

GENDER STUDIES

WHY STUDY GENDER STUDIES?

More people than ever are contesting deeply held notions of sex, gender and sexuality.

We look at how gender/sexuality intersects with our other identities such as race, class, ethnicity, and religion, which then impacts our perceptions of self and community. We interrogate how gender/sexuality operates in social and discursive spaces - such as science, politics, media and education.

CAREER POSSIBILITIES

Graduates take up positions that focus on improving and transforming society. From roles with the social services to public relations, in counselling, community work and governmental posts, and in the media, political and legal worlds, Gender Studies graduates address structural inequalities locally and globally.

“Gender Studies is my biggest passion and the reason why I went to university. Gender pervades everything we do and I find that studying it has opened my eyes and helped me better understand the world around me.”

“It has challenged me to reflect and work upon my prejudices and has motivated me to change and deconstruct the oppressive power structures which are at work.”



Emma Bray
Senior Policy Adviser, Regulatory Policy, Manatū Waka Ministry of Transport

Bachelor of Arts, majoring in Gender Studies + Politics and International Relations / Bachelor of Laws



“Gender Studies opens new paths of inquiry, dismantles assumptions about gender and sexual identities and fights against social inequality.”

Kirsten Zemke
Senior Lecturer



WHAT WILL MY DEGREE LOOK LIKE?

Alongside key Gender Studies courses, you can also take a range of courses from other subjects in Arts, including History, Anthropology and Sociology. You will also take courses from other faculties, including Education and Medical and Health Sciences.

WHAT CAN I STUDY?

Courses focus on areas such as gender and the home, workplace and public life, gender and violence, Pacific island cultures and gender relations, and the portrayals of gender in popular culture. The topics address the latest developments in feminist, gender, queer and transgender theory and practice.

Get excited about your course options:



Stage 1 Course*

GENDER 101 - Gender: Global and Local

Develops an understanding of key concepts that underlie gender analysis, and how they are expressed in politics, culture and society. Examines the meaning of gender across a range of subjects and issues on the global stage and in our everyday lives.

Stage 2 Course*

GENDER 208 - Thinking Gender

An interdisciplinary examination of feminist theories of gender and sexuality. Focuses on contemporary issues, debates, and practices, while grounding them in foundational theories and investigating how these issues and debates play out across disciplines and practices. Examples include the perils of identity politics, tensions between feminist and queer theories, the politics of representation, and gender justice in a globalised world.

Stage 3 Course*

GENDER 311 Transgender and the Queering of Sexuality

Considers challenges of being transgender, coming out and queering sex/gender normativity. Transgender theory is deployed to analyse and interrogate material and subjective aspects of transgender, including generational attitudinal changes and the implications for capitalism, politics, culture and society. Draws on psychoanalytic-influenced theories to question and queer human sexuality, libidinal investments in masculine domination and sex/gender essentialism.

Courses you could study*

Gender: Global and Local

Great Books: Seduction and Betrayal

Gender and the Pacific in a Globalising World

Complementary majors include:

Gender Studies



History

Media and Screen Studies

Politics and International Relations

Psychology

Sociology



“The way my lecturers talk about their content, you just know they’re so passionate and fascinated about it.”

Tomoki Vincent

Student: Bachelor of Arts, majoring in Gender Studies + Communication

*Course availability may be subject to change. For a full list of courses and up-to-date information visit the Arts website. Published August 2023

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