What to do with a Minor in Gender & Women’s Studies?

The Gender & Women’s Studies (GWST) mission is a three-fold: instruction, research, and extension, or outreach. GWST grew out of a desire to make classroom curricula relevant to real-world, lived experience. GWST courses integrate research and outreach activities, so that students, faculty, staff, and community members engaged in GWST have a sense of how intellectual work derives from and extends into everyday lives, especially those of women.

What skills will I learn in Gender & Women’s Studies courses?

- An understanding of differences of gender, sexuality, race, culture, and social class
- Insight into the connections among different forms of oppression
- A foundation for analyzing inequities and initiating change
- Expertise in finding and using information on contemporary social issues
- Critical thinking, research, analysis, oral/written communication, and presentation skills

What majors complement a Gender & Women’s Studies minor?

A minor in GWST can be the perfect complement to any major, whether in the fields of academia, healthcare, law enforcement, non-profit work, human resources, business, public service, art or international relations. Some students minoring in Gender & Women’s Studies find it especially useful when majoring in the following fields: College of Education, College of Arts & Sciences, Spears School of Business, Center for Health Services, and College of Human Services.

How does a minor in Gender & Women’s Studies prepare me for the job market?

GWST provides an excellent foundation for virtually any career. A minor in GWST broadens your appeal to potential employers and graduate/professional programs. Some GWST graduates choose to work in advocacy or social services-related positions, community development, business, and government.

GWST is the perfect complement to the follow careers: advocate for domestic violence victims, journalist, advocate for hate-crime victims, law enforcement, archivist, lawyer, art therapist, librarian, artist, minister, battered women’s center director, musician, business owner, nurse or midwife, clinical social worker, Planned Parenthood clinic coordinator, college professor, program director at human rights organization, communications consultant, psychotherapist, congressional fellow, public and government relations manager, cooperative grocery manager, rape crisis program director, director of program for inner-city teenagers, recreational therapist, doctor, sexual assault/sexual abuse educator, energy conservation manager, teacher, film-casting assistant, theater worker, flight instructor, town manager, health clinic medical assistant, union organizer, HIV educator, university staff psychologist, hospital foundation executive director, writer/poet, human services administrator

How can I find out if a minor in Gender & Women’s Studies is right for me?

Talk to GWST faculty and current students or take Introduction to Gender & Women’s Studies (GWST 2123). Sections are offered each semester (including summer and online courses). You can visit the GWST website or contact Dr. Lucy Bailey, director of GWST, for more information.

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