICY
SOC 32565	SOCIOLOGY OF SEXUALITIES
SOC 42315	SOCIOLOGY OF GENDER
THEA 41115	LGBTQ THEATRE
WMST 30001	ARENAS FOR FEMINIST THOUGHT: TOUCHY SUBJECTS, UNSETTLED MATTERS AND FEMINIST RESPONSE-ABILITY
WMST 30091	KEY CONVERSATIONS THROUGH WOMEN'S STUDIES
WMST 30201	WITCHES: THE MONSTROUS FEMININE
WMST 30202	FEMINIST HUMOR: DISARMING LAUGHTER, DISRUPTIVE DISCOURSE
WMST 30302	GLOBAL FEMINISMS: A WORLD AND CENTURY OF WOMEN'S ACTIVISM
WMST 32323	RAPE CULTURE: RETHINKING DANGER, POWER, SEX AND FEMINIST FRAMINGS
WMST 44321	PIVOTAL PRAXIS: EXPERIMENTS IN ACTIONABLE FEMINISM

Additional Requirements (courses do not count in major GPA)

UC 10001	FLASHES 101	1
Foreign Language (see Foreign Language College Requirement below)		10-16
American Civic Literacy Requirement ¹		3
Kent Core Composition		6
Kent Core Mathematics and Critical Reasoning		3
Kent Core Humanities and Fine Arts (minimum one course from each)		6-9
Kent Core Social Sciences (must be from two disciplines) ¹		3-6
Kent Core Basic Sciences (must include one laboratory)		6-7
Kent Core Additional		6
General Electives (total credit hours depends on earning 120 credit hours, including 39 upper-division credit hours)		43

Minimum Total Credit Hours: 120

¹ If students complete the American Civic Literacy requirement by taking HIST 12061, the course will apply to the Kent Core Humanities category. If they complete it with POL 10101, the course will apply to the Kent Core Social Sciences category.

Graduation Requirements

Minimum Major GPA	Minimum Overall GPA
2.000	2.000

Foreign Language College Requirement, B.A.

Students pursuing the Bachelor of Arts degree* in the College of Sciences and Humanities must complete the following:

1. Elementary I and II of any language (or equivalent) **and**
2. One of the following options:
 - a. Intermediate I and II of the same language
 - b. Elementary I and II of a second language
 - c. Any combination of two courses from the following list:
 - i. Intermediate I of the same language
 - ii. One to two college-level course(s) completed outside the United States
 - iii. Courses: ARAB 21401, ASL 19401, CHIN 25421, MCLS 10001, MCLS 20001, MCLS 20091, MCLS 21417, MCLS 21420, MCLS 22217, MCLS 28403, MCLS 28404

*The Bachelor of Arts degree in Communication Studies is exempt from the foreign language requirement until fall 2028 due to its previous longstanding academic placement in the College of Communication and Information, which does not have a foreign language requirement.

All students with prior foreign language experience should take the foreign language placement test to determine the appropriate level at which to start. Some students may start beyond the Elementary I level and will complete the requirement with fewer courses. This may be accomplished in one of three ways:

1. Passing a course beyond Elementary I through Intermediate II level
2. Receiving credit through one of the alternative credit programs offered by Kent State University
3. Demonstrating language proficiency comparable to Elementary II of a foreign language

Certain programs may require specific languages, limit the languages from which a student may choose or require coursework through Intermediate II. Students who plan to pursue graduate study may need a particular language proficiency.

Roadmap

This roadmap is a recommended semester-by-semester plan of study for this program. Students will work with their advisor to develop a sequence based on their academic goals and history. Courses designated as critical (!) must be completed in the semester listed to ensure a timely graduation.

Semester One		Credits
GSS 10100	INTRODUCTION TO GENDER AND SEXUALITY STUDIES	3
UC 10001	FLASHES 101	1
	Foreign Language Requirement	4
	Kent Core Requirement	3
	Kent Core Requirement	3
Credit Hours		14
Semester Two		Credits
	Theory and Thought Elective	3
	Foreign Language Requirement	4
	Kent Core Requirement	3
	Kent Core Requirement	3
	Kent Core Requirement	3
Credit Hours		16
Semester Three		Credits
	Thematic Elective	3
	Foreign Language and/or General Elective	3
	American Civic Literacy Requirement	3

Kent Core Requirement		3
General Elective		3
Credit Hours		15
Semester Four		
GSS 30500	METHODOLOGIES AND PRAXIS IN GENDER AND SEXUALITY STUDIES	3
Discourse, Identity and Human Dynamics Elective		3
Foreign Language and/or General Elective		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
General Elective		3
Credit Hours		15
Semester Five		
GSS 40450	GENDER AND SEXUALITY ROUNDTABLE	3
Major Elective		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
General Elective		3
Credit Hours		15
Semester Six		
Major Elective		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
General Electives		6
Credit Hours		15
Semester Seven		
Major Elective		3
General Electives		12
Credit Hours		15
Semester Eight		
GSS 40591	SEMINAR IN GENDER AND SEXUALITY STUDIES	3
General Electives		12
Credit Hours		15
Minimum Total Credit Hours:		120

University Requirements

All students in a bachelor's degree program at Kent State University must complete the following university requirements for graduation.

NOTE: University requirements may be fulfilled in this program by specific course requirements. Please see Program Requirements for details.

Flashes 101 (UC 10001)	1 credit hour
Course is not required for students with 30+ transfer credits (excluding College Credit Plus) or age 21+ at time of admission.	
American Civic Literacy	3 credit hours
Experiential Learning Requirement (ELR)	varies
Students must successfully complete one course or approved experience.	
Kent Core (see table below)	36-37 credit hours
Writing-Intensive Course (WIC)	1 course
Students must earn a minimum C grade in the course.	
Upper-Division Requirement	39 credit hours
Students must successfully complete 39 upper-division (numbered 30000 to 49999) credit hours to graduate.	

Total Credit Hour Requirement	120 credit hours
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sexuality as well as feminist, LGBTQ and anti-racist histories and activism to combat social inequality. This program skillfully provides both the theoretical and praxis of the field while integrating these different and contributing perspectives regarding gender and sexuality.

Kent Core Requirements

Kent Core Composition (KCMP)	6
Kent Core Mathematics and Critical Reasoning (KMCR)	3
Kent Core Humanities and Fine Arts (KHUM/KFA) (min one course each)	9
Kent Core Social Sciences (KSS) (must be from two disciplines)	6
Kent Core Basic Sciences (KBS/KLAB) (must include one laboratory)	6-7
Kent Core Additional (KADL)	6
Total Credit Hours:	36-37

Program Learning Outcomes

Graduates of this program will be able to:

1. Identify key terms, theories and conceptual frameworks in the analysis of gender and sexuality.
2. Examine the multiple and complex ways gender and sexuality are constructed through, and across, different identities, discourses and systems of power.
3. Think critically about contemporary debates and issues related to gender and sexuality and devise policy interventions to address them.
4. Apply multiple thematic areas in analyzing questions, dynamics and issues surrounding gender and sexuality and contribute with agency in social discourse.

Program Policies

Foreign Language Requirements

In general, students may elect any foreign language taught through the Department of Modern and Classical Language Studies. However, certain majors, concentrations and minors require specific languages or limit the languages from which students may choose. In addition, students who plan to pursue graduate study may need particular languages for that study. In such cases, students should seek the advice of the appropriate department before selecting a language.

Progress Toward Fulfillment

College of Sciences and Humanities students are encouraged to begin meeting the foreign language requirement as early as possible in their program to ensure timely degree completion.

Mandatory Outcomes Assessment

In addition to the other General Requirements of the college, candidates for an undergraduate degree in the College of Sciences and Humanities are required, as a condition of graduation, to participate in an outcomes assessment. These outcomes assessments are conducted by each undergraduate degree program in the College of Sciences and Humanities.

Full Description

The Bachelor of Arts degree in Gender and Sexuality Studies takes a multidisciplinary and intersectional approach to examining ideas and processes that shape people's understanding about gender, sexualities and bodies throughout space and time. Scholarly investigation and production in this discipline emerged from sociological inquiry on human