

GENDER AND DIVERSITY STUDIES

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS



MAJORS

- Gender and Diversity Studies concentration within Interdisciplinary Programs (BS)

MINOR

- Gender Studies

WHAT CAN I DO WITH A GENDER AND DIVERSITY STUDIES DEGREE?

The gender and diversity studies program will help you understand yourself and the world in more complete and complex ways. You can become a social justice activist and learn how systems and structures of power and oppression are created, maintained and challenged. You can apply gender and diversity studies to any job, because in an increasingly global workplace, employers desire professionals who understand diverse perspectives and complex situations. Additionally, the program provides the skills to systemically analyze inequities and create options for initiating change at both micro- and macro-social levels. Graduates have secured jobs as educators, counselors, therapists, victim advocates in domestic violence shelters, human resource managers and public speakers.

GENDER AND DIVERSITY STUDIES AT SRU

Gender and diversity are politically and culturally constructed identities, both individually and socially, that impact everyone. Whether it's recognized or not, people regularly experience, reinforce and disrupt social and systemic expectations about groups based on gender, race, sexuality, able-bodiedness, disability, socioeconomic status, ethnicity and religion. Our interdisciplinary curriculum provides both a local and international context for understanding organizations and solving problems. Students are supported and encouraged to conduct research by presenting at state, regional and national conferences and by getting published in refereed academic journals. Scholarships for conference presentations are available.

WHY CHOOSE GENDER AND DIVERSITY STUDIES AT SRU?

- 1. Small classes with a focus on discussion:** Many classes are capped at 30 students or fewer, emphasizing a student-centered learning environment.
- 2. Research and scholarly presentation opportunities:** More than 80 percent of all majors present academic research at state, regional and national conferences, thereby gaining professional experience, building their resumes and developing their networks.
- 3. Dedicated and supportive faculty:** Gender studies is truly interdisciplinary, which means that you will be learning from dedicated, knowledgeable faculty in departments across the University.
- 4. Professional development and advisement:** A question many students have asked is, "What will I do with this major or minor?" It's a legitimate question, and to address it, we provide professional development workshops that focus specifically on how to tailor applications both to jobs and to graduate programs and help students market the major and minor effectively and knowledgeably. In other words, from your first gender studies class until your graduation date, we work with you to find internships, jobs and career options that are meaningful to you.
- 5. Ability and opportunity to make the world a better place:** If you are troubled by injustice, if you want to better understand how inequities persist and how they can be effectively dismantled and if you plan to be a social change agent, then this major or minor is for you.

SlipperyRock
University

A member of Pennsylvania's State System
of Higher Education

EXPERIENCE THE DIFFERENCE

www.sru.edu

INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

SRU gender studies students have completed internships at various locations, including

- Butler VOICE (Victim Outreach and Intervention Center), Butler, Pennsylvania
- Forbes House Domestic Violence Shelter, Lake County, Ohio
- Out For Work, Washington, D.C.
- Women and Girls Foundation, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
- George Junior Republic, Grove City, Pennsylvania
- Women's Law Project, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

CAREER OUTCOMES

Employers and graduate programs value inclusiveness and diversity, and unless you plan to work and interact only with people who look like you and share your beliefs, this major can serve you well. The gender and diversity studies concentration and the gender studies minor enhance career preparedness in a variety of fields: non-profits, human resources, international business, social work, counseling and therapy, education, law, public relations and communication and market research. Employers expect the kinds of critical thinking and analytic skills, written and communication skills, research skills and problem-solving skills that the concentration and the minor provide.

While many SRU gender studies majors and minors will continue their education after earning their bachelor's degree, graduates of the department have secured careers in the following areas:

- Music therapy
- Victim advocacy
- Teaching and education
- Environmental field technician
- Counselor

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

- RockOUT
- Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance
- Pride Center
- Women's Center



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Avianna Danta, '18

Level 4 Amazon Area Manager, Arizona

"Moving from Ohio to Arizona to pursue my Amazon career was a major step. The cultural differences between the Midwest and the West are noticeable. Earning a major in gender and diversity studies has not only made me more marketable in terms of my career, but it also gave me the ability to understand different cultures. My senior operations leader told me that one of the reasons he knew I would be a good fit for the job was due to my education in and knowledge of gender and diversity."

Sara Naughton, '18

Graduate student pursuing a master's in women's and gender studies at the University of Northern Iowa

"The gender and diversity studies track at SRU has changed the course of my future in more ways than one. Because of my involvement in the major, I have had the opportunity to present at several regional and national conferences; I have received scholarships and fellowships; I gained critical networking skills; and I created relationships with mentors and students that will last for years to come. I feel privileged to have had the option to declare gender and diversity studies as my second major at SRU."

Ayanna Byers, '16

Residence Life Coordinator, California State University, East Bay, Hayward, California

"The gender studies minor provided an opportunity to explore not only gender but the intersection of my black and woman identities. I use what I've learned in my work with students and I am better able to provide them with resources, information and the same love for learning that the gender studies minor uncovered in me."

ACADEMIC CONTACT: FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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ADMISSIONS OFFICE:

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