

THE FEMINIST STUDIES MAJOR AT UC SANTA CRUZ

2009-10

<http://feministstudies.ucsc.edu>

Feminist studies is an interdisciplinary field of analysis that investigates how relations of gender are embedded in social, political, and cultural formations. The undergraduate program in Feminist Studies provides students with a unique interdisciplinary and transnational perspective. The department emphasizes theories and practices derived from multiracial and multicultural contexts.

With over 150 students declared as majors, UCSC is home to one of the oldest and largest departments focused on gender and sexuality studies in the U.S. Since its founding as Women's Studies in 1974, it has contributed to the development of internationally recognized feminist scholarship. Feminist Studies also encourages community service through faculty-sponsored internships and a mutually supportive and collaborative teaching and learning environment.

CAREERS: Feminist Studies prepares undergraduates for a variety of careers. The B.A. degree in Feminist Studies, for example, provides excellent grounding for undergraduates with career aspirations in law, public administration, health care, social services, and higher education. Students wishing to pursue doctoral work will also find that interdisciplinary training in Feminist Studies equips them with theoretical and methodological strengths in most disciplines and applied research fields. Specialists in Feminist Studies are employed as consultants in industry, higher education, insurance companies and personnel firms. State and federal government agencies require people who have special training in understanding gender relations. And educational institutions need specialists to develop and administer Feminist Studies programs, women's centers, and other institutional structures designed specifically to study and assist women.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MAJOR:

Feminist Studies majors must complete 10 courses and a senior comprehensive exit requirement in the feminist studies program (as noted below). All students are required to select a concentration within the major from the following: 1 - Culture, Power, and Representation; 2 - Law, Politics, and Social Change; 3 - Science, Technology, and Medicine; and 4 - Sexuality Studies. Courses appropriate for each concentration are listed on the website <<http://feministstudies.ucsc.edu>> and in the Feminist Studies office, 315 Humanities 1.

Required courses include:

- * FMST 1, Introduction to Feminisms
- * FMST 80 or another 80 course taught by Feminist Studies Affiliate Faculty
- * FMST 100, Feminist Theories (must be taken at UCSC)
- * Five additional upper-division courses in the student's chosen concentration
- * Two additional upper-division electives from among the other concentrations
- * One senior exit requirement

Because feminist studies is an interdisciplinary major and lists courses taught by affiliate faculty in other departments, **feminist studies majors must take a minimum of five courses at UCSC taught directly in the Feminist Studies Department, i.e., courses designated FMST**, not including internships (FMST 193 or 198) or tutorials (FMST 199).

One five-unit individual study tutorial (FMST 199) can be used to fulfill a FMST major concentration or elective requirement, and one five-unit internship can be used to fulfill a FMST major elective requirement. Subsequent individual studies/internships can be used to obtain credit towards graduation, but not towards the major.

Two EAP courses may count towards the major; three transfer courses may count towards the major; and the total combined number of EAP and transfer courses that may count towards the major is a maximum of three.

Exit requirement options include FMST 194 - participating in a senior seminar taught by Feminist Studies core or affiliate faculty; FMST 195 - writing a senior thesis or producing a senior project; or FMST 192 - teaching a

student-directed seminar. Guidelines for completion of the comprehensive requirement are available in the Feminist Studies office and on the website <<http://feministstudies.ucsc.edu/>>. Courses 1, 80, 100, and the Writing (W) General Education Requirement are prerequisite to course 195 and the senior seminars.

A proposal for an independent concentration will be approved only when the student presents a clear, coherent, and rigorous plan of study that does not fit the existing concentrations. Both the student's faculty advisor and the Feminist Studies Department Chair must approve the proposal for an independent concentration.

Before planning their major programs, students are responsible for consulting with Nicolette Czarrunchick, Academic Advisor. In the course of these consultations, each student will be assigned a faculty advisor who will monitor the student's progress through the major program.

TRANSFER STUDENTS: Transfer students are encouraged to declare the major as soon as possible to be assured entrance into the required core courses. Feminist Studies advisors or the Chair determine which courses from other colleges will successfully transfer. Introduction to Feminisms (if needed), an approved 80 course, and Feminist Theories (FMST 1, 80, and FMST 100) must be completed in the junior year. Without these core courses, seniors may not write a thesis or produce a senior project. As noted above, two EAP courses can count towards the major; three transfer courses can count towards the major; and the total combined number of EAP and transfer courses that can count towards the major is a maximum of three.

RECOMMENDED CORE COURSES, 2009-2010:

FMST 1, Introduction to Feminisms (will not be offered in Fall 2009);

FMST 80F, Winter 2010, Feminisms of/and the Global South; and

FMST 100, Winter 2010, Feminist Theories (for sophomores and juniors - course taught only once each year);
and

FMST 145, Spring 2010, Racial and Gender Formations in the US (optional).

DECLARING THE MAJOR: Please note that although you may enter UCSC as a Proposed Feminist Studies major, you are nonetheless required to complete the **Declaration of Major form**, available online. The form must be completed within the first four weeks of the quarter to be effective for course enrollment in the following quarter. We recommend that you begin the process as soon as possible, because meetings with college, department, and faculty advisors are required to complete the process, as follows:

1. Make an appointment with your college Academic Preceptor to review and sign Section I, University, General Education, and College Requirements.
2. Schedule an appointment with Nicolette (831/459-2461) in the Feminist Studies Office to review and complete Section II, Study Plan Change. **Please bring your transcript with you**, if possible.
3. Following department advising, you will be required to see a faculty member of the FMST Undergraduate Studies Committee, who will also review and sign your major declaration form.
4. Following the completion of Section II, the department advisor will sign Section III, Program Approval. The declaration of major information is then entered into the AIS system and the student is officially declared.
5. If an Extension of Enrollment is required, the student must return to their College Preceptor to review and approve Section IV.

FMST advising appointments are available Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday 10am-noon and 1-3pm. Please call for an appointment (831/459-2461) so you can receive focused attention with advising.

All Feminist Studies majors are expected to attend occasional meetings during the year, at which matters of general concern to all majors are discussed.

For more information, visit the Feminist Studies website: <http://feministstudies.ucsc.edu/>, a substantial resource that also includes ten annual issues of the FMST newsletter, *The Wave*, for your enjoyment; or contact Nicolette Czarrunchick by email: fmst@ucsc.edu; phone: 831/459-2461; or fax: 831/502-7231.

