

Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

Kristin Yarris, Department Head

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The Department of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies offers students an interdisciplinary curriculum that focuses on people's lived experiences of gender and sexuality in national, transnational, and global contexts. The department's curriculum examines the meaning of gender and sexuality as socially-constructed categories that shape personal identities and beliefs as well as structural opportunities and outcomes within historical power relations. The wide range of WGSS courses explores the intersections of gender, race, class, sexuality, nationality, ability and other axes of experience through an examination of the institutional structures that have an impact on human and non-human lives. The department's curriculum also centers decolonial and transnational feminist thought and social movements as shaping social conditions and inequities around the world. Among the areas of expertise of UO WGSS faculty include: health and embodiment, gender and literature, history and archival research, arts and culture, narrative and meaning-making, decolonial and transnational feminisms, migration and mobility, and social movements and environmental justice.

Any student may take Women's, Gender, and Sexuality studies courses. Some students take a few courses to complement the curriculum in another major or to fulfill UO Core Education requirements. Others choose to fulfill the requirements for a major in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality studies or a minor in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality studies or in Queer Studies. The Department also offers a Graduate Certificate for graduate students.

Faculty

Oluwakemi Balogun, associate professor (globalization, nationalism, African studies). BA, 2003, Pomona College; PhD, 2012, California, Berkeley. (2013)

Yu-Fang Cho, professor (decolonial and transnational feminisms, Asian American and Pacific Islander Studies, environmental justice) BA, 1996, National Taiwan University; MA, 1998, University of Wisconsin-Madison; PhD, 2004, University of California at San Diego (2024).

Ana-Maurine Lara, associate professor (Black feminisms, decolonial theories and methodologies, speculative fiction and poetry). BA, 1997, Harvard-Radcliffe University; MA, 2012, Yale University; PhD, 2014, Yale University. (2015)

Isabel Millán, assistant professor (Latino and Chicano studies, transnational feminism, women and queer of color theory). BA, 2004, California, Santa Barbara; MA, 2007, San Francisco State; PhD, 2013, Michigan, Ann Arbor. (2018)

Yvette Saavedra, assistant professor (Chicana/o history, US history, gender and sexuality history). BA, 2001, Pitzer College; MA, 2003, University of Texas, El Paso; PhD, 2013, University of Texas, El Paso. (2019)

Carol Stabile, professor (gender, race, and class in the media). AB, 1983, Mount Holyoke College; MA, 1985, PhD, 1992, Brown. (2008)

Kristin Yarris, associate professor, (disability studies, global studies, women's gender and sexuality studies). BA, 1994, Lewis & Clark College; MA, 2007, PhD 2011 UCLA. (2012)

Emerita

Barbara Corrado Pope, professor emerita. BA, 1964, Hiram; MA, 1966, Iowa; PhD, 1981, Columbia. (1976)

Judith Raitskin, professor emerita. (postcolonial literature, feminist theory, sexuality). BA, 1979, California, Berkeley; MA, 1981, Chicago; PhD, 1989, Stanford. (1995)

Elizabeth Reis, professor emerita. AB, 1980, Smith; MA, 1982, Brown; PhD, 1991, California, Berkeley. (2002)

The date in parentheses at the end of each entry is the first year on the University of Oregon faculty.

Affiliated

Yvette Alex-Assensoh, political science
 Susan C. Anderson, German and Scandinavian
 Erin Beck, political science
 Charise Cheney, ethnic studies
 Lynn Fujiwara, ethnic studies
 Alison Gash, political science
 Amalia Gladhart, Romance languages
 Julie Heffernan, education studies
 Ellen Herman, history
 Sara Hodges, psychology
 Jocelyn Hollander, sociology
 Lamia Karim, anthropology
 Kate Kelp-Stebbins, English
 Kathryn A. Lynch, environmental studies
 Bonnie Mann, philosophy
 Michelle McKinley, law
 Kate Mondloch, history of art and architecture
 Dorothee Ostmeier, German and Scandinavian
 Eileen M. Otis, sociology
 C. J. Pascoe, sociology
 Camisha Russell, philosophy
 Ellen Scott, sociology
 Beata Stawarska, philosophy
 Leslie H. Steeves, journalism and communication
 Lynn Stephen, anthropology
 Analisa Taylor, Romance languages
 Courtney Thorsson, English
 Jessica Vasquez-Tokos, sociology
 Elizabeth A. Wheeler, English
 Mary E. Wood, English

Undergraduate Programs

Major - Bachelor's Degree

- Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (BA/BS) (<https://catalog.uoregon.edu/arts-sciences/social-sciences/wgss/ug-wgss/>)

Minors

- Queer Studies (<https://catalog.uoregon.edu/arts-sciences/social-sciences/wgss/min-queer-studies/>)

- Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (<https://catalog.uoregon.edu/arts-sciences/social-sciences/wgss/min-wgss/>)

Graduate Programs

Certificate

- Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (<https://catalog.uoregon.edu/arts-sciences/social-sciences/wgss/gcert-wgss/>)