Saint Louis University is a Catholic, Jesuit institution that values academic excellence, lifelong learning, compassion, health care, and a strong commitment to faith and service.

Founded in 1818, the University fosters the intellectual and character development of nearly 14,000 students on two campuses in St. Louis, Missouri, and Madrid, Spain. Building on a legacy of nearly 200 years, Saint Louis University continues to move forward with an unwavering commitment to a higher purpose, a greater good.

OVERVIEW

Saint Louis University’s Master of Arts in women’s and gender studies provides an interdisciplinary education about contemporary social justice issues, preparing students for leadership and advocacy roles in community or academic settings. While gender is the primary focus, each course and the discipline as a whole examine gender in light of race, ethnicity, class, sexual identity, ability, age and religion. The discipline teaches students to think critically and to engage in the world as responsible citizens.

The M.A. is a 30-hour program. Graduate work is designed to develop: 1) students’ ability to engage critically with multicultural feminist theories concerning social inequalities; 2) strong research and writing skills; and 3) knowledge and skills that enable communication with diverse audiences, coalition building for social action and development of initiatives for change.

The interdisciplinary M.A. program welcomes applicants from all academic fields. There is also an accelerated B.A./M.A. program for undergraduates at Saint Louis University. Students who enter the accelerated B.A./M.A. program take six credit hours (two graduate classes) in their senior year that count for both the B.A. and M.A. requirements.

Each student works out a curriculum plan for his or her area of specialization and a capstone project in consultation with the director of graduate studies.

Course Requirements:

30 credit hours (10 courses total)

Five core required courses:
- WGST 5010: Feminist Theory
- WGST 5020: Feminist Epistemologies
- WGST 5030: Cultural Methods: Gender, Politics, and Power
- WGST 5040: Current Issues and Debates
- WGST 5910: Women Leaders Internship

Five cross-listed elective courses:
The electives are chosen from dozens of courses in women’s and gender studies; political science; African-American studies; philosophy; English; history; languages, literatures, and cultures; fine and performing arts; social work; and law, among others.

Capstone project:
A capstone project and presentation based on either an internship or research developed through coursework is also required.

Career Paths:
The SLU M.A. in women’s and gender studies prepares students for:
- Careers in community organizing, nonprofit organizations, government service, health care, business, the arts and policy research.
- Doctoral work in women’s and gender studies and related fields.
- Professional schools, including public health, law, social work and public policy.

APPICATION REQUIREMENTS

Preferred GPA: 3.3.

International students whose native language is not English must provide evidence of English language proficiency by submitting their TOEFL or IELTS results.

Minimum scores required:
- TOEFL PBT 550
- TOEFL IBT 80
- IELTS 6.5

CONTACT INFORMATION

Gretchen Arnold, Ph.D., Director
EMAIL  arnoldgw@slu.edu
PHONE  314-977-2166
WEB  slu.edu/womensstudies.xml

APPLICATION DEADLINE

M.A.

FALL  Rolling
SPRING  Rolling
SUMMER  Rolling

Deadlines for assistantships are listed online.

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WEB  slu.edu/womensstudies.xml
Our distinguished faculty all hold doctoral degrees and are a dedicated group of mentors. Many secondary and affiliated faculty are also in schools and colleges across the University who publish their research in national and international venues.

Gretchen Arnold, Ph.D., graduate director: Social movements and politics, violence against women, battered women and the law, inequality, program evaluation

Amanda Izzo, Ph.D.: History of women and gender, sexuality studies, religious activism

Ina Seethaler, Ph.D.: Multicultural literature, gender, migration

Robert Strikwerda, Ph.D.: Men and masculinities, history and philosophy of social science, cultural methods

Penny Weiss, Ph.D., department chair: History of feminist theory and activism, global declarations of sexual equality, feminist reflections on childhood

Applicants to the Accelerated B.A./M.A. should contact Dr. Gretchen Arnold for details.

Graduate students admitted to the program by Jan. 30 are eligible to apply for University-wide fellowships and assistantships for the following fall semester. Contact Dr. Gretchen Arnold at arnoldgw@slu.edu for more information.