GENDER STUDIES

This interdisciplinary major is composed of faculty, students, and associated scholars from across the humanities, sciences, and arts who work together to examine the world through the lens of gender. Students cross cultures, regions, periods, and theories in order to study the meanings of gender and sexuality, and the way they intersect with race, class, and ethnicity. Our faculty, drawn from across the university, includes undisputed leaders in their fields of specialization, which include popular music, masculinity, sports, queer studies, reproductive rights, poverty, social movements, and new medical technologies.

Opportunities for Students

- **Center for Feminist Research:** For 20 years, the CFR has worked together with the Gender Studies Program to create research opportunities for the study of women, gender, and feminism. Their seminars, workshops, conferences, and informal gatherings bring together scholars, students, and members of the greater Los Angeles community who share interests and concerns about the operations of gender in our neighborhoods, our society, and our world.

- **Louise Kerckhoff Prize:** This prize has been established for the purpose of annually awarding students for both the best graduate and undergraduate papers in Gender Studies.

- **Honors Program:** Strong students have the option of enrolling in a year-long program that includes an upper-division seminar and the completion of a thesis.

Notable Courses

- **SWMS 210: Social Issues in Gender** — Multidisciplinary survey of gender assumptions in relation to sexuality, mental health, social and political relations, and artistic expression.

- **SWMS 301: Introduction to Feminist Theory and the Women’s and Men’s Movements** — Theories of feminism; historical, social, and cultural perspectives of the women’s movement in America, Europe, and in developing countries, men’s roles in the feminist movement.

- **SWMS 385: Men and Masculinity** — Interdisciplinary examination of social, personal meanings of masculinity; variety of male experience by social class, race, sexuality, and age; emerging masculinities of the future.

- **SWMS 410: Senior Seminar** — Study of a selected problem, period, or theme in the study of gender by integrating perspectives from cross-cultural and interdisciplinary studies.
Bachelor of Arts (BA) Requirements

Lower Division Requirement*
- SWMS 210: Social Issues in Gender
  or SWMS 215: Gender Conflict in Cultural Contexts

Upper Division Requirements*
- SWMS 301: Introduction to Feminist Theory and the Women’s and Men’s Movements
- SWMS 311: Gender Studies and the Community — Internship
- SWMS 410: Senior Seminar in Gender Studies
- Five (5) additional SWMS and cross-listed courses

Upper Division Courses**
- AHIS 363: Race, Gender, and Sexuality in Contemporary Art
- ANTH 370: Family and Kinship in Cross-Cultural Perspective
- CLAS 300: Women in Antiquity
- COMM 395: Gender, Media and Communication
- HIST 305: From Goddesses to Witches — Women in Premodern Europe
- HIST 345: Men and Women in United States History from the 1920s to the Present
- IR 316: Gender and Global Issues
- POSC 380: Political Theories and Social Reform
- POSC 381: Sex, Power, and Politics
- PSYC 372: Human Sexuality
- REL 335: Gender, Religion, and Sexuality
- SWMS 336: Health, Gender, and Ethnicity
- SWMS 349: Women and the Law
- SWMS 355: Transgender Studies
- SWMS 384: Gender, Social Inequality, and Social Justice
- SWMS 415: Ecofeminism
- SWMS 425: Queer Los Angeles
- SWMS 455: Gender & Sport

*This information is offered as a partial overview only. For additional information, including all major requirements, please consult the USC Catalogue or http://dornsife.usc.edu/genderstudies/. Updated as of August 2015.

**This does not represent all options in this category. For a complete list, please consult the USC Catalogue.