

 <b>FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY</b>	<b>NEW/CHANGE PROGRAM REQUEST</b> <b>Graduate Programs</b>		UGPC Approval _____ UFS Approval _____ Banner _____ Catalog _____								
	<b>Department</b> Center for Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies <b>College</b> Arts and Letters										
<b>Program Name</b> Master of Arts		<input type="checkbox"/> <b>New Program*</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Change Program*</b>	<b>Effective Date</b> (TERM & YEAR) January 2026								
<p><b>Please explain the requested change(s) and offer rationale below or on an attachment.</b></p> <p>We would like to request that the stated 36 credit hours of coursework in our fourth option to satisfy the M.A. degree in WGSS be reduced to 30 credit hours to align with other similar programs in the College. For example, we would change the Catalog entry (<a href="https://www.fau.edu/registrar/university-catalog/catalog/artsandletters/">https://www.fau.edu/registrar/university-catalog/catalog/artsandletters/</a>) below as follows:</p> <p><b>From this:</b></p> <p>Option 4: Coursework - 30 credits</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr style="background-color: #f2f2f2;"> <th style="width: 70%; text-align: left;">Course Title</th> <th style="width: 30%; text-align: left;">Course Number</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td colspan="2"><i>Electives - 30 credits - Select 27 credits from any 5000- or 6000-level courses within the College of Arts and Letters. Select 3 credits from any 5000- or 6000-level courses outside the College.</i></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><b>To this:</b></p> <p>Option 4: Coursework - <b>24</b> credits</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr style="background-color: #f2f2f2;"> <th style="width: 70%; text-align: left;">Course Title</th> <th style="width: 30%; text-align: left;">Course Number</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td colspan="2"><i>Electives - <b>24</b> credits - Select <b>18</b> credits from any 5000- or 6000-level courses within the College of Arts and Letters, approved by WGSS. May select <b>6</b> credits from any 5000- or 6000-level courses outside the College.</i></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><small>*All new programs and changes to existing programs must be accompanied by a catalog entry showing the new or proposed changes.</small></p>				Course Title	Course Number	<i>Electives - 30 credits - Select 27 credits from any 5000- or 6000-level courses within the College of Arts and Letters. Select 3 credits from any 5000- or 6000-level courses outside the College.</i>		Course Title	Course Number	<i>Electives - <b>24</b> credits - Select <b>18</b> credits from any 5000- or 6000-level courses within the College of Arts and Letters, approved by WGSS. May select <b>6</b> credits from any 5000- or 6000-level courses outside the College.</i>	
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<b>Faculty Contact/Email/Phone</b> Carla Maria Thomas / carlathomas@fau.edu / 850-321-1717		<b>Consult and list departments that may be affected by the change(s) and attach documentation</b> English, Sociology, Communications, Social Work, and Public Administration may see higher enrollments if WGSS graduate students ask to take their courses to fulfill this new option.									
<b>Approved by</b> Department Chair _____ College Curriculum Chair _____ College Dean _____ UGPC Chair _____ UGC Chair _____ Graduate College Dean _____ UFS President _____ Provost _____			<b>Date</b> 10/7/25 10-22-25 10-22-2025 _____ _____ _____ _____ _____								

Email this form and attachments to [UGPC@fau.edu](mailto:UGPC@fau.edu) 10 days before the UGPC meeting.

## **WOMEN, GENDER AND SEXUALITY STUDIES**

### **MASTER OF ARTS (M.A.)**

*(Minimum of 30–~~36~~ credits required, depending on track)*

The Master of Arts degree in Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies (WGSS) offers students the opportunity to gain cross-disciplinary, advanced knowledge of the impact of gender in diverse areas of life. The degree helps prepare students to enter a variety of professions for which a sophisticated knowledge of gender issues is considered a desirable employment qualification.

Students who receive the Master of Arts in Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies are prepared for doctoral work in Women's Studies and related programs, such as the Florida Atlantic University doctorate in Comparative Studies.

#### **Admission Requirements**

1. Students must have a baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution, preferably with a concentration (major, minor or certificate) in Women's Studies. Applicants without appropriate work in Women's Studies may be admitted on the condition that additional coursework in Women's Studies is completed in addition to the requirements for the M.A. degree.
2. Applicants must have a minimum 3.0 GPA for the last 60 undergraduate credits attempted and competitive Graduate Record Exam (GRE) scores. Applications are accepted for the fall and spring terms only.
3. In addition to the University application, students must complete the application specific to Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies. This application includes the following requirements:

- a. An essay addressing the student's interest in Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies graduate work, talent or experience that will contribute to this academic program and educational and professional goals;
- b. Three letters of recommendation using the form that accompanies the application (at least two letters from professors);
- c. A writing sample of 12-20 pages of researched writing representing the student's best academic work and critical thinking;
- d. If interested, the application for a graduate assistantship.

### Admission Requirements for Candidacy

1. Students seeking the M.A. in Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies must file an application for candidacy with the director of the program after completion of 18 credits of graduate coursework.
2. Along with the candidacy application, students in the thesis or internship option should submit a thesis or internship proposal.
3. Students should have an advisory committee of three faculty. A maximum of two faculty associates may be on the committee. The advisory committee will serve as the thesis committee.

### Degree Options and Requirements

*Requirements:* Students must receive a grade of "B" or better in all courses.

As the M.A. in Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies is an interdisciplinary degree, accepted courses for the M.A. will be posted prior to registration. All 6000-level courses with a WST prefix are acceptable, along with many other courses from other departments. Please check with the program office before registering to learn if a course has been approved. Refer to the [Center for Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies website](#).

*Options:* Four options are available for students interested in this M.A. program.

Core - 6 credits - *Required for all three options*

Course Title	Course Number	Credits
Feminist Theory and Praxis	WST 6564	3
Seminar in Global Perspectives on Gender	WST 6936	3

Option 1: Thesis - 24 credits

*Thesis - 6 credits*

Course Title	Course Number	Credits
Master's Thesis (may be taken over multiple terms)	WST 6971	1-6

*Electives - 18 credits - Select 15 credits from any 5000- or 6000-level courses within the College of Arts and Letters. Select 3 credits from any 5000- or 6000-level courses outside the College.*

Total	30
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Option 2: Comprehensive Exams - 24 credits

*Reading/Writing Exams - 3 credits*

Course Title	Course Number	Credits
Directed Independent Study	WST 6909	1-3

*Electives - 21 credits - Select 18 credits from any 5000- or 6000-level courses within the College of Arts and Letters. Select 3 credits from any 5000- or 6000-level courses outside the College.*

Total	30
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### Option 3: Internship - 24 credits

#### *Internship - 6 credits*

Course Title	Course Number	Credits
Graduate Internship in Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies (may be taken twice for a total of 6 credits)	WST 6941	1-6

*Electives - 18 credits - Select 15 credits from any 5000- or 6000-level courses within the College of Arts and Letters. Select 3 credits from any 5000- or 6000-level courses outside the College.*

Total	30
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### Option 4: Coursework – ~~30~~ 24 credits

Course Title	Course Number	Credits
<i>Electives – <del>30</del> 24 credits - Select <del>27</del> 18 credits from any 5000- or 6000-level courses within the College of Arts and Letters. Select <del>3</del> 6 credits from any 5000- or 6000-level courses outside the College.</i>		

Total	<del>36</del> 30
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