What you can do with your
GENDER & WOMEN’S STUDIES MAJOR

Major Skills

Interdisciplinary & Analytical Thinking
You value diverse ways of asking questions, posing problems, and seeking answers based on the intersections of gender, sexuality, ability, race/ethnicity, class, and other areas of difference. You identify patterns, analyze evidence, make connections, consider alternatives, recognize flaws as you build and test claims and propose solutions.

Critical Thinking & Problem Solving
You exercise sharp reasoning to analyze issues; you make decisions based on evidence and analysis and demonstrate originality, inventiveness, intentionality, and care in finding solutions to problems.

Communication
You develop oral and written communication skills and tailor messages for diverse audiences. You understand differing modes of communication and can deploy the tools best able to persuade, inform, defend, and challenge. You understand that language has the power to both include and marginalize, and consider the implicit and explicit meanings of your words.

Teamwork & Collaboration
You develop collaborative relationships that value and utilize individual and cultural differences. You thrive on teams where you frequently navigate and negotiate from disagreement to consensus.

Agency & Accountability
You recognize and analyze your own place within larger social structures, understanding the power and limits of individual choice, the influence of social action, and the benefits of considering and working for the public good.

Professional & Personal Responsibility & Ethics
You value, respect, and learn from the diverse experiences of people of various gender, class, racial, sexual, religious, and other identities; you apply an equity and justice framework to work effectively across differences.

Supplement Your Skills With:

- Global & Intercultural Experience
- Internships & Part-Time Work
- Leadership & Volunteering
- Career & Self-Development
- Experience Fostering Professional Equity & Inclusion

Chart Your Path Forward

Activate Your Handshake Account for connections to jobs, internships, employer & alumni networking.

Explore Career Communities to discover a wide variety of fields where you can turn your major into success.

Get Career & Internship Advising from SuccessWorks to make a plan, whether you’re a first-year student or about to graduate.

Get Started: successworks.wisc.edu
Put your Gender & Women’s Studies major to WORK

Common Job Titles of Alumni
- Executive Director
- Founder/CEO
- Program Coordinator/Manager
- Social Worker
- Teacher/Professor
- Research Assistant/Associate
- Attorney
- Behavior Specialist
- Campaign Manager
- Communications Director
- Legal Assistant
- College Advisor
- Nurse
- Epidemiology Consultant
- Social & Content Marketing Specialist

Common Employers of Alumni
- Agrace
- Alliant Energy
- American Family Insurance
- Americorps
- Boys & Girls Club of America
- Cambria Inn & Suites
- Chicago Public Schools
- Children’s Health Alliance of WI
- Epic
- Madison Metropolitan School District
- Mayo Clinic
- Rogers Behavioral Health
- Slipstream Renewables & Environment
- State of Wisconsin
- University of Wisconsin
- U.S. Department Of Veterans Affairs
- UW Health
- Wisconsin Women’s Network

Recent Grads’ Career Plans
- 61% Employment
- 33% Continuing Education or Grad School
- 4% Volunteering or Service Programs

Industry of Employment:
- Education
- Healthcare
- Government
- Technology
- Non-profit
- Financial Services
- Legal
- Arts & Entertainment
- Consulting
- Hospitality

Where Alumni Live & Work:
- 46% Wisconsin
- 10% Illinois
- 7% Minnesota
- 6% New York
- 5% California
- 4% Colorado
- 22% Other

“[My GWS classes] taught me how to frame the information I learned in my other classes through a gender-based and feminist lens. Now, as a public health professional, I find myself benefiting from the intersectional perspective that I gained through my GWS classes. I’m able to analyze public health topics such as Black maternal and child health with an understanding of various oppressive systems that lead to adverse outcomes.”

Mahima Bhattar, 2021
University of Wisconsin Prevention Research Center
Madison, WI

“[My Gender and Women’s Studies major taught me a lot of skills that have transferred to all the jobs that I’ve had since graduation. The most notable ones are my open mindedness, my student mentality and growth mindset, communication skills, my writing/editing skills, and my ability to receive and give feedback in a productive way.”

Sydney Copus, 2020
Associate Knowledge Manager, Macrae
Somerville, MA

Career Communities for Gender & Women’s Studies Majors
- Non-Profit & Education
- Healthcare & Wellbeing
- Government, Policy, International Affairs, & Law
- Tech, Data & Analytics

SuccessWorks has eight Career Communities to connect you with career advising, resources and programs. Here are a few suggestions on where Gender & Women’s Studies majors can start.

Not inspired by these options? Visit SuccessWorks to explore more widely.

successworks.wisc.edu