

Carleton

Gender, Women's and Sexuality Studies

507-222-4108

Dear Future Carl,

Congratulations! We are pleased to welcome you as you begin your college career, and we are excited that you are interested in the Gender, Women's & Sexuality Studies program.

The [GWSS program](#) provides an interdisciplinary meeting ground for exploring questions about gender, women, and sexuality that are transforming knowledge in the sciences, social sciences, arts, and humanities. Our goal is to include gender and sexuality alongside class and race as central elements of social and cultural analysis.

Our required gateway course into both the GWSS [major](#) and [minor](#) is "Introduction to Gender, Women & Sexuality Studies." Next, students usually advance to "Foundations of LGBTQ Studies," which provides an interdisciplinary examination of sexual desires, sexual orientations, and the concept of sexuality, with a particular focus on the construction of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender identities. All GWSS majors and minors round out the program with a capstone course, such as "Race, Gender & Sexuality in Pop Culture" or "Transnational Feminist Activism," that offers them the opportunity to study a topic in depth and to produce a substantial research paper. Students who decide to major in GWSS take additional upper-level courses in methods and theory and complete a self-directed, advisor-guided [senior project](#).

While there are required courses for the GWSS major and minor, the program also gives students space to customize their GWSS pathways to fit their academic interests. Students can earn GWSS elective credits through courses in a variety of departments on campus. A few examples include the Cinema and Media Studies department's "Feminist and Queer Media," the Religion department's "The Sacred Body," and the Biology department's "Human Reproduction and Sexuality." Students are also encouraged to earn elective credits from off-campus programs like [Women's and Gender Studies in Europe](#) and [Globalization & Local Responses in India](#).

I hope this letter has answered some of your questions about our program while also inspiring new ones. If you would like more information, please email me at amoltcha@carleton.edu. On behalf of the entire GWSS program, we look forward to meeting you soon!

Sincerely,


Anna Moltchanova

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