

# Gender & Women's Studies

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## Associate Professor and Chair of the Department

**K. McGuire**, BA (Queen's), MA, PhD (Western)

## Professors

**S. Chivers**, BA (Calgary), PhD (McGill)

**C. O'Manique**, BA (Carleton), MA, PhD (York) (on leave Fall 2019)

## Associate Professor and Canada Research Chair

**M. Chazan**, BA (Waterloo), BEd (OISE, Toronto), MA, PhD (Carleton)

## Associate Professor

**K. Pendleton Jiménez**, BA (UC Berkeley), MFA (San Diego State), PhD (York)

## Associated Faculty

**S. Bailey**, English Literature; **G. Balfour**, Sociology; **P. Ballantyne**, Sociology; **S. Bérard**, French & Francophone Studies; **R. Bode**, English Literature; **K. Buccieri**, Sociology; **N. Changfoot**, Political Studies; **C. Eddy**, English Literature; **J. Findon**, English Literature; **F. Harris-Stoertz**, History; **S. Hillock**, Social Work; **M. Howes**, Philosophy; **J. Hurl-Eamon**, History; **M. Lacombe**, Indigenous Studies; **W. Lem**, International Development Studies; **B. L. Marshall**, Sociology; **M. McIntosh**, Nursing; **J. Miron**, History; **M. Mumford**, Indigenous Studies; **K. Norlock**, Philosophy; **J. Penney**, Cultural Studies; **M. Rahman**, Sociology; **E. Stavro**, Political Studies; **M. Steffler**, English Literature; **D. White**, Sociology; **S. Wurtele**, Environment

The Department of Gender & Women's Studies explores gender relations and women's experiences across cultures and nations, throughout history, and in contemporary societies. We examine how gender relations and ideas about gender shape every site of human interaction, from the personal to the institutional, the local to the global. Gender relations and gendered identities are understood in constant interaction with other important social, economic, and cultural categories and hierarchies, such as class, race, ability, and sexuality. Courses investigate a broad range of issues, including how media and popular culture can be both problematic and empowering for girls and women; how feminist scholars and activists are critiquing public policies in health, social welfare, and education; how globalization is gendered; how dominant institutions like the family, schools, and the state shape social identities and opportunities; how women's and other social movements in the past and present challenge inequalities and envision peace and justice.

As an interdisciplinary department, Gender & Women's Studies draws on theoretical perspectives and methodologies from a wide range of fields such as History, Political Studies, Psychology, Sociology, Anthropology, English Literature, Indigenous Studies, Cultural Studies, International Development Studies, Canadian Studies, and the natural sciences. We combine theory with empirical research, foster critical thinking, and encourage students' involvement with local and broader communities.

## Bachelor of Arts Program in Gender & Women's Studies

- In addition to the program requirements listed below, students must satisfy the University degree requirements (see [p. 14](#)).
- The same course may not simultaneously satisfy the requirements of both programs in a joint-major degree.
- No more than 1.0 credit from reading courses may count toward the number of WMST credits required for the single- and joint-major General degree; and no more than 2.0 toward the number required for the single- and joint-major Honours degrees.

**The single-major Honours program.** 20.0 credits including the following 10.0 credits:

- 3.0 WMST credits consisting of WMST 1001H, 1002H, 2141H, 3021H, and 4995Y
- 7.0 WMST credits in addition to the above, including at least 2.0 credits from WMST 2151H, 2161H, 2487H, 2711H, 3122H/4122H, 3141H, 3250H, 3400H, 3431H/4431H, 3860H, or 3966H

**The joint-major Honours program.** 20.0 credits including the following 7.0 credits:

- 3.0 WMST credits consisting of WMST 1001H, 1002H, 2141H, 3021H, and 4995Y
- 4.0 WMST credits in addition to the above, including at least 1.0 credit from WMST 2151H, 2161H, 2487H, 2711H, 3122H/4122H, 3141H, 3250H, 3400H, 3431/4431H, 3860H, or 3966H

**The single-major General program.** 15.0 credits including the following 6.0 credits:

- 2.0 WMST credits consisting of WMST 1001H, 1002H, 2141H, and 3021H
- 1.0 WMST credit at the 3000 level or beyond in addition to the above
- 3.0 WMST credits in addition to the above

**The joint-major General program.** 15.0 credits including the following 5.0 credits:

- 2.0 WMST credits consisting of WMST 1001H, 1002H, 2141H, and 3021H
- 3.0 WMST credits in addition to the above

**The minor in Gender & Women's Studies** consists of the following 5.0 credits:

- 2.0 WMST credits consisting of WMST 1001H, 1002H, 2141H, and 3021H
- 3.0 WMST credits in addition to the above

**Please consult the academic timetable for information on courses that will be offered in 2019–2020, including when they will be scheduled.**

» **WMST 1001H: Thinking Gender: An Introduction**

An introduction to key concepts, issues, and themes informing the field of gender and women's studies. We challenge many taken-for-granted assumptions about gender relations, feminism, and human inequalities, and examine the social construction of sex and gender in relation to other categories such as "race," class, disability, and sexuality. Excludes WMST 1000Y.

» **WMST 1002H: Gender Matters: Issues and Contexts**

Considers gender, sex, and bodies in relation to contemporary challenges facing our world, both in North America and abroad. Through issues including media, popular culture, violence, sexuality, health, poverty, and globalization, we explore diverse women's experiences and gender relations, and evaluate multiple pathways toward gender and economic justice for everyone. Excludes WMST 1000Y.

» **WMST-NURS 2121H: Women and Health**

Addresses issues of importance to women as recipients and providers of health care and as subjects of health research. Students are introduced to various models of health and illness, and to the origins and theoretical underpinnings of the gendered dimensions of health in Canadian and global contexts. Prerequisite: 0.5 WMST credit at the 1000 level, or a minimum of 60% in all required NURS 1000-level courses, or permission of instructor. Excludes WMST 2120Y.

» **WMST-PHIL 2141H: Discovering Feminist Thought**

What is feminist theory, and what does it have to do with making/practicing social change? This course explores some of the key historical and contemporary feminist theories, inviting debate about the many different ways that feminists have explained and analyzed social inequalities, imagined alternatives, and strategized for gender justice. Prerequisite: 4.0 university credits including 0.5 WMST credit at the 1000 level, or permission of instructor. Excludes WMST 2040Y.

» **WMST 2151H: Contemporary Feminisms**

Uses a feminist lens to analyze a variety of contemporary social issues that may include sexual violence, migrant labour, transgender and queer politics, and environmental justice, as well as the new frontiers of transnational and digital feminist activism. Prerequisite: 4.0 university credits including 0.5 WMST credit at the 1000 level, or permission of instructor. Excludes WMST 2040Y.

» **WMST 2161H: Transnational Feminisms: Texts and Theories**

Explores the textual and material traces of transnational feminism by tracing the cultural representation and recording of feminist interactions, collaboration, and activism between nations. What are the histories behind transnational collaborations and networks and what can various media, forms, and modes of representation tell us about feminism writ large? Prerequisite: WMST 1001H.

» **WMST-CUST 2210H: Gender and Popular Culture**

Engages students in critical analyses of gender and popular cultures, film, television, print and Internet media, fictions, fashion, music, and dance. Examines the process through which gender relations are constructed within popular cultures, focusing on women as active agents in production and consumption of popular culture. Prerequisite: 4.0 university credits including 0.5 WMST or CUST credit at the 1000 level, or permission of instructor. Excludes WMST-CUST 2209Y.

» **WMST-CAST-GEOG-POST 2245H: The Social and Political Economy of Contemporary Canadian Immigration (see Canadian Studies)**

- » **WMST-IDST 2251H: Gender and International Development**  
An analysis of the political, economic, and cultural issues that confront women in their struggles for and against development in different localities across the globe. Theoretical and conceptual frameworks are explored and used to examine case studies of women's experiences of work and social change in developing contexts. Prerequisite: 0.5 WMST or IDST credit at the 1000 level, or permission of instructor. Excludes WMST-IDST 2250Y.
- » **WMST 2410H: The Revolution Will Be Recorded: Popular Culture, Gender, and Social Movements**  
Examines the role of popular culture in various forms—including live theatre, music, fashion, film, and television—within Canadian and American social movements of the twentieth century that sought to reimagine gender. Emphasizes the role of race, class, sexuality, ability, and medium in the production and consumption of protest cultures.
- » **WMST-SOCI 2430H: Sociology of Gender (see Sociology)**
- » **WMST-CAST-INDG 2485H: Indigenous Women's Creative Non-Fiction (ICR) (see Canadian Studies)**
- » **WMST-INDG 2487H: Decolonizing Feminisms**  
Looks at how contemporary feminisms can urgently turn to recognition and foregrounding of Indigenous peoples and their voices across territories. With emphasis on Indigenous women and 2SQ people as creative makers, vibrant thinkers, and vital members of our communities, we examine Indigenous/feminist acts of resistance, resilience and resurgence. Prerequisite: WMST 1001H.
- » **WMST-AHCL 2520H: Women in the Ancient World, 700 BCE–600 CE (see Ancient Greek & Roman Studies)**
- » **WMST-CAST 2600Y: Documenting Canada (See Canadian Studies)**
- » **WMST-CAST-HIST 2711H: Acting Up! Feminism and History in Canada**  
An overview of the history of feminist ideas, strategies, and actions in Canada. We explore the diversity and distinctiveness of Canadian feminism at different historical moments, celebrating the strength and creativity of organized and individual forms of resistance, while also probing the complicated, difficult, and sometimes "messy" workings of feminism. Prerequisite: 4.0 university credits including 0.5 WMST, CAST, or HIST credit at the 1000 level, or permission of instructor. Excludes WMST-CAST 2110H.
- » **WMST-CAST 2755H: Women in Canada: Women and the Arts (see Canadian Studies)**
- » **WMST-HIST 2760Y: Women in Britain and Europe (see History)**
- » **WMST 3021H: Discovering Feminist Research**  
How can research be used as a tool for social change? This course teaches students how to design feminist, anti-oppressive research in collaboration with community organizations. With attention to a range of current social issues, students learn about the theory, ethics, and design of engaged research. Prerequisite: 7.0 university credits including WMST 2141H and 0.5 additional WMST credit at the 2000 level or beyond, or permission of instructor. Excludes WMST 3020Y.
- » **WMST-NURS 3022H: Researching Women's Lives**  
Focuses on Institutional Ethnography (IE) as a feminist methodological practice that begins from women's standpoint—women's lives as they are actually experienced at the intersections of class and identity. Prerequisite: 1.0 WMST or NURS credit at the 2000 level or beyond, or permission of the instructor. Excludes WMST 3020Y.

- » **WMST 3031H: Doing Feminist Research: Making Social Change**  
Students carry out a portion of the feminist research they designed in WMST 3021H, building their skills and experience as researchers for social change. With attention to implementing different methods and navigating the practicalities of research, they develop their capacity, confidence, and creativity as collaborative critical inquirers. Prerequisite: WMST 3021H. Excludes WMST 3020Y.
- » **WMST-PHIL 3050H: Philosophy, Gender, and Feminism (see Philosophy)**
- » **WMST 3122H: Activists and Activisms: Feminist and Decolonial Perspectives**  
Students develop a critical analysis of contemporary social movements, including anti-racism, climate justice, border, and queer/trans activisms. The course provides opportunities to participate in social change work while developing skills in activist research. With attention to feminist scholarship, students examine how groups are organizing in diverse ways. Prerequisite: 6.0 university credits including 1.0 WMST credit at the 2000 level or beyond, or permission of instructor. Excludes WMST 4122H.
- » **WMST-CAST-ERST 3141H: Gender, Health, and Environments**  
Examines feminist engagements, in theory and practice, with environmental movements, issues, and health concerns, primarily in North America but with attention to north/south interconnections. Topics may include ecological feminisms, environmental justice, gender and climate change, environmental links to breast cancer and reproductive health, green consumerism, and gendered food politics. Prerequisite: 7.0 university credits including 0.5 WMST credit at the 2000 level or beyond, or permission of instructor. Excludes WMST-CAST-ERST 3140Y.
- » **WMST-CAST-HIST 3160Y: Canadian Women's History (see History)**
- » **WMST-CAST-HIST 3161H: Colonizing Women: Canada Before the Twentieth Century**  
Examines selected themes on women and gender relations in early Canadian history, exploring how class, race, language, and culture shaped diverse women's lives. Topics include gendered perspectives on First Nations-newcomer relations, slavery, white settler societies, the law and criminalization, women's labour, education, and women's early political and social organizing. Prerequisite: 1.0 WMST or HIST credit with a minimum 60% grade, or permission of instructor. Excludes HIST-CAST-WMST 3160Y, 4160Y.
- » **WMST-CAST-HIST 3162H: Modernizing Women: Twentieth-Century Canada**  
Focusing on Canadian women in the twentieth century, this course studies women's political organizing; feminism; women's experience of war; paid and unpaid work; immigrant experiences; sexuality; and modern colonialism. Emphasizes how class, race, language and culture create a diversity of women's histories that were both distinct, but always closely interrelated. Prerequisite: 1.0 WMST or HIST credit with a minimum 60% grade, or permission of instructor. Excludes HIST-CAST-WMST 3160Y, 4160Y.
- » **WMST-CAST-GEOG 3220H: Gender, Society, and Space (see Geography)**
- » **WMST-CUST 3250H: Queer Feminisms**  
Students explore bodies, desires, relations, and culture through queer and feminist theories. We consider connections among queer feminist scholarship, personal experience, political struggle, and artistic expression. Gender, sexuality, transgression, and intersectionality are central to the inquiry and conversation. Prerequisite: 7.0 university credits including 0.5 WMST credit at the 2000 level or beyond, or permission of instructor. Excludes WMST-CUST 4250H.
- » **WMST-AHCL 3310H: Love, Sex, and Death in the Ancient World (see Ancient Greek & Roman Studies)**
- » **WMST-HIST 3333H: Women Warriors and Heroic Mothers: Women and War in East Asia (see History)**
- » **WMST-POST 3360H: The Body Politic / The Body in Politics (see Political Studies)**



- » **WMST-PHIL-SOCI 3400H: Feminism and Disability**  
Introduces students to critical perspectives that push thinking about disability beyond medical and social models. Focuses on connections between gender and disability. Explores feminist challenges to ableism. Other topics include bodies, race, sexuality, education, creativity, access, eugenics, intersections, and austerity. Prerequisite: 6.0 university credits. Excludes WMST 3300H.
- » **WMST-CAST-POST 3431H: Growing Gap: Gender (In)Justice in Canada**  
An intersectional feminist analysis of social welfare issues and policies in Canada. Focusing on topics including poverty, homelessness, childcare, and employment, we examine historical roots and contemporary contexts shaping the lives of women and marginalized groups bearing the brunt of the growing income gap and neoliberal threats to equality. Prerequisite: 6.0 university credits including 1.0 WMST, CAST, or POST credit at the 2000 level or beyond, or permission of instructor. Excludes WMST-CAST-POST 4430Y, 4431H.
- » **WMST-SOCI 3440H: Sexuality and the Social (see Sociology)**
- » **WMST-CAST-INDG 3485H: Indigenous Women's Writing (ICR) (see Canadian Studies)**
- » **WMST-CAST-ENGL 3506Y/3507H: Canadian Women's Writing (see Canadian Studies)**
- » **WMST-CAST-INDG-SOCI 3508H: Indigenous Genders, Sexualities, and Relationships (see Indigenous Studies)**
- » **WMST-ENGL 3609H: SickLit (see English Literature)**
- » **WMST-CAST-POST 3671H: Gender and Politics in Canada: Cultural and Media Interventions (see Political Studies)**
- » **WMST-CAST-POST 3672H: Gender Diversity and Politics in Canada (see Political Studies)**
- » **WMST-ENGL 3701H: Writing the Body (see English Literature)**
- » **WMST-ENGL 3704H: Queer Lit (see English Literature)**
- » **WMST-CAST-ENGL 3709H: Girlhood Bodies and Narratives: Canadian and Global (see English Literature)**
- » **WMST-PSYC 3740H: Psychology of Gender (see Psychology)**
- » **WMST-PSYC 3796H: Feminist Psychologies (Sc)**  
Explores principles and practices of feminist psychology, theories of gender and sexual development, and the psychology of women. Focus is on feminist critiques of psychology and feminist contributions to psychology. Feminist relational, community, post-colonial, and narrative approaches are emphasized. Prerequisite: 6.0 university credits including 1.0 WMST credit at the 2000 level or beyond or 1.0 PSYC credit at 2000 level or beyond. Excludes WMST-PSYC 4796H.
- » **WMST 3820Y/3821H: Community Research Placement**  
The Trent Community Research Centre makes available to students research placements with community organizations. Projects are supervised jointly by a faculty member and representative of a community organization. Projects with sufficient gender content might be eligible for credit in Gender & Women's Studies. For details, see Community-Based Research Program ([p. 429](#)). Prerequisite: 10.0 university credits and a minimum 75% cumulative average.
- » **WMST-CAST-SOCI 3860H: Gender, Race, and Class**  
An examination of critical scholarship analyzing power relations and women's lived experiences through the intersections of gender, race, ethnicity, and class. Using historical and contemporary material, the course explores identity construction; gender, race, and class relations; and the maintenance of social and economic hierarchies in Canadian and international contexts. Prerequisite: 6.0 university credits including 1.0 WMST, CAST, or SOCI credit at 2000 level or beyond, or permission of instructor.

- » **WMST-IDST-POST 3881H: Gender, Globalization, and Resistance (see International Development Studies)**
- » **WMST 3900Y, 3901H, 3902H, 3903H: Reading Course**  
A structured course arranged between student and instructor, and approved by the department chair, involving independent study of a topic that is not covered by regular courses. Only offered when faculty resources permit. Students must complete a Reading Course Registration form, available from the department office, prior to registering.
- » **WMST-CAST-POST-SOCI 3962H: Gender, Sexualities, and the Law**  
Introduces students to key issues, theories, and debates concerning women, feminism, and the law, primarily in Canada. Approaching law as a site of regulation and constraint as well as a tool for feminist practice, the course examines issues such as family, sexuality, violence, pornography, prostitution, poverty, employment, and immigration. Prerequisite: 1.0 WMST, CAST, or POST credit, or permission of instructor.
- » **WMST-CAST-SOCI 3966H: Criminalizing and Punishing Women**  
Looks at historical and contemporary criminologies about women in trouble across early to late modernity, with specific analysis of how women are punished and the conditions of their incarceration. Focuses on the Canadian criminal justice system, with comparative analysis of Australia and the UK. Prerequisite: 1.0 WMST, CAST, or SOCI credit, or permission of instructor.
- » **WMST 4010Y: Honours Thesis**  
Consult the department office for information and for the required thesis registration form. Students wishing to take a double credit thesis with one credit applied to Gender & Women's Studies and the second to a joint major should see the chair of the Gender & Women's Studies Department.
- » **WMST 4122H: Activists and Activisms: Feminist and Decolonial Perspectives**  
Students develop a critical analysis of contemporary social movements, including anti-racism, climate justice, border, and queer/trans activisms. The course provides opportunities to participate in social change work while developing skills in activist research. With attention to feminist scholarship, students examine how groups are organizing in diverse ways. Prerequisite: 6.0 university credits including 1.0 WMST credit at the 2000 level or beyond, or permission of instructor. Excludes WMST 3122H.
- » **WMST 4150H: Transgender Feminisms**  
Trans and feminist studies, neither of which are unified, monolithic and unrelated categories of theory and politics, strive to enable the imagination and enactment of gender diversity and sexual freedom. This course examines, and expands on, the formative and transformative impact that these communities have had on each other. Prerequisite: 1.0 WMST credit at the 3000 level or permission of instructor.
- » **WMST-CAST-HIST 4160Y: Canadian Women's History (see History)**
- » **WMST-INDG 4206H: Indigenous Women and Settler History in North America (see Indigenous Studies)**
- » **WMST-NURS 4208H: Nursing, Feminism, and Women's Health (see Nursing)**
- » **WMST-CUST 4250H: Queer Feminisms**  
Students explore bodies, desires, relations, and culture through queer and feminist theories. We consider connections among queer feminist scholarship, personal experience, political struggle, and artistic expression. Gender, sexuality, transgression, and intersectionality are central to the inquiry and conversation. Prerequisite: 1.0 WMST credit at the 2000 level or beyond or permission of instructor. Excludes WMST-CUST 3250H.
- » **WMST-FREN 4251H: Questions de genre / Gender Issues (see French & Francophone Studies)**

» **WMST-CAST-POST 4431H: Growing Gap: Gender (In)Justice in Canada**

An intersectional feminist analysis of social welfare issues and policies in Canada. Focusing on topics including poverty, homelessness, childcare, and employment, we examine historical roots and contemporary contexts shaping the lives of women and marginalized groups bearing the brunt of the growing income gap and neoliberal threats to equality. Prerequisite: 6.0 university credits including 1.0 WMST, CAST, or POST credit at the 2000 level or beyond, or permission of instructor. Excludes WMST-CAST-POST 3431H, 4430Y.

» **WMST-SOCI 4441H/1441H: Special Topics in Social Justice**

A prison-based course that explores social justice from a variety of approaches such as critical race, feminism, sociological, philosophical, and literary theory across the humanities and social sciences. Using project-based learning strategies, university and incarcerated students learn collaboratively to examine principles of social justice with regards to a variety of topics such as truth and reconciliation, restorative justice, and social policy. Students attend weekly classes held in a correctional facility. Prerequisite: 14.0 university credits, a minimum cumulative average of 75%, and permission of instructor. Students are admitted through a competitive process, which involves submission of a written application, documentation of a criminal record check, and an interview with the instructor. As space is limited, not all applicants may be accepted. Contact Gender & Women's Studies or Sociology for more information.

» **WMST-CAST-SOCI 4551H: Gender and Disability in Canada (see Canadian Studies)**

» **WMST-HIST 4711H: Women and War in Modern Vietnam (see History)**

» **WMST-PSYC 4796H: Feminist Psychologies (Sc)**

Explores principles and practices of feminist psychology, theories of gender and sexual development, and the psychology of women. Focus is on feminist critiques of psychology and feminist contributions to psychology. Feminist relational, community, post-colonial, and narrative approaches are emphasized. Prerequisite: Either 2.0 WMST credits at the 2000 level or beyond or 1.0 WMST credit and PSYC 2700H and one of PSYC 3730H, 3740H, 3300H, or 3760H. Excludes WMST-PSYC 3796H.

» **WMST 4820Y, 4821H: Community Research Placement**

The Trent Community Research Centre makes available to students research placements with community organizations. Projects are supervised jointly by a faculty member and representative of a community organization. Projects with sufficient gendered content might be eligible for credit in Gender & Women's Studies. For details, see Community-Based Research Program ([p. 429](#)). Prerequisite: 10.0 university credits and a minimum cumulative average of 75%.

» **WMST 4900Y, 4901H, 4902H, 4903H: Reading Course**

A structured course arranged between student and instructor, and approved by the department chair, involving independent study of a topic that is not already covered by regular courses. Only offered when faculty resources permit. Students must complete a Course Registration Form, available from the department office, prior to registering.

» **WMST-ANTH 4932H: Sex, Gender, and Science**

An interdisciplinary introduction to the topic of women and gender in science. How is gender difference understood within scientific disciplines? Why are women under-represented in various science and technological fields? How are women, and feminist scholarship, changing science? Prerequisite: 8.0 university credits including 1.0 WMST credit at the 3000 level, or permission of instructor.

» **WMST-CAST 4951H: Special Topic: Canadian Childhoods Today (see Canadian Studies)**



» **WMST-ERST 4990H: Gender and Environmental Justice**

Examines debates and issues involved in understanding environmental problems from a gender and justice perspective. Students are introduced to environmental justice issues and concepts, feminist approaches and critiques, and explorations of emerging discourses, making links between justice, sustainability, and issues like climate change. Prerequisite: 8.0 university credits including 1.0 WMST or ERST credit at the 3000 level, or permission of instructor.

» **WMST 4995Y: Feminist Research Seminar**

Students focus on a key area of feminist scholarship through intensive seminar discussions that may include guest lectures from various feminist faculty members from the Social Sciences and Humanities. Students engage in a major independent research project and collaboratively organize a public or campus event. Prerequisite: Open to Honours Gender & Women's Studies students with 12.0 university credits including WMST 3021H.