

IPAC Program Description

Name of Program

Women's Studies Program (Major, Minor, Concentration in Elementary Education)

Owner

Mary McCune
Director of Women's Studies

Brief Description of the Program

Women's Studies explores the diverse experiences, perspectives, culture, history and significant contributions of women. The interdisciplinary major, minor and concentration in Elementary Education are designed to develop a broad understanding of the study of women, investigate women's contributions in all areas of academic scholarship, and explore the relationship between cultural definitions of feminine behavior and the realities of women's lives.

Interdisciplinary Nature of the Program

The major, minor and concentration require that students take the interdisciplinary "Introduction to Women's Studies" as a core course. Other core courses focus on Feminist Theory and International/Comparative Perspectives. After completing these core courses, students select a track in either Women & Society (courses in the Social Sciences) or Women in Literary, Historical and Theoretical Perspectives (courses in the Humanities). In June 2013 the Women's Studies Program Advisory Board voted to change the name of the program to Gender & Women's Studies. This process of formalizing the name change will begin in Fall 2013 and will necessitate a re-visioning of the major, minor & concentration.

Relationship to Interdisciplinarity at Oswego

The Women's Studies Program draws students and courses from across the campus. The Women's Studies Advisory Board includes representatives from a host of disciplines, including departments, such as Earth Sciences, which do not at the present time offer courses in the program on a regular basis. The Program also sponsors interdisciplinary programming such as "Enough is Enough! Symposium on Violence Against Women and Girls" which was held in April 2013. This symposium included speakers from international gender studies, the fields of law and counseling, as well as student and community activists.

IPAC Support

We use the IPAC Conference Room for meetings.

The IPAC secretary provides some secretarial support.

We also post brochures and announcements in the IPAC office.

Relevant Dates

Ongoing.