Why WGS?

October 10, 2019
Why WGS? Thursday, October 10th, 3-4pm Stern 201

Welcome! Grab a Human Bingo card, make sure to get some pizza, and find a seat. Ask questions as they come up for you, and don’t be shy!

AGENDA FOR OUR SESSION

3:00 - Introductions, mingling

3:05 – Overview of the WGS major & minor
- Dr. Kris De Welde, Director
- Dr. Christy Kollath-Cattano, Assoc. Director

3:15 – Professors talk about their courses
- Dr. Lauren Ravalico, French & Francophone Studies
- Dr. Christy Kollath-Cattano, Public Health
- Dr. Devin Byker, English
- Dr. Antron Mahoney, African American Studies

3:30 – Your future in and with WGS
- Graduate school options
- What our alumni are doing?
- What do careers in WGS look like?

3:45 – Student Q&A Panel
- Tanner Crunelle
- Kristen Graham

4:00 – 5:00pm Walk-in advising in the WGS office
(7 College Way, Room 100)
Interdisciplinary and Innovative Courses

The major and minor offer courses in:

- Sociology
- English
- Philosophy
- History
- Psychology
- Political Science
- Environmental Science
- African American Studies
- Theater
- Communication
- Biology
- Russian Studies
- Public Health
  - And many more...

Sample spring 2020 courses:

- Trans Studies
- Queer Shakespeare
- Medieval Feminism
- Sexuality of Childbirth
- The Black Queer South
- Race, Gender and the Environment
- Comparative Gender Politics
- Function & Evolution of Sex & Sexual Behavior
- Psychology of Prejudice & Discrimination
Internships! Research! Study Abroad!

WGS students complete internships in non-profit & for profit organizations like:
- Carolina Youth Action Project
- YWCA
- The Center for Women
- Skirt! Magazine
- We Are Family
- Medical University of SC
- Planned Parenthood

WGS students have studied abroad in:
- Cuba
- Rwanda & Uganda
- England
- Ireland
- India
- Spain

And, we have the WGS Student Opportunities Fund to support you in these endeavors!
Activism & Engagement

- I-CAN
- Generation Action (PPGA)
- Women’s Rally (local & D.C.)!
- Gender Neutral Bathroom project
- LGBTQ+ visibility & belonging
- Sexual assault awareness
Spring 2020 courses – a preview!
Skills cultivated in degrees like WGS result in diverse career pathways
Occupations of Terminal Humanities Bachelor’s Degree Recipients

- Arts, Design, Entertainment, & Media
- Business & Financial Operations
- Community & Social Services
- Computer
- Education—Precollegiate Teaching
- Education—Postsecondary Teaching
- Education—Other**
- Healthcare
- Legal
- Management
- Museum & Library
- Sciences & Engineering
- Office & Admin. Support
- Sales
- Service
- Other†

Share of Humanities Majors Employed in Occupation (%)

Humanities Indicators, 2018 · American Academy of Arts & Sciences

For full source and context, see http://humanitiesindicators.org
Our graduates pursue careers in...

- The military
- Public education
- Health care
- Sales and marketing
- Higher education
- Human rights
- Non-profit organizations
- Policy work
- Food and beverage industry
- Management

67% of our graduates report having employment or furthering their education within months of graduation

WGS students pursue graduate degrees in...

- Social Work
- Education
- WGSS
- Library & Information Science
- Counseling
- International Development
- Cultural Studies
Career Opportunities! WGS majors are not tied to a specific field, allowing for a wide diversity of pursuits.

- Our graduates are working in a wide range of exciting, well-paying, and impactful careers such as:
  - Health Center Assistant
  - Public Policy Advisor
  - Instructional Developer
  - High School Counselor
  - Community Residence Counselor
  - Associate Director for Fraternity & Sorority Life
  - Professor
  - Community Organizing
  - Medical Case Manager
  - Program Director

WGS graduates are living in cities across the U.S., including,
- Atlanta, GA
- Charleston, SC
- Boston, MA
- Washington, D.C.
- Clemson, SC
- Brooklyn & NYC, NY
- Bloomington, IN
- Pittsburgh, PA
- Honolulu, HI

And many have lived abroad such as in Swaziland and Paris!
What our graduates have to say about their WGS preparation for the work world:

- “I have empathy and I understand how to talk with any type of person. I learned how to respect all people. No difference seems too big now.”

- “I work in a very masculine dominated environment (I’m the only woman in the organization), and I hold a high management position. WGS strengthened me in my convictions and I learned how to present my ideas and opinions and expectations with confidence.”

- “My WGS degree really helped me when working with marginalized communities, such as racial and ethnic minorities, poor/impoverish rural communities, former drug users, sex workers, homeless, and LGBT*I youth in my last two jobs.”

- “My perspective is often valued for being culturally informed.”
WGS students develop valuable skills...according to the National Women’s Studies Association (NWSA)

- Cultural competence
- Proficiency in technology and social media platforms
- Ability to work collaboratively
- Ability to link the intellectual and the experiential
- Critical thinking
  - Ability to analyze and evaluate others’ perspectives and ideas
- Strong oral and written communication
- Social responsibility
- Understanding of diversity and differences, and the importance of inclusive decision-making
- Ability to analyze issues from multiple perspectives and varied intellectual disciplines
- Development of diverse approaches to problem solving
- Ability to construct evidence-based arguments or explanations
- Information literacy
  - Ability to locate, evaluate, and interpret different sources of information