Sexuality Studies at Peer and Other Academic Institutions

This document provides a description of sexuality studies at other academic institutions. Harvard’s peer institutions provide students opportunities to study issues of sexuality within departments or programs of gender and sexuality studies or women’s, gender, and sexuality studies. Other institutions, both private and public, house departments and programs exclusively pertaining to sexuality studies.

I. Sexuality Studies at Peer Institutions

1. Barnard College – Department of Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies
   (http://womensstudies.barnard.edu/)

Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies is an interdisciplinary department for students who wish to explore gender and its relation to other axes of power: race, class, ethnicity, and sexuality. The Department uses these concepts to analyze human experience in its bodily, political, economic and cultural dimensions. Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies at Barnard covers a complex variety of theoretical and empirical scholarship both within traditional disciplines and in interdisciplinary frames in the humanities, social sciences and natural sciences as well as combinations of the three. The Department is committed to critical perspectives and bodies of knowledge that contribute to possibilities for transformation and change.

Early in their sophomore year, students interested in the major should consult the Department to plan their major. Students also have the option of electing a combined major and a minor. Areas of faculty research specialization include feminist and queer politics and ethics in U.S. public life; contemporary and historical social movements; gender and global political economy; sexuality and the state; sociology of the body, sex and gender; critical science studies of gender and sexuality; transnational feminisms; Asia-Pacific cultural studies; comparative literature and critical theory.

Complementing the Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies Department, the Barnard Center for Research on Women (BCRW, http://bcrw.barnard.edu) maintains an extensive and expanding resource collection on women’s issues. Many of these resources, including BCRW's own online journal, The Scholar & Feminist Online, are available on BCRW's multi-media website. BCRW also sponsors a variety of events that are invaluable to students interested in Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies.

Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies participates in a Consortium with Africana Studies and American Studies that supports the development of intellectual and curricular projects across the three fields and offers a concentration and minor in studies of race and ethnicity, with an attention to global and diasporic frameworks. The Consortium is particularly interested in relations between and among, gender, sexuality, race, ethnicity and nation. The Consortium is working to create models for research and teaching that contribute to new ways of understanding processes of social differentiation and that help to create new possibilities for social relations.
2. Brown University – Gender and Sexuality Studies Program
(http://www.brown.edu/research/pembroke-center/gender-and-sexuality-studies)

The Gender and Sexuality Studies Program at Brown encourages students to examine the complex ways that “differences” are produced culturally, politically, and epistemologically: sexual and gender differences in concert with differences that are fundamental to the categories of "race" and ethnicity, nationality, class, religion, and so forth.

Interdisciplinary in its intellectual framing as well as its institutional structure, the Gender and Sexuality Studies Program is housed in the Pembroke Center for Research and Teaching on Women (www.brown.edu/research/pembroke-center) and supported by a multidisciplinary faculty advisory board. The Program shares with the Pembroke Center a questioning of what counts as foundational knowledge in a given discipline. This questioning of the production of knowledge is related, in turn, to the challenges that studies of "difference" present to the academy. Such studies include gender and sexuality studies; studies of race, ethnicity, multiculturalism; and cross-cultural and postcolonial studies.

For undergraduates, the Gender and Sexuality Studies Program supports a concentration, courses, research grants, and honors thesis prizes. For graduate students, the Program offers research grants and a dissertation prize, as well as fellowships for participating in the Pembroke Seminar.

Gender and Sexuality Studies is an interdisciplinary undergraduate concentration that examines the construction of gender and sexuality in social, cultural, political, economic, or scientific contexts. Each concentrator will focus on a well-defined topic or question and work closely with a concentration advisor to develop a program that investigates this focus area rigorously and supplements it with foundational courses in the relevant disciplines.

 Typical areas of focus might include the acculturation of gender, sexuality and race/ethnicity in American politics or activism; the construction of sexual and gendered identities in educational institutions or in various forms of visual media; a contrast between different cultural understandings of sexual identity, a particular national literature, and history. Such topics will frequently bring questions of gender and sexuality together; however students may also organize their concentrations to emphasize questions specifically related to gender or to sexuality if they wish. Introductory and methodology courses in the disciplines appropriate to students' focus will help them understand the principles grounding such practices as historical research, literary interpretation, and sociological analysis.

3. Cornell University – Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program
(http://www.arts.cornell.edu/fgss)

Cornell's Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (FGSS) Program is one of the largest interdisciplinary programs in the College of Arts and Sciences, involving approximately 150 members of the greater Cornell faculty. It is also historically one of the first university women's studies programs in the country. FGSS offers courses, many of them cross-listed with other departments, in topics ranging from "A Global Controversy: How to Study a Human Rights
Violation" to "Sex, Gender, and Communication" to "bell hooks Books: From Feminism to Autobiography" to "Sex and Gender in Cross-Cultural Perspective." Close to 500 students enroll in courses cross-listed with FGSS. The Program is governed by an Advisory Committee comprised of faculty, students and staff whose charge is to advise the Director and guide the Program's intellectual direction and sponsored activities, and a Core Faculty, comprised of those faculty members who most actively teach in the Program and whose membership also governs tenure review and promotion decisions.

The Program offers an undergraduate major as well as an undergraduate minor. All majors and minors take courses in three key areas of the program: lesbian, gay, bisexual, & transgender studies; the study of intersecting structures of oppression including race, ethnicity, and class; and global perspectives on feminism, gender, and sexuality. The Honors Program allows qualified students to synthesize readings and perspectives acquired during the course of an undergraduate education in a flexible thesis project. A Feminist Studies Colloquium, organized by graduate students, has invited leading scholars to present new work at Cornell and to engage informally with graduate student research; past visitors have included Lisa Lowe, Robyn Wiegman, Rey Chow, and Miranda Joseph. FGSS offers an award for graduate student research through the Alice Hanson Cook Award.

Established in 1972 as one of the byproducts of the Women's Liberation Movement, the Cornell Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program was initially called Women's Studies so as to explicitly name the group rendered invisible by (what was then almost always referred to as) the "patriarchy" - and also so as to highlight that it would be speaking from the perspective of the traditionally marginalized Other rather than from the perspective of the group presumed by the dominant paradigm to neutrally represent humankind (i.e., men). But the name quickly became controversial, not only because it suggested that the objects of study, as well as those undertaking the studies, were exclusively women, but also because it did nothing to discourage the common assumption that the women in question were white, middle-class, and heterosexual. To expand and institutionalize the sexuality component of the Program, a minor in Lesbian, Bisexual, and Gay Studies was established at both the graduate and undergraduate levels in the early 1990s. To shift the emphasis of the Program even further toward the intertwining of gender and sexuality with structures of power and inequality, in 2002, the Program changed its name from Women's Studies to Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. In 2009, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Gay Studies changed its name to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Studies (http://blogs.cornell.edu/lgbtstudies). This program offers an undergraduate and graduate minor.

4. Indiana University in Bloomington – Kinsey Institute for Research in Sex, Gender, and Reproduction (http://www.kinseyinstitute.org)

The Kinsey Institute at Indiana University works towards advancing sexual health and knowledge worldwide. For over 60 years, the institute has been a trusted source for investigating and informing the world about critical issues in sex, gender and reproduction. Founded in 1947 by pioneering sex researcher Dr. Alfred C. Kinsey, the Institute currently investigates sexual behavior and sexual health through research programs and publications, library and art collections, events, graduate education, and multimedia initiatives.
The Kinsey Institute co-sponsors, with the Interdepartmental Graduate Committee on Human Sexuality at Indiana University, a Ph.D. minor in Human Sexuality [http://www.kinseyinstitute.org/graduate/phminor.html]. The program offers graduate students currently enrolled in a doctoral program at Indiana University a basic yet broad overview of the behavioral, biological, cultural, and social components of sexuality.

5. New York University – Program in Gender and Sexuality Studies [http://genderandsexuality.as.nyu.edu/page/home]

The undergraduate Program in Gender and Sexuality Studies at New York University is administered through the Department of Social and Cultural Analysis and offers a broad interdisciplinary investigation of gender and sexuality as keys to understanding human experience, fully integrating the study of gender and sexuality in its core curriculum, and insistently extending the view beyond U.S. borders.

At its core, the undergraduate Program encourages students to question the meanings of "male" and "female," as well as of sexual norms, in both Western and non-Western societies. Courses seek to unravel the ways in which ideas about gender and sexuality shape social roles and identities, in addition to the ways in which race, class, and ethnicity function in the experience of gender and sexuality within a culture. Gender and Sexuality Studies challenges the privileging of some categories (i.e., male or heterosexual) over others, along with the social and political implications of such hierarchies. Our curriculum makes gender and sexuality central rather than peripheral terms of analysis and seeks to complicate what is often presented as "natural" or "normal" in traditional academic curricula.

The Program offers an undergraduate major and a minor in Gender and Sexuality Studies. By its very nature, Gender and Sexuality Studies enables students to combine intellectual inquiry with lived experience. To this end, students are encouraged to participate in internship opportunities and independent studies. Through these initiatives, students gain professional experience as well as an opportunity to test lessons learned in the classroom.

The Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality (CSGS) at New York University [http://www.csgsnyu.org/about/] was established in 1999. CSGS is one of the few centers in the U.S. with a named emphasis on both gender and sexuality. The Center facilitates a broad interdisciplinary investigation of gender and sexuality as keys to understanding human experience. CSGS organizes events throughout the academic year, including seminars, panel discussions, film screenings, and conferences. These events are all open to the public and provide a vital and lively meeting-place where scholars, students, artists, and activists can discuss issues involving gender and sexuality, and their intersections with other social phenomena such as race, religion, nation, class, ability/disability, and ethnicity. The Center also co-sponsors events and conferences with schools and departments at NYU, and with other universities in the New York area.

6. Northwestern University – Gender and Sexuality Studies Program [http://www.genderstudies.northwestern.edu]
The Gender and Sexuality Studies Program at Northwestern is a dynamic interdisciplinary program that draws upon faculty and courses from more than twenty departments across several schools. The program is home to: an undergraduate major and minor, a graduate certificate and cluster in Gender & Sexuality Studies, the Sexuality Project at Northwestern (SPAN), and a lively annual series of speakers, events, and reading groups that are open to all campus and community members.

The Gender and Sexuality Studies Program asks questions about gender and sexuality in the U.S., transnationally, and in history, and answers them using research tools from across the humanities and social sciences, as well as from feminist, masculinity, LGBT and queer studies. The faculty and students in Gender and Sexuality Studies investigate these and related questions from multiple standpoints within the humanities and social sciences. Courses emphasize feminist, gay/lesbian, transgendered, queer, and other ways of knowing specific to sex and gender, as applied through fields like history, literature, sociology, anthropology, philosophy, film and media, political science, and public health. The program pays particular attention to how gender and sexuality intersect with race, class, ethnicity, national belonging, and transnational movement(s). In classes and in pursuing their own research, students focus on gender and sexuality as key categories of political, social and cultural analysis. For example, in recent years Gender and Sexuality Studies students have conducted research on such topics as women’s empowerment and micro-loan programs in Uganda, “hook-up culture” on college campuses, depictions of transgendered identities in Hollywood films, medical diagnoses of female sexual dysfunction, and the effect of the 1977 Hyde Amendment on debates over abortion in the U.S.

The Sexualities Project at Northwestern (SPAN, http://www.sexualities.northwestern.edu), a multi-pronged, critical, and interdisciplinary initiative to promote research and education on sexuality, sexual orientation, and health in social context, was created in 2010 following the establishment of a new endowment at Northwestern intended to support research and education on “life sciences, biomedical sciences and social sciences as those fields relate to the study of human sexual orientation and human sexuality.” Working together with a diverse group of Northwestern faculty members, co-conveners Héctor Carrillo and Steven Epstein proposed a new initiative, which was funded by the Provost for an initial period of three years (2010-13).

SPAN is a broad-ranging initiative to promote research and education on sexual orientation and health in social context. While anchored in social scientific frameworks (including scholarship on identity, rights, policy, and immigration), the initiative is intended to be broadly interdisciplinary. SPAN is located within the Gender Studies Program but operates in conjunction with Cells to Society (C2S): The Center on Social Disparities and Health at the Institute for Policy Research as well as the Science in Human Culture Program (SHC).

SPAN funds research by Northwestern faculty members; selects postdoctoral fellows in an international competition; and awards dissertation fellowships, summer research grants, and conference travel support to Northwestern graduate students. SPAN also organizes workshops, brings speakers to campus, and promotes a range of educational activities relating to sexuality studies. SPAN has provided funding to faculty and students in more than 15 departments and programs on campus, and its workshops and events have been attended by a wide cross-section of the Northwestern community.
History of gender and sexuality studies at Northwestern (since 2004) (http://www.genderstudies.northwestern.edu/about/history.html)

Jeff Masten (Chair, Gender Studies, 2005-2008) writes: “The years 2005-08 were a time of terrific growth for Gender Studies at Northwestern, in several areas. We doubled the size of our tenure-line faculty, adding two new joint positions – in Gender Studies/English (Nick Davis) and Gender Studies/Sociology (Héctor Carrillo). These positions significantly expanded our faculty expertise, teaching, and research in sexuality, transnational sexualities, HIV/AIDS, film, and queer theory. We also welcomed Mary Dietz (Gender Studies/Political Science) into one of our long-standing senior positions, confirming our strong core commitment to feminist theory, and added a continuing lecturer position with Jillana Enteen, bringing additional expertise in transnational sexualities and media. In our graduate program, a second major area of accomplishment, we instituted the first ever Northwestern graduate fellowships in Gender Studies, recruiting, in our first cohort, students who have now gone on to a tenure-track position and a UK Fulbright Fellowship. We also launched our Gender Studies Doctoral Colloquium for the discussion of graduate-student research and writing. During this period, we also had record-breaking cohorts of students writing senior honors theses, with a very active Undergraduate Board, under the leadership of Associate Director Amy Partridge, undertaking a multi-year student focus on transgender issues and representations. Among a series of nationally and internationally prominent visiting faculty and speakers, event highlights included a visit by legendary poet and essayist Adrienne Rich as a Kreeger Wolf Distinguished Visiting Professor. Rich read and spoke to a delighted standing-room-only crowd of more than 250 students, faculty, and members of the Evanston/Chicago community. We also worked to update the interface of Gender Studies with its larger audience, giving the Gender Studies website its first ever revamp, incorporating resonant quotations from the scholarly work of our faculty, and publishing our first professionally produced newsletter to reach alums, faculty, and students with the good news of the expansion of our faculty, graduate, and undergraduate programs.”

Ann Orloff (Chair, Gender Studies, 2008-2011) writes: “During the 2008-11 period, a key concern was to expand the intellectual activities of Gender Studies, especially with reference to faculty development, with programming that engaged our diverse and cross-disciplinary constituencies. We featured programming around the theme of "Gender and Sexuality in Transition," a series of colloquia, speeches, roundtable discussions, and workshops that coalesced around the "trans" in "transition": transnational gender and sexuality (as in migration, labor, tourism); transgender and transsexual/identities; and critical transactions among the methodologies and philosophies of feminism, queer theory, and gender studies. With the support of Kreeger Wolf funds, we brought a number of prominent gender and sexuality scholars to campus, including Janet Halley (Harvard Law School), Raewyn Connell (Sydney), Lynne Haney (NYU), and Rhacel Parrenas (USC). With the initiation of the Sexualities Program at Northwestern (SPAN), Gender Studies worked with Héctor Carrillo and Steven Epstein on many aspects of that program, including bringing in two postdoctoralfellows (Evren Savci and Kirsten Leng) and participating in the SPAN reading group. Finally, with Gender Studies TA Christine Wood and colleagues from the University of Chicago and the University of Illinois at Chicago, we organized the first Chicago-area graduate student conference in gender studies, “Engendering Change,” which ran simultaneously with a feminist performance festival that Gender Studies Director Ann Orloff worked on with Performance Studies Chair (and Gender Studies Advisory Board member) Patrick Johnson.
The program also carried out the Curriculum and Personnel review (CPR), chaired by Orloff and Mary Dietz. Among other things, the Undergraduate Curriculum and Program Review subcommittee examined issues relevant to our undergraduate offerings: substance, structure and enrollment of courses (tackling the issues of small courses, writing-intensive courses vs. larger lectures; honors program; requirements; making Gender Studies a stand-alone major; coordination with sexualities initiative; and new course offerings, such as Lane Fenrich’s gateway sexualities class. Much of these initiatives were proposed by the end of the 2010-11 academic year, and actually institutionalized in 2011-12. There was also a Faculty/Personnel Review, taking on questions relating to the character of faculty appointments and re-endorsing our system of rotating joint appointments, by which faculty members from other departments agree to a limited-term appointment with Gender Studies.

The Advisory board accepted the CPR proposal to change the name of the graduate cluster to Gender and Sexuality Studies. We agreed to make the graduate program more fully encompassing of both gender and sexuality studies scholarship, including through expanding our seminar offerings and requiring certificate students to take both a gender studies and a sexuality studies theory seminar from among our offerings. We drafted by-laws, which were adopted after discussion and revision. Finally, we proposed – and the Advisory Board ultimately accepted – that we should change the name of the program from “Gender Studies” to “Gender and Sexuality Studies,” to reflect the changes in our curriculum and interests.”

7. Princeton University – Program in Gender and Sexuality Studies
(http://www.princeton.edu/~gss/index.html)

The Program in Women and Gender Studies at Princeton now has a new name to reflect the new developments and changing focus of scholarship in the field. The Program in Gender and Sexuality Studies will, as director Jill Dolan states, "continue to honor its history in women's studies through our courses, our programming, and our scholarship, while broadening our scope to include gender and sexuality writ large."

The Program in Gender and Sexuality Studies is an interdisciplinary forum for the study of femininity, masculinity, sex roles, gender, sexuality, and the family in societies both past and present. The program’s courses, which are open to all students, examine gender from a variety of disciplinary perspective. The program offers core courses, seminars, and cross-listed courses; it also directs students to courses of interest that are based in other programs and departments.

The Program in Gender and Sexuality Studies was proud to have been selected as a recipient of the Princeton LGBT Center's University Department Recognition Award. As part of the Lavender Graduation ceremony held at Princeton, the Center recognizes members of the University community for their service to the LGBT community. Debbie Bazarsky, the Director of the Center said, "[We are] truly appreciative of the name change and the programmatic efforts (both in terms of sponsored lectures and course offerings), which have been much more inclusive of LGBTQ topics. Over the past few years, there has been greater integration of LGBT and queer content in a way that did not occur in the previous years, and it has had a major impact on student academic interests, identity development, and community awareness. Thank you for your
service to the LGBT community this year and in previous years. We are excited to be awarding Gender and Sexuality Studies this award."

8. **Stanford University – Program in Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies**
   (https://feminist.stanford.edu)

The Program in Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies offers an undergraduate major and minor, and an interdisciplinary honors program that is open to students in all majors. Each Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies student builds an individual program of study around a self-defined thematic focus, integrating courses from multiple departments. The Program encourages work in the arts and supports creative honors theses.

Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies majors may declare LGBT/Queer Studies as a subplan. The LGBT/Queer Studies subplan is appropriate for fields of study focusing on history and theories of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer identities, communities, cultural practices, politics, and legal and medical issues.

The Ph.D. minor in Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies provides graduate students pursuing Ph.D.s broad interdisciplinary knowledge in the field and prepares them to teach courses in the subject. The goal of the program is to bring together graduate students and faculty from different departments, programs, and schools who use feminist and queer perspectives in their research.

9. **University of California at Los Angeles – Bridging Research Innovation, Training and Education on Minority Health Disparities Solutions**
   (http://www.britecenter.org)

The BRITE Center’s mission is to support the innovative use of research, science and policy development to help eliminate disparities in physical and mental health for communities that are traditionally underserved by academic research. The acronym BRITE comes from the center’s tagline: to Bridge Research Innovation, Training and Education on minority health disparities.

As part of an academic-community partnership, researchers and academic institutions can play a powerful role by bringing better science into the study of how issues such as discrimination, chronic stress, and social exclusion harm individual health. By drawing from diverse fields such as clinical psychology, law, public policy, medicine, neuroscience, psychobiology, and sociology, and from the experiences of community residents and organizations, the Center applies a unique framework designed to study both the external influences that contribute to disparities, and the science behind internal, physical effects on brain function and the body. This two-part strategy allows the Center to address the social, environmental and behavioral factors that influence health and well-being in order to help shape programs and policies that have an opportunity to change our health care system.

Since its founding, the Center has worked to improve the health of racial, ethnic and sexual minorities; advance health disparities science and research; and increase the capacity of racial/ethnic and immigrant communities to conduct research. Through its fellows and research staff, the Center has also increased the number of minority students trained in addressing health disparities and committed to conducting research with this focus. In addition, by investing in the creation of data cohorts, the BRITE Center provides an ongoing opportunity for other researchers
in the field to work with understudied racial/ethnic groups such as Asians, Pacific Islanders, Native Hawaiians, Latinos, Americans Indians, African Americans, and gay, lesbian and bisexual populations.

10. University of Chicago – Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality Studies (http://gendersexuality.uchicago.edu)

Since its founding in 1996, the Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality (CSGS) at the University of Chicago has become a major center for research and graduate training in gender and sexuality studies. CSGS has been committed to teaching, research, and active engagement at the University, while also reaching out to public areas where gender and sexuality come together with other political, artistic, and intellectual concerns.

CSGS seeks to advance new forms of interdisciplinary knowledge that connect academic learning to worldly problems and contexts. Additionally, the Center aims to engage scholars both within and outside the confines of the University and to facilitate new conversations across existing academic disciplines and beyond. In addition to sponsoring faculty research projects, conferences, and exhibits, the Center hosts faculty fellows, postdoctoral fellows, and visiting scholars. Areas of faculty interest include gender and sexuality studies in the fields of literature and language, history, political science, sociology, anthropology, cinema and media studies, human development, law, and medicine, among others. The Center offers undergraduate students a major and minor in Gender and Sexuality Studies (http://gendersexuality.uchicago.edu/academic) as well as opportunities for internships and research. Graduate student offerings include a certificate in Gender and Sexuality Studies, workshops, teaching opportunities, and dissertation fellowships.

11. University of Pennsylvania – Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies Program (http://www.sas.upenn.edu/gsws/)

The Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies (GSWS) Program at the University of Pennsylvania is an interdisciplinary program that provides exciting intellectual opportunities to explore the role of gender in human affairs. The Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies Program offers over 50 courses each year, many cross-listed with other departments. GSWS offers a major, a minor, and a graduate certificate.

The Alice Paul Center for Research on Women, Gender, and Sexuality fosters cutting-edge research on women, gender, and sexuality across the disciplines. The Center offers graduate and faculty fellowships, hosts a number of seminar series, and sponsors three named lectureships annually which bring prominent academic, literary, and public figures to campus.


The Program on Global Health & Human Rights (GHHR), an integral component of the Institute for Global Health, is at the forefront of expanding research in the field of health and human
rights, and is a leader in developing tools for analysis, programmatic intervention, monitoring and evaluation. At this juncture in the history of the health and human rights field, there is an urgent need to strengthen health systems and demonstrate the effectiveness of using human rights to address public health challenges. The work of GHHR is to document examples of how human rights-based approaches to health make a greater positive difference to the lives of individuals and populations in a variety of areas, including HIV/AIDS, sexual and reproductive health, child and adolescent health and health systems strengthening. GHHR emphasizes the conceptual, methodological, policy and practice implications of linking health to human rights, with particular attention to women, children, gender issues, and vulnerable populations.

13. University of Texas at Austin – Center for Women’s and Gender Studies (http://www.utexas.edu/cola/centers/cwgs/)

The Center for Women’s and Gender Studies (CWGS) at the University of Texas at Austin fosters academic research, teaching, advocacy, and community partnerships in support of ending gender discrimination. With over 250 affiliate faculty, the Center offers a program in Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, with an undergraduate major and minor and a LGBTQ/Sexualities Studies unofficial concentration (certificate awarded to undergraduate students by the Center for Women's and Gender Studies, http://www.utexas.edu/cola/centers/cwgs/academics/LGBTQ-Studies.php). Graduate students can pursue a Master of Arts or Graduate Portfolio in Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies or a joint Master of Arts with the School of Information or the School of Public Affairs.

Along with the Center for African and African American Studies, the Department of English, and the University of Texas Libraries, CWGS created the Black Queer Studies Collection (http://www.utexas.edu/cola/centers/cwgs/Black-Queer-Studies.php) in the University of Texas Library Catalog, which virtually locates materials by and about Black Diasporic LGBTQ people. The collection includes works in multiple formats and languages in the circulating and archival collections.

The University of Texas at Austin also houses the Sexual Psychophysiology Laboratory (http://homepage.psy.utexas.edu/homepage/group/MestonLAB/HTML%20files/Homepage.htm), which seeks to improve the understanding of human sexuality from psychological, behavioral, physiological, and biological perspective with the goal of providing guidance in developing more effective clinical treatments.

14. University of Washington – Department of Gender, Women, and Sexuality Studies (https://sites.google.com/a/uw.edu/uw-gwss/)

The Department of Gender, Women, and Sexuality Studies (GWSS) at the University of Washington includes eight full-time faculty members, who are affiliated with Anthropology, Nursing (psychosocial and community health), Psychology, and the Jackson School of International Studies, as well as 98 adjunct and affiliate faculty who hold appointments in other departments and share the feminist mission of GWSS.
Intersectional and transnational analyses foreground the department’s studies of race and ethnicity in U.S. and global contexts, analyzing how these social formations intersect with gender, women, and sexuality in specific times and places. GWSS’s research and teaching complement and contribute to Ethnic Studies, Transnational Studies, and Women of Color scholarship.

In addition to the Feminist Graduate Program leading to a Ph.D., the department offers undergraduate majors and minors in GWSS and graduate certificate programs in Feminist Studies and Sexuality and Queer Studies. All undergraduate majors are required to complete a senior capstone course and participate in an internship – distinctive marks of our commitment to excellence in writing and critical thinking, and to linking those skills to community-based social justice practice.

The Graduate Certificate Program in Sexuality and Queer Studies (https://sites.google.com/a/uw.edu/uw-gwss/certificate-programs/queer-studies-certificate/about-sqs-cert-program) within the Department of Gender, Women, and Sexuality Studies at the University of Washington provides training in queer methods of social and cultural inquiry. The Program helps students gain critical knowledge and skills needed for developing theoretically innovative and socially engaged projects that address the challenges of studying sexual communities within disciplines and institutional protocols.

15. Washington University in St. Louis – Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program (http://wgss.artsci.wustl.edu/)

As one of the first in the nation, the Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies program at Washington University has been encouraging the critical thinking and active participation of students in their education since 1972. The program emphasizes the importance of gender analysis to such disciplines as anthropology, philosophy, psychology, political science, history, education, law, architecture, art history and archeology, English, German, Romance, and Asian and Near Eastern languages and literatures, and to such interdisciplinary programs as culture studies, international and area studies, religious studies, and performing arts.

Undergraduate students can obtain a Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies; a Bachelor's degree with a second major in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies; or a minor in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. Graduate students can complete a graduate certificate in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. In addition, students can take Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies courses while completing majors in other subjects within Washington University's five undergraduate schools. Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies courses use feminist theory and gender analysis to examine literature, culture, social structures, and political power, and to understand how assumptions and beliefs about masculinities, femininities, and sexualities shape human institutions, organizations, and activities. Some courses in the program meet basic distribution requirements for the College of Arts and Sciences.

16. Yale University – Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program
The Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (WGSS) Program at Yale offers a variety of courses and an undergraduate major. The Program establishes gender and sexuality as fundamental categories of social and cultural analysis. Drawing on history, literature, cultural studies, social science, and science, it offers interdisciplinary perspectives from which to study the diversity of human experience. Gender – the social meaning of the distinction between the sexes – and sexuality – sexual identities, discourses, and institutions – are studied as they intersect with class, race, ethnicity, nationality, and transnational movements. In recent years, WGSS has increasingly prioritized programs and research exploring women, gender, and sexuality from a transnational and global perspective. With the generous support of the Kempf Fund, the Program has sought to expand its intellectual and geographic boundaries, bringing in a number of international scholars of gender and sexuality and sending its faculty to a series of conferences in Cairo (’03), Seoul (’04), Cambridge (’06), Budapest (’07), and Delhi (’09 and ’10).

WGSS deploys gender, sexuality, and intersectionality as analytical tools to examine identities and institutions, nations and economies, cultures and political systems – to explain crucial aspects of our everyday lives on both intimate and global scales. Across and within WGSS and WGSS cross-listed courses, careful attention is paid to gender and sexuality as dynamic, structuring forces – on the body, online, across axes of social difference, in history and contemporary culture, for intimacy and activism, within local, national, and transnational scenes and circuits of power. Through investigations along multiple and overlapping scales, students are uniquely equipped to assess, theorize, and reshape configurations of gender and sexuality in our everyday lives.

Students receiving a BA in WGSS will: 1) cultivate analytic skills (intellectual critique, creativity, methodology, collaboration, and independent scholarship) in the interdisciplinary field of women’s, gender, and sexuality studies and 2) acquire broad knowledge (historical and contemporary perspective, interdisciplinarity, intersectionality, transnationalism, representation) of the major themes, questions, and contestations that have generated and continue to animate women’s, gender and sexuality studies scholarship.

Students majoring in Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies take a series of core courses, develop an individual area of concentration, and write a two-term senior essay. The program encourages work that is interdisciplinary, intersectional, international, and transnational. Individual concentrations evolve along with students’ intellectual growth and academic expertise. Recent examples of concentrations include literature and queer aesthetics; transnational feminist practices; the intellectual history of civil rights activism; AIDS health policies; gender, religion, and international NGOs; women’s health; food, sexuality, and lesbian community; and gender and sexuality in early education.

WGSS does not currently offer a graduate degree (PhD) program. However, a Qualification Program is available to students already enrolled in a PhD program offered at Yale. Qualification students take extra courses in WGSS in order to gain expertise that can help them in their research and in the job market. Completion of the Qualification demonstrates coursework at the graduate level, experience in pedagogy, and capacity to pursue independent research in WGSS. Qualification students gather regularly with interested faculty for a student-run Graduate
Colloquium, at which they present their own scholarly work; they also coordinate a Working Group that focuses on new developments in gender and sexuality studies.

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Studies (LGBTS) at Yale (http://lgbts.yale.edu/) promotes innovative interdisciplinary scholarship and teaching on the historical and contemporary experience of lesbians, gay men, bisexuals, and transgendered people. It also fosters critical analysis of queer and normative sexualities, the formation of sexual and gender minorities, and the role of sexuality in culture and politics across the world.

As an interdisciplinary committee, LGBTS organizes and co-sponsors scholarly lectures, conferences, film screenings, and other events; provides research grants to faculty, graduate students, and undergraduates; co-sponsors the Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Graduate Colloquium; and works closely with WGSS to coordinate LGBTS course offerings. From 2001-2006, a generous gift from a donor allowed LGBTS to establish and oversee the Larry Kramer Initiative, which hosted a wide array of public programs on LGBT issues and strengthened LGBTS at Yale. Today LGBTS has a 15-member faculty committee, a faculty chair, and two full-time senior administrative assistants.

While LGBT Studies does not offer a formal academic program, there are many opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students. Undergraduates may choose the LGBT Studies track in the WGSS major. Graduate students are encouraged to apply for FLAGS Awards to support research.

II. Sexuality Studies Departments and Programs at Other Institutions

1. American University – Minor in Sexuality and Queer Studies (http://www.american.edu/cas/wgs/sexuality-queer-studies-minor.cfm)

The minor in Sexuality and Queer Studies, offered by the Department of Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, examines familiar issues in gender/sexuality studies (including lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender studies, masculinities, and feminist theory). But here, the starting point for discussion destabilizes categories/identities while emphasizing queer of color critiques, queer diasporas and migrations, and the new queer cultural studies. Critical applications of queer theory to personal and social life are emphasized.

2. Brandeis University – Interdepartmental Program in Sexuality and Queer Studies (http://www.brandeis.edu/registrar/bulletin/provisional/courses/subjects/6350.html)

The undergraduate interdisciplinary minor in Sexuality and Queer Studies, earned within the Women’s and Gender Studies program, offers students the opportunity to examine socially and historically specific experiences, meanings, and representations of sexuality and gender and the centrality of sexuality and gender to personal and collective identities in modernity. Students in the program critically consider the relationships among sex, gender, and sexual orientation, desire and identification, and erotic and affectional behavior, as these intersect with other cultural formations including gender, race, ethnicity, nationality, religion, ability, age, and class.
Across our curriculum, students may study the relation of sexuality and gender; develop understanding of non-heteronormative genders (including gender non-conforming, intersex, transgender, transsexual, and genderqueer individuals and collectives); study gender and sexuality in relation to heterosexual as well as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, asexual, and queer (LGBTIAQ) persons; explore discrimination toward non-normative genders and sexualities and historical struggles for rights and legal representation; and analyze the normative function of all identity categories.

Students completing the minor in Sexuality and Queer Studies will know the major concepts that organize the field of sexuality and queer studies; critically engage sexualities and genders (normative and non-conforming) in their historical, geographical, and cultural diversity, including the social organization and diverse cultural expression of the erotic; understand the complex and contingent relationships among sex, gender, and sexuality; be able to analyze sex, gender, and sexual orientation, desire and identification, and erotic and affectional behavior as these intersect with other cultural formations such as class, race, ethnicity, nationality, religion, age, and ability; and know the histories and trajectories of modern sexual and gender identity movements, their intellectual and ideological underpinnings, and their social, cultural, and legal effects.

Students completing the minor in Sexuality and Queer Studies will read critically, and be able to interpret within the frameworks of sexuality and queer studies, a wide variety of primary and secondary texts, data, and cultural artifacts, from a variety of disciplines, historical periods, and cultures; be able to conduct qualitative and/or quantitative research in relevant disciplines; undertake independent research and present it in oral, written, and/or digital form through intellectually rigorous presentations; create scholarly research that questions assumptions about gender and sexuality; and analyze the situations of individuals and groups and the understandings of gender and sexuality within a range of global societies and historical periods.

The minor in Sexuality and Queer Studies is committed to fostering justice for all gender non-conforming, intersex, transgender, transsexual, genderqueer, and cisgender individuals worldwide. We support and affirm our students' identifications as lesbian, gay, bisexual, heterosexual, asexual, polyamorous, and queer. Sexuality and Queer Studies is thus necessarily concerned with the structural inequalities wrought not only by sexism, homophobia, and transphobia but by racism, economic exploitation, imperialism, global traffic, religious oppression, and ableism, among other instruments or expressions of inequality. As part of the Women's and Gender Studies Program, the minor in Sexuality and Queer Studies has a primary commitment to prepare students to analyze systems of power and privilege, to examine the causes, manifestations, and consequences of institutional discrimination of every kind, and to understand and respect a range of cultural perspectives. Not only the topics in our curriculum but the writings, theories, and empirical research we assign are deliberately diverse in the ethnicity, race, sexuality, gender identity, nationality, and range of physical abilities of their authors. As a program we are committed to what has been recently identified as intersectionality: a theory that recognizes the interconnected nature of experience, discrimination, and privilege, and that explores the interactive ways in which identities intersect or converge to form patterns of dominance, subordination, exclusion and possibility.
3. Ohio State University – Sexuality Studies Program (http://sexualitystudies.osu.edu/home)

The Sexuality Studies Program at the Ohio State University offers both an interdisciplinary minor and major for undergraduates. Sexuality Studies is an interdisciplinary field devoted to the analysis of human sexuality. It explores the historical, political, biological, cultural, sociological, educational, legal, health, aesthetic, and psychological contexts of human sexuality. Ohio State's Sexuality Studies program pays particular attention to processes and practices of normalization in different cultures and times through which certain sexual behaviors, expressions, or identities are esteemed and others devalued. It also investigates the ways in which sexuality is shaped by other social differences such as race, gender, class, dis/ability, religion, nationality, and ethnicity. Sexuality Studies offers Ohio State Graduate Students the opportunity to pursue a Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization as a complement to their main program of study.

4. University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill – Program in Sexuality Studies (http://sexualitystudies.unc.edu/)

In fall 2004, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill began offering a minor in Sexuality Studies. This minor is designed for students interested in exploring the study of sexual/gender identities – such as gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and heterosexual – as well as the full range of human sexual behaviors and identities in diverse cultures and historical periods.

The program is multidisciplinary, drawing on disciplines as wide-ranging as anthropology, biology, cultural studies, economics, genetics, health sciences, history, legal studies, literature, political science, psychology, the visual arts, and sociology to study the varying ways human sexual identities and experiences can be constructed and interpreted.

5. San Francisco State University – Department of Sexuality Studies (https://sxs.sfsu.edu/)

San Francisco State University began teaching sexuality courses in the 1960s. The first entire course focused on sexuality was Biology of Human Sexuality taught by Dr. Goldman in 1968. During the 1970s, the sexuality curriculum grew and in 1981, faculty from a range of disciplines developed a set of sexuality courses that students could use to meet university-wide, General Education requirements. In the late 1980s, an inter-disciplinary group of faculty developed two minors in sexuality studies, a minor in Human Sexuality Studies and a minor in Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Studies. In the late 1990s, an inter-disciplinary group of SFSU faculty, mostly from the social, behavioral and health sciences, envisioned and developed the proposal for a Master’s degree in Sexuality Studies. In 2000, the SFSU Academic Senate and the CSU Board of Trustees approved the MA in Sexuality Studies degree. In 2001, the program accepted its first cohort of graduate students.

The department’s MA Program offers graduate students a rigorous curriculum in the social science of sexuality with a strong focus on social theory and social research methods. Faculty members conduct research and teach courses in a range of social-science disciplines including sociology, public health, criminal justice studies, history, gerontology, gender and women’s studies, queer studies, political science and psychology. The department’s minor programs and
General Education courses provide students with multidisciplinary perspectives on human sexuality ranging from the biology of sexuality to sexual health education, from the history of sexuality to social justice movements for sexual and gender minorities, from sexuality in the arts and literature to cross-cultural explorations of sexuality.

The department provides students with knowledge about processes and variations in sexual cultures, sexual identity and gender role formation, and the social, cultural, historical, and ethical foundations of sexuality, intimate relationships, and sexual health. The department has a long commitment to community building and focuses on issues of social justice and sexuality, including the impact of factors of social inequality — such as poverty, racism, marriage equality, and homophobia — upon sexual well-being and sexual health across the lifespan.

The department is committed to educating the next generation of leaders in research and dissemination of knowledge; excelling in teaching graduate and undergraduate students; advancing quality research on sexuality, gender, and social justice; integrating analyses of race, racism, heterosexism, homophobia, ableism, poverty, and culture into all aspects of the department’s work; and advocating for social policy on sexuality, sexual health, sexual education, human rights, shaped by social justice and diversity, and through, these effort, shape the field of sexuality studies in the 21st century.