

Gender Studies

Division of Social Sciences

- **Minor: 18 credit hours**
- **Minor GPA required for graduation: 2.25**

Description of Minor: Students who minor in gender studies will enroll in a variety of courses designed to help them understand the multiple experiences and viewpoints of women and men in contemporary society and in history, the gendered constructions of power in America and the world, the representations of gender in literature, and the psychology and sociology of gender. Individuals who complete this program will gain comparative insight into how scholars from different disciplines – including history, sociology, literature, writing, communication, and psychology—pose and answer questions about gender.

Student Learning Outcomes

Students will:

- Describe the varied and complex relations among social ideology, social structures/hierarchies, gender roles, and sexuality in various cultures.
- Identify the presence and effects of gender discrimination in the United States and other societies.
- Analyze cultural artifacts and texts using the interdisciplinary methods of gender criticism.
- Summarize the basic elements of a feminist critique of Western society, including its political implications.
- Evaluate various theories about the inherent similarities and differences among and between women and men.
- Recover the long-neglected history and viewpoints of women in various cultures around the world.
- Relate more effectively to individuals of the other gender in their social and professional lives.

Preparation: The gender studies minor complements McKendree's more traditional liberal arts majors as well as its professional courses of study. This minor benefits students in professional programs seeking knowledge to enhance a selected career path just as much as students in traditional liberal arts contemplating graduate study in their fields. Students from all majors would thrive with a gender studies minor.

GENDER STUDIES

MINOR REQUIREMENTS		18 crs.
HIS 271	UNITED STATES WOMEN'S HISTORY	3
<i>or</i>		
HIS 371	UNITED STATES WOMEN'S HISTORY	3

FIVE COURSES FROM THE FOLLOWING

SOC 320	SOCIOLOGY OF FAMILIES	3
SOC 350	SOCIOLOGY OF GENDER	3
ENG 235	EXPLORING GENDER AND SEXUALITY IN LITERATURE AND FILM	3
PSI 315	GENDER AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS	3
PSY 265	PSYCHOLOGY OF GENDER	3
PSY 370	PSYCHOLOGY OF HUMAN SEXUALITY	3
REL 235	RELIGION AND GENDER	3
COM 375	GENDER AND COMMUNICATION	3

History (HIS)

<p>HIS 110 3 HISTORICAL METHODS An exploration of historical thinking, writing, and research intended to develop skills needed for success in upper-level courses. The evolution of historical writing from earliest times to the present is also examined.</p>	<p>HIS 277/377 3 AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY An introduction to the study of African American History, including the history and culture of Western Africa, the Atlantic slave trade, slavery and its effects, as well as the roles, lifestyles, problems, and accomplishments of African Americans from the Colonial period until the present. The course will focus on the African American community analyzing major political, social, economic, religious, cultural, and intellectual trends, patterns, and leaders. Those students taking the course as HIS 377 will be required to write a major research paper, in addition to other required writings. Students may elect to take this course at one level, but not both.</p>
<p>HIS 161 3 WORLD CIVILIZATIONS I A comparative survey of early civilizations in Asia, Africa, and Europe from prehistory to the dawn of Modernity.</p>	<p>HIS 280-284 1-3 TOPICS IN AMERICAN HISTORY Studies in specialized areas of American History. This course will cover topics or areas not included in the regular curriculum.</p>
<p>HIS 162 3 WORLD CIVILIZATIONS II A comparative survey of world civilization from the dawn of Modernity to the Contemporary Age.</p>	<p>HIS 285-289 1-3 TOPICS IN WORLD HISTORY This course will be of a topical nature or cover regions or nations not included in the regular curriculum.</p>
<p>HIS 261 3 UNITED STATES HISTORY TO 1877 A survey of American history from prehistory through the Civil War.</p>	<p>HIS 310 3 SEMINAR IN HISTORICAL RESEARCH Students will define individual topics for their senior research paper after completing a historiographical survey on the proposed topic and identifying major research sources available. This course will lead to the writing of a research proposal to be carried-out in HIS 410. Required of all history majors.</p>
<p>HIS 262 3 UNITED STATES HISTORY SINCE 1877 A survey of American history from the Civil War to the present.</p>	<p>HIS 311 3 ANCIENT CIVILIZATIONS (W) A study of the ancient civilizations of the Near East, Greece, and Rome from prehistory to the fall of the Roman Empire.</p>
<p>HIS 265 3 INTRODUCTION TO PUBLIC HISTORY This course introduces students to the diverse field of public history, including archives management, museums, and oral history. The course includes theoretical discussion as well as practical experiences.</p>	<p>HIS 312 3 MEDIEVAL HISTORY (W) A study of the period between the fall of the Roman Empire and the Renaissance with a major emphasis on the analysis of primary source materials.</p>
<p>HIS 271/371 3 UNITED STATES WOMEN'S HISTORY The course examines the way in which women have shaped the American past and the ways in which large historical forces have influenced women's lives. Those students taking the course as HIS 371 will be required to write a major research paper, in addition to other required writings. Students may elect to take this course at one level, but not both.</p>	<p>HIS 313 3 EARLY MODERN EUROPE: 1450-1815 (W) A study of the development of European civilization from the Renaissance through the Napoleonic Era.</p>
<p>HIS 275/375 3 UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL HISTORY A survey of environmental history in the United States, this course provides an overview of the changing relationship between human societies and the natural world. Students taking this course as HIS 375 will be required to complete a major research project in addition to other required writings. Students may elect to take this course at one level, but not both.</p>	<p>HIS 314 3 MODERN EUROPE: 1815-1945 (W) A study of European civilization from the Congress of Vienna to 1945.</p>
<p>HIS 276/376 3 MINORITIES IN THE AMERICAN EXPERIENCE A survey of minorities in American history, this course will compare and contrast the histories of the various ethnic groups that make up the American population. Students taking this course as HIS 376 will be required to write a major research paper in addition to other required writings. Students may elect to take this course at one level, but not both.</p>	

History (HIS)

<p>HIS 316 3 GLOBAL LGBTQ IDENTITY AND MOVEMENTS An examination and study of international LGBTQ identity and movements. This course surveys the geopolitical complexities, triumphs, and challenges for transnational LGBTQ advocacy efforts from the mid-nineteenth century to the present.</p>	<p>HIS 385-89 1-4 TOPICS IN WORLD HISTORY This course will be of a topical nature or cover regions or nations not included in the regular curriculum.</p>
<p>HIS 321 3 COLONIAL AMERICA AND THE REVOLUTIONARY ERA (W) A study of Colonial America from its origins in North American pre-history and European expansion through the English Colonies to about 1821. Prerequisite: HIS 261 or instructor consent.</p>	<p>HIS 410 3 SENIOR THESIS IN HISTORY (W) This course focuses on the writing of a professional quality research paper based on primary source materials. Students will also be involved in a seminar situation requiring scholarly criticism of each other's papers on a chapter by chapter basis. Completed papers will be presented orally before the campus community. Prerequisites: HIS 110, 310. Required of all history majors.</p>
<p>HIS 323 3 DIVISION AND REUNION: 1820-1877 A study of Manifest Destiny, rising sectional tensions, the Civil War, and the Reconstruction Era.</p>	<p>HIS 470 3-8 INTERNSHIP IN HISTORY</p>
<p>HIS 324 3 THE EMERGENCE OF MODERN AMERICA: 1890-1945 A study of the emergence of modern America as a major industrial and world power from the end of Reconstruction to the outbreak of World War I.</p>	<p>HIS 480 1-4 INDEPENDENT STUDY IN HISTORY Individual research in specialized topic areas. Offered only to advanced students on a contractual basis, with consent of history faculty.</p>
<p>HIS 326 3 AMERICA SINCE 1945 A study of the history of the United States from the end of World War II to the present.</p>	
<p>HIS 331 3 ILLINOIS HISTORY A survey of the history of Illinois from the earliest times to the present.</p>	
<p>HIS 345 3 AMERICA BY EAR: MODERN AMERICA THROUGH SONG This course utilizes the medium of music as a lens to explore aspects of modern American history, culture, and society. Prior completion of HIS 262 is recommended.</p>	
<p>HIS 372 3 AMERICAN ECONOMIC HISTORY This course surveys the economic history of the United States from the colonial era to the present. Among the topics to be considered are the mercantile economy of British North America, the economics of slavery, the Industrial Revolution, the cycles of boom and bust, the rise of the service economy in the information age, and the globalization of American economic influence.</p>	
<p>HIS 380-84 1-4 TOPICS IN AMERICAN HISTORY Studies in specialized areas of American History. This course will cover topics or areas not included in the regular curriculum.</p>	