**Intersectionality**
Crossing disciplinary boundaries, the graduate program in Gender and Cultural Studies [GCS] is dedicated to critically analyzing intersecting systems of power and privilege, and examining the ways in which race, ethnicity, nation, class, gender, sexuality, and sexual orientation are constructed within the United States and in international contexts.

**Cutting Edge Theory**
The program places an emphasis on cutting-edge theory, including theories in feminism, poststructuralism, cultural studies, and postcolonialism, and promotes multi-perspectival, multi-factored theoretical analyses.

**Interdisciplinary**
The interdisciplinary nature of the GCS program allows students to pursue more specialized courses of study by providing access to courses from a range of disciplines, including Africana Studies, Communications, Economics, Education, English, History, Modern Languages, Philosophy, Political Science, Sociology, and Women’s and Gender Studies.

**Inspiring Social Change**
The GCS program strives to prepare and inspire the next generation of scholars, educators, activists, and professional leaders.
Degree Requirements

Candidates for the Gender/Cultural Studies degree must complete eight courses [32 semester hours]. Students usually complete their degree in two years.

**Required core courses**
Students must take both of the following courses:
GCS 403 Seminar in Gender/Cultural Studies
GCS 430 Cultural Theory

**GCS core elective course**
Students must take one of the following courses:
GCS 406 Feminism and Literature
GCS 410 Issues in International Studies
GCS 412 Theoretical Approaches to Cultural Narratives
GCS 415 Feminism and Economic Difference
GCS 417 Race Theory

**GCS electives**
Students must take at least three courses from the GCS electives list [next page].

**Capstone**
All students must complete at least 4 capstone credit hours and present their work at the GCS colloquium. The capstone options are list below:
GCS-455 Thesis
GCS-460 Project
GCS-470 Internship
GCS-480 Gender/Cultural Fieldwork
GCS/ENG 405 Contemporary Critical Theory
AST 513 The Black Struggle for Schooling in America
AST 529 Race, Culture, Identity and Achievement
AST 536 Black Narratives of Oppression, Resistance, and Resiliency
AST/SOC/WST 540 Intimate Family Violence: A Multicultural Perspective
AST 588 Black Popular Culture and the Education of Black Youth
ENGL 508 The Postcolonial Novel
ENGL 517 Toni Morrison and American Literature
ENGL 527 Race and Gender in Psychoanalytic Discourse
ENGL 598 Feminist Film Studies
HIST 527 Archives, History, and Collective Memory
HIST 560 Seminar in the History of Women and Gender
HIST 561 Topics in World History: Cross Cultural Encounters
HIST 567 Memory and the Holocaust
INRL 590 Seminar in International Relations
PHIL 532 Law and Philosophy
SOCI 500 Gender and Islam
SOCI/AST 511 Critical Race Legal Theory
SOCI 538 (TC) Cross-Cultural Alliance Building
SOCI 539 Qualitative Research Workshop
SOCI 545 Health Systems and Policy
SOCI 547 Antiracism and Justice Work
SOCI 548 Re-envisioning the Third World
WGST 554 Feminist Theories
WGST 580 Gender and Queer Theory

[please visit the course catalog for the complete list]
Dual degree programs are full time, 2-4 yr programs. Students receive two degrees.

Dual Degree with MS in Management (MSM)
Dual Degree with MA in Public Policy (MPP)
Simmons is a member of The Consortium for Graduate Studies in Gender, Culture, Women, and Sexuality. The Consortium is housed at MIT and offers interdisciplinary, team-taught seminars to students who are enrolled in member institutions. Courses critically address gender, race, class, nation, sexualities, and the practical implications and applications of feminist theory. The Consortium membership includes Boston College, Boston University, Brandeis University, Harvard University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Northeastern University, Simmons College, Tufts University, and the University of Massachusetts, Boston.
Featured GCS Affiliated Faculty

For a complete list of GCS Affiliated Faculty, please visit: http://www.simmons.edu/academics/graduate-programs/gender-cultural-studies-ma

Jo Trigilio

Specializations: non-binary gender; intersections of feminist, gender, race, sexuality, & queer theories; feminist epistemology

Courses: WGST 554 Feminist Theories; WGST 480 Gender & Queer Theory; GCS 403 Seminar in Gender & Cultural Studies

Saher Selod

Specializations: Racialization of Muslims, Islamophobia, gendered racialization, citizenship, and aging

Courses: GCS 417 Race Theory; SOCI 500 Gender and Islam

Jyoti Puri

Specializations: Sexualities, states, nationalisms, and postcolonial feminist critiques; India/South Asia studies

Courses: GCS 410 Queer Transnational; GCS 410 Sexuality, State, and Governance
Sheldon George

**Specializations:** American & African-American literature Lacanian psychoanalysis; effects of slavery and racism on American racial identity

**Courses:** GCS/ENG 405 Contemporary Critical Theory; ENGL 517 Toni Morrison and American Literature; ENGL 527 Race and Gender in Psychoanalytic Discourse

Sarah Leonard

**Specializations:** Cultural Theory; history of gender & modern Germany; intersection of theory & empirical research

**Courses:** GCS 430 Cultural Theory; HIST 567 Memory & the Holocaust; HIST 577 Sem in Topics in Modern European History; HIST 597 Historical Methods & Research

Theresa Perry

**Specializations:** Education & African American social identities; meta-analyses of educational environments and high achievement among African American students.

**Courses:** AST 513 Black Struggle for Schooling in America; AST 529 Race, Culture, Identity, & Achievement; AST 536 Black Narratives of Oppression, Resistance, & Resiliency; AST 588 Black Popular Culture & Education of Black Youth
Suzanne Leonard

Specializations: Feminist media studies, film & television studies; women's literature; intersections of feminism & pop culture.

Courses: GCS 406 Feminism and Literature; GCS 430 Cultural Theory; ENGL 554 Studies in Film Genre; ENGL 598 Feminist Media Studies

Valerie Leiter

Specializations: Medical sociology, gender and health, research methods, sociology of childhood and youth, and disability.

Courses: MPP 504, Quantitative Analysis; SOCI 521 Sociology of Food; SOCI 539 Qualitative Research Workshop; SOCI 545 Health Systems and Policy

Dawna Thomas

Specializations: Intersection of disability, gender, race, ethnicity, and class; Race/Ethnic Studies; Healthcare policy, disability policy, community-based research, and grassroots coalition building.

Courses: AST/SOC/WST 540: Intimate Family Violence: A Multicultural Perspective
Renee Bergland

**Specializations:** Early and Nineteenth-Century American Literature and Culture; Native American Studies; Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies

**Courses:** GCS/ENG 405 Contemporary Critical Theory; GCS/ENG 406 Feminism and Literature; ENG 520 American Women’s Poetry; ENG 528 American Ghosts: The Cultural Politics of Haunting; ENG 531 Literary Boston

Becky Thompson

**Specializations:** antiracism, social justice, whiteness, liberatory education and contemplative practices

**Courses:** SOCI 544 Sociology of Poetry and Prose; SOCI 547 Antiracism and Justice Work

Diane Grossman

**Specializations:** Continental philosophy, feminist theory and applied ethics.

**Courses:** GCS 430 Cultural Theory; WGST 554 Feminist Theories, PHIL 532 Philosophy and Law
Simmons

Simmons is a private, small, urban university with a history of progressive, visionary thinking and a commitment to social responsibility.

Its core purpose is transformative learning that links passion with lifelong purpose.

Boston

Simmons is located in the Fenway neighborhood of Boston. Boston is a thriving, dynamic city offering a wealth of historical sights, museums, sports events, cultural productions, and live performances, and is internationally renowned for its educational and medical institutions.
Information and Contacts

Simmons College
College of Arts of Sciences
300 The Fenway
Boston, MA 02115

Admissions information online
http://www.simmons.edu/academics/graduate-programs/
gender-cultural-studies-ma

Graduate admissions
gsa@simmons.edu

Jo Trigilio, GCS Program Director
trigilio@simmons.edu