To our graduating Majors and Minors:

While we cannot celebrate you in person at this moment, we applaud your many accomplishments.

Congratulations!

~The Faculty, Graduate Students, and Staff of the Department of Women’s, Gender, & Sexuality Studies
Moud Adesah

- Pronouns: she/her/hers
- Major: Biology, Concentration: Interdisciplinary
- Minor: Women's & Gender Studies

“Being a student at Stony Brook University has been one of the best experiences of my life. It broadened my horizons and allowed me to explore other parts of myself that I did not know I had. Minoring in Women's and Gender Studies is one of the best decisions I ever made at Stony Brook University. It not only taught me about the people around me, but it also taught me about myself, who I am, and what I stand for. I have grown and flourished so much due to the amazing people I met through the University, specifically the students and professors of the Women's and Gender Studies Department. I am graduating as my better self and look forward to becoming my BEST self!!!”
Jeanette Blanchette

- Pronouns: she/her/hers
- Major: Political Science
- Minor: Women’s & Gender Studies
- WST Research Paper: "Body Politics: Anti-Abortion Legislation Throughout the Bible Belt"

"...There will be times when you seemingly face insurmountable obstacles, but that’s when you dig deep into your soul for the courage and the fortitude to keep going and to never, to never forget that despite life’s detours, you are destined for greatness.” - Angela Bassett
Nadine Boakye-Ansah

- **Major:** Health Science
- **Minor:** Women’s & Gender Studies
- **WST Research Paper:** “Exclusion: The crimes of being black and a woman, a black woman”
Anna Cao

- **Major**: Biology, Developmental Genetics Specialization
- **Minor**: Women’s & Gender Studies
- **WST Research Paper**: “A Second Opinion: A Look into the Relationship between the Medical and Feminist Community and Endometriosis”
Zachary McCallie Davidson

- Pronouns: he/him/his
- Major: Biology
- Minor: Women’s & Gender Studies
- WST Research Paper: “Trauma Informed Care as a Framework for EMS Management of Sexual Assault”

“Do not be daunted by the enormity of the world’s grief. Do justly now. Love and be merciful now. Walk humbly now. You are not obligated to complete the work, but neither are you free to abandon it.” - Rabbi Tarfon
Cinthia Dieudonne

- **Pronouns:** she/her/hers
- **Major:** Psychology
- **Minor:** Women’s & Gender Studies
- **WST Research Paper:** “Black Women Aren’t Crazy: A Case for Why it’s Not all in Our Heads”
Aritri Dutta

- Pronouns: she/her/hers
- Major: Women’s & Gender Studies
- Major: Biology, Specialization in Developmental Genetics

“Our feelings are our most genuine paths to knowledge” - Audre Lorde

During my freshman year I ended up in my first WST class and I never looked back. The WGSS department here is filled with the kindest, brightest souls and minds I have ever met. They have truly changed me for the better. They have given me the strength to carry on and the confidence that we will change our world for the better. Thank you for everything <3.
Nic Grima

• Major: Women’s & Gender Studies, Specialization in Gender, Sexuality, & Public Health

• Minor: Chemistry

• WST Research Paper: “Transitioning Health Care: Structurally Competent Trans*/GNC/NB Healthcare in the University Setting”
Gabriela Hernandez

• Major: Women’s & Gender Studies, Specialization in Gender, Sexuality, and Public Health
• Major: Political Science
• WST Research Paper: “Unpacking the Real Promise of Uterus Transplant”

Thank you to the WGSS department for encouraging me to pursue my education with purpose and hunger for knowledge. The knowledge I gained in these last few years, while only the beginning, has allowed me to achieve personal growth and a greater understanding of my identity. Without this department, I may not have discovered meaningful literature, leaders, and significant terms like double vision, transnational feminism, etc.

A special thank you to those instructors whose impact allowed me to continue my education despite facing overwhelming challenges. I will continue to strive to successfully to apply your teachings.
Sultana Hossain

• Major: Biology, Interdisciplinary Specialization
• Major: Women’s & Gender Studies
• WST Research Paper: “Missing Girls in Nepal: The Cultural Determinants, Societal Impacts, and Ethical Implications of Sex-Selective Abortion”

I will be forever grateful for the knowledge and insight about the world I gained as a Women’s Studies student.
Caitlyn Howell

- Pronouns: she/her/hers
- Major: Women’s & Gender Studies, Specialization in Gender, Sexuality, and Public Health
- Major: Sociology
- WST Research Paper: “Sexual Autonomy and the IDD Community”
Christine P Jacob

- Pronouns: she/her/hers
- Major: Health Science, Specialization in Public Health
- Minor: Women’s & Gender Studies

"I never wanted to depend on a man again. And, I realized, that if men might leave you even if you do everything you're supposed to, then you might as well do whatever you want" - Vertigo: A Memoir by Louise DeSalvo

I want to express my sincere gratitude for all of the faculty and staff members of the Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies department for this eye-opening experience.
Mikayla Katz

- **Pronouns:** she/her/hers
- **Major:** Biology
- **Minor:** Women’s & Gender Studies
- **WST Research Paper:** “Criminalization of HIV”
Nikita Kohli

• Major: Psychology
• Minor: Women’s & Gender Studies
Danilsa Lendof

• Pronouns: she/her/hers
• Major: Sociology
• Minor: Women’s & Gender Studies
• WST Research Paper: “Late Motherhood”

Being a First-generation student means taking risks, stepping outside of my comfort zone, and doing something I’ve never seen someone in my family do before. Proud to be one!
Michelle Louijean

- **Pronouns:** she/her/hers
- **Major:** Biology
- **Minors:** Women’s & Gender Studies; Health & Wellness
- **WST Research Paper:** “Fairy Tales In Color: Understanding the Role of Racism in the Creation of Disney Princesses”

The lotus makes it way out of the mud and that is what Class of 2020 has done countless times throughout this year. We continue to grow and blossom despite the challenges and I am forever honored to be a part of this class. I am ready for the world and they have no choice but to be ready for all of us.

“You have to decide who you are and force the world to deal with you, not with its idea of you.” - James Baldwin
Frances Moore

• **Major:** Biology, Specialization in Developmental Genetics

• **Minor:** Women’s & Gender Studies

• **WST Research Paper:** “Mother Knows Best: Breast Cancer Treatment During Pregnancy”
Diksha Nayar

• Pronouns: she/her/hers
• Majors: Psychology and Sociology
• Minor: Women’s & Gender Studies
• WST Research Paper: “Mental Health Disparities in Black and White Women in the U.S.”

“We all have dark and light in us. The part you choose to act on is what makes you who you are.”
Jackie Pereira

- Pronouns: she/her/hers
- Major: Women’s & Gender Studies, Specialization in Gender, Sexuality, & Public Health

Thank you to all the professors in the WGSS department! My time at Stony Brook has given me a profound sense of clarity and strong analytical skills that only stand to benefit me in my future endeavors. I will always be grateful for the amazing professors that helped me grow, learn, and propel me forward on my journey. Thank you and congratulations to my fellow graduates!
Muhsena Rahman

• **Major:** Biology, Specialization in Neuroscience
• **Minor:** Women’s & Gender Studies
• **WST Research Paper:** “The Origins and Ramifications of Medical Bias on Women of Color”
Anna Rose Redmond

• **Major:** Political Science
• **Major:** Women’s & Gender Studies
Amrietaa Sathasivam

• Pronouns: she/her/hers
• Major: Health Science, Informatics
• Major: Women’s & Gender Studies
• WST Research Paper: "The Impact of Socio-economic status on reproductive health outcomes of women in the United States."

"Amma this one is for you! " - Ammi
Mohua Sultana

• Pronouns: she/her/hers
• Major: Multidisciplinary Studies in Biology and Chemistry
• Minor: Women’s & Gender Studies

"Being a Women's Studies minor was the best thing I decided to do in college!"
Jessica Tom

- Pronouns: she/her/hers
- Major: Biology, Interdisciplinary Specialization
- Major: Women’s & Gender Studies

Thank you to the women's gender and sexuality studies department and all my professors for showing me a greater understanding of the world and how to be a better human. Congratulations to all the 2020 graduates and best of luck in the pandemic world!

“You are a power. A force as strong and strange as any element of nature. Do not shrink. Do not hide. Be the thing you were meant to be.” -Nayyirah Waheed
Jennifer Van

- Pronouns: she/her/hers
- Major: Health Science, Concentration in Public Health
- Minor: Women’s & Gender Studies
- WST Research Paper: “Social Media, Stress, and Subtle Asian Traits”
Elizabeth Varghese

- Pronouns: she/her/hers
- Major: Women’s & Gender Studies
- Major: Biology

“When you've worked hard, and done well, and walked through that doorway of opportunity, you do not slam it shut behind you. You reach back and you give other folks the same chances that helped you succeed.” - Michelle Obama

WGSS has transformed the way that I see and think about the world. Thank you for providing me with the critical feminist lens that I will use for the rest of my life.
Crystal Williams

• Pronouns: she/her/hers
• Major: Sociology
• Minor: Women’s & Gender Studies
• WST Research Paper: “Black mothers being failed, Racial disparities within the health care system”

“There is no greater agony than beating an untold story inside you” - Maya Angelou
Pramiti Yashroy

- Pronouns: she/her/hers
- Major: Psychology
- Minor: Women’s & Gender Studies
- WST Research Paper: "Infanticide: The Story of the Missing Girls of India"

"The best is yet to come, so, onto the next!"
Melissa Ziegler

• Prounouns: she/her/hers
• Major: Women’s & Gender Studies
• Major: Sociology
• WST Research Paper: “Amniocentesis: Reproducing Repressing Attitudes Towards Disability”

After graduation I will be attending St. Joseph’s College to receive my masters in Early Childhood Special Education starting Summer 2020
Congratulations, Class of 2020!