

Women's and Gender Studies

Pursuing engaged, critical feminist research from diverse perspectives.

The MA program the Pauline Jewett Institute of Women's and Gender Studies, offers expertise in understanding the intersectional complexities of gender, race, sexuality, disability and other categories of social difference. Students have an opportunity to work with dynamic faculty members who place social inequality struggles and strategies for change at the forefront of curriculum and research.

Within a transnational, decolonial and intersectional framework, students will explore issues, theories and methods relating to social justice, violence, human rights, popular culture and digital media, sexualities, disabilities and critical race studies. These will all be examined in cultural, political, economic and social settings. Core learning objectives of the MA program include: transnational and decolonial feminist scholarship, critical research and thinking skills, interdisciplinarity and grounded knowledge.

Specializations in African Studies and Latin American and Caribbean Studies are available.

“A Master of Arts in Women's and Gender Studies strengthens one's critical thinking skills and fosters practical skills for applying feminist theory in our communities.”

— Kathleen Kuracina, MA/13

Degrees Offered

Master of Arts

Career Options

Graduates of our program can explore careers in labour relations, community service, law, education and media, as well as in government agencies and the private sector. The transnational feminist focus is particularly important for graduates seeking work in international settings. Many alumni have gone on to pursue higher education in various disciplines.

Fall Application Deadline

February 1 for domestic students, to be eligible for funding.

February 1 for international applicants.

Admission Requirements

Applicants with a four-year BA in Women's and Gender Studies or a BA in related disciplines, including (but not limited to) anthropology, Indigenous and Canadian Studies, history, philosophy, political science and sociology will be considered for admission to the program. Typically, an average of B+ or higher is required. Applicants without the requisite background may be required to take WGST 5003 (0.5 credits) in addition to their other MA program requirement.

“The MA program in Women's and Gender studies is interdisciplinary and open to new ideas. I loved the freedom of being able to write about what I wanted to write about. It allowed me to explore topics that interested me in an academic setting.”

— Brigitta Abboud (MA/17)

