

GENDER & SEXUALITY STUDIES (GSS) MAJOR

Major Guide for Gender and Sexuality Studies AY2024

ジェンダー・セクシュアリティ研究メジャー履修ガイド 2024 度版

Contents

- What is GSS?
- How do I construct an academic plan in GSS?
- I have a question, who and where can I ask?

■ What is GSS?

Gender and Sexuality Studies (GSS) is a major that provides a comprehensive program for students who want to study gender and sexuality-related fields in an interdisciplinary fashion. Humans cannot live independently from sex or gender. Issues related to gender and sexuality are wide reaching in their variety, and not only in the areas of social sciences (e.g. politics and sociology) and the humanities (e.g. literature and philosophy); they also extend to the field of natural sciences, in terms of our knowledge about the human body. Therefore, in order to learn about gender and sexuality, an interdisciplinary viewpoint is essential.

This major aims to question existing “knowledge” from the perspective of gender and sexuality—in other words, to reassess that which we take for granted or assume is “normal” by using a gender-sexuality perspective—and by doing so, develop a new frontier in academia.

As such, the students of this major are required to do the following items: ① Understand the basic concepts of gender and sexuality, as well as their social construction; ② Grasp the process of how gender order is constructed/reconstructed in education, the work place, and in the home, in addition to how the gendered messages surrounding us in our daily lives are transmitted by language and media, all from a gender and sexuality perspective; ③ Adopt a bold approach to tackling discourse on inequality, class, and power, discussions on “nature” versus “culture”, and other intellectual issues on a large scale.

Although this might seem difficult at first, gender and sexuality are connected to everything that humans are involved with in this world. That means that whatever you are interested in at this moment is most likely connected to gender and sexuality in some way. This major allows you to study about those interests in an interdisciplinary way.

■ How do I construct an academic plan in GSS?

- ◆ Information such as class content, faculty members and whether or not certain lectures will be offered are subject to change depending on the semester or annual year. Refer to the e-handbook to receive the latest information on course offerings.
- ◆ For information on elective courses, ELA/JLP, GE, and PE courses, refer to the “Graduation Requirements” and “Majors” sections on the e-handbook website, or utilize the Academic Planning Support.

• How do I major in GSS?

In order to select GSS as your major, you are required to have taken (i) “GSS 101: Approaches to Gender and Sexuality Studies” or “LIT117 Modern Japanese Literature in English Translation” and (ii) another foundation course among those designated by GSS. If you select GSS as your 2nd Major (in the case of the second major, you do not have to write a senior thesis) or as your Minor, it is still necessary to take either GSS 101 or LIT117. We recommend that you take these Foundation Courses before the end of your sophomore year.

Moreover, since GSS 101 is offered as an omnibus lecture series, we recommend this course not only as an introduction to gender studies but also as a course that gives you the opportunity to acquire multiple perspectives from various academic disciplines. We also hope that this course would be useful for students who have not yet had any specific interests in one academic discipline to select their major.

As for general information on the procedure of major declaration, please check the item of “The Major Declaration” on the ehandbook.

· **What are the graduation requirements for GSS?**

Foundation Courses (100 Level Courses) : 18 required credits

6 out of 18 credits should be taken from GSS Foundation Courses. Foundation courses are a group of courses for the purpose of acquiring basic knowledge and perspectives on what discourse and research the gender and sexuality viewpoint produces in each academic field. By first realizing the importance of the field of gender and sexuality, a broader, deeper study is encouraged. Regardless of the major/minor system, GSS students are required to take the following credits:

Foundation Courses (100 Level Courses)			
GSS Foundation Courses (* : Offered every other year)	GSS101	Approaches to Gender and Sexuality Studies (3 credits)	3credits
	LIT117	Modern Jpn. Literature in Eng. Translation (3credits)	
	LIT101	Approaches to Literature (3 credits)	3 credits
	GSS102	Religion and Gender (3 credits)	
	DPS103	Gender and Development (3 credits)	
	EDU117	Development and Education (3 credits)	
	LIT107	History of English Literature II (3 credits)	
	LIT110	History of Japanese Literature I (3 credits) *	
	LIT112	Introduction to Japanese Literature I (3 credits) *	
	MCC103	Introduction to Cultural Studies (3 credits)	
SOC102	Principles of Sociology (3 credits)		
SOC103	Approaches to Sociological Research (3 credits)		
Either from GSS foundation courses, or from other foundation courses		12 credits	
Total: 18 credits			

Area Major Courses (200+ Level Courses) : 21 required credits

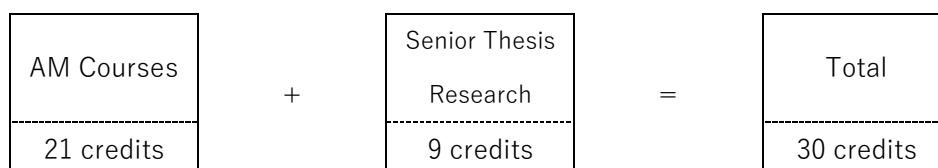
The Area Major (AM) courses in GSS are divided into two groups: Core Courses (CCs) and

Related Course (RCs). CCs are a group of courses which are offered to students for learning basic theories concerning gender and sexuality. We encourage you to take as many CCs as possible because you are supposed to choose your area of academic research based on the theories studied in these courses. RCs are a group of courses designed for students to further their studies according to their own interests based on the theories learnt in the CCs. The number of AM courses students need to take differs depending on the forms of major/minor as follows:

① For those majoring in GSS

(For those choosing GSS as a single major or the MJR1 in a double major)

GSS Area Major Courses (200+ Level Courses)			
Core Courses (* : Offered every other year)	GSS201	Gender and International Relations (3 credits)	
	GSS301	Gender, Sexuality and Critical Theory (3 credits)	
	GSS303	Special Topics in Gender Studies I (3 credits) *	9
	GSS304	Special Topics in Gender Studies II (3 credits) *	credits
	ANT201	Anthropology and Gender Studies (3 credits)*	(recomm
	LIT372	Literary Theory and Feminism I (3 credits) *	-ended)
	LIT373	Literary Theory and Feminism II (3 credits) *	
	SOC201	Gender and Social Structure (3 credits)	
Related Courses			12 credits (recomm -ended)
Total: 21 credits			



② For those in a double major program, with GSS as the MJR2

GSS Area Major Courses (200+ Level Courses)	
GSS AM Courses (either Core Courses or Related Courses)	30 credits
Total: 30 credits	

* If you select GSS as your MJR2, you have to take three or more credits from 300 level GSS Area Major courses.

③ For those minoring in GSS

15 credits are required from GSS AM Courses (either from CCs or RCs). There are no specific requirements; however, in order to learn the foundations of gender and sexuality research, it is recommended that students take some CCs.

• Who teaches on GSS? What kinds of people are there?

GSS is run by professors from a variety of specialized fields. Also, Faculty and Research Institute Assistants (RIAs) at Center for Gender Studies (CGS) provide backup for student learning.

CGS was inaugurated in April 2004 as a new communication space open to all people who have an interest in gender and sexuality research. Here, a large number of students with common interests gather, transcending the framework of academic fields. We chat and drink tea, have reading groups, and enjoy each other's company. At CGS, students can also borrow books or audiovisual resources.

CGS supports and provide an opportunity to those interested in gender and sexuality to expand their studies and interpersonal relationships. For those interested, please feel free to drop by. CGS is located on the third floor of ERB-I (Educational Research Building I) in room 301, near the elevator.

● GSS Mailing List

Once you choose GSS as your major/minor, you are required to register yourself on GSS Mailing List, through which you receive important information regarding GSS as well as events related to gender and sexuality studies. Please contact cgs@icu.ac.jp to register.

● GSS Senior Thesis Presentation Day

Students majoring in GSS are required to give a presentation on their Senior Thesis Research on GSS Senior Thesis Presentation Day on the Reading Day after the submission of their theses. Awarded theses of the Rainbow Awards are also announced at the GSS Senior Thesis Presentation Day.

● The Rainbow Awards for Gender and Sexuality Studies

The Rainbow Awards for Gender and Sexuality Studies was established by Professor Kazuko Tanaka, the founder of the Center for Gender Studies (CGS). The awards are given to outstanding dissertations (BA, MA, Ph.D) on gender and sexuality studies submitted to the ICU, to encourage further development of gender and sexuality studies. The summary of awarded dissertation will be published in *Gender and Sexuality: Journal of the Center for Gender Studies, ICU*.

■ I have a question, who and when should I ask?

If you have any questions, please come to CGS. We are open from 12pm to 4pm (Wednesday, Thursday and Friday as of April 2024). Feel free to ask staff members. Contact by mail (cgs@icu.ac.jp) is also welcome.

■ Up-to-date information can be found on the following websites:

CGS website: <http://subsite.icu.ac.jp/cgs/>

CGS Twitter: @icu_cgs

CGS Instagram: @icu_cgs

CGS Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/icu.cgs/>

ICU Center for Gender Studies

ERB 301 3-10-2 Osawa, Mitaka-shi, Tokyo

181-8585

E-mail: cgs@icu.ac.jp

Web: <http://subsite.icu.ac.jp/cgs/>



Course content, faculty members, and whether the course is offered are subject to change depending on the semester or academic year, so please check the e-handbook for the most recent information.

Additionally, applications/changes to a major should be discussed at the Academic Planning Support in parallel with

Center for Gender Studies (CGS), International Christian University

Created by Oka Shunichiro (CGS RIA), Fumina Hamasaki (CGS Assistant Professor), Yuh-Chain Hung (CGS former RIA)

【CGS website】 <http://subsite.icu.ac.jp/cgs/>

【CGS facebook】 <https://ja-jp.facebook.com/icu.cgs/>

【CGS twitter】 @icu_cgs 【CGS Instagram】 @icu_cgs

CGS on the Campus Map

キャンパス・マップ Campus Map



What is Center for Gender Studies (CGS)?

CGS is a research center open for everyone who is interested in gender and sexuality studies. Those who are not associated with ICU can also use CGS.

You can borrow/read books on gender and sexuality at CGS, and also have a rest with tea/coffee. Please pop by.

Opening Hours: 12:00-16:00 (Wednesday, Thursday and Friday)

Place: ERB-301

Inquiry: cgs@icu.ac.jp

