

# MASTER OF ARTS FEMINIST AND GENDER STUDIES

The Institute of Feminist and Gender Studies offers a master's, a doctorate and a collaborative program (at the master's level) in Feminist and Gender Studies.

The objective of the MA program in Feminist and Gender Studies is to encourage the acquisition of in-depth, plural, diversified, and heuristic knowledge of the different currents of feminist thought, including theoretical and methodological proposals. The program aims to develop an aptitude for research in the university or the community, while enriching the student's personal work through the supervised writing of a research paper or thesis.

The primary objective of the Doctoral program is to prepare candidates for a career in teaching and research. The program, however, also prepares candidates for other careers by giving them a comprehensive knowledge in feminist theory, methodology and analysis in a context that highlights the need for scholarship engaged with the realities of an increasingly transnational world. PhD graduates will have acquired and demonstrated their aptitude to produce scholarly work engaged with some of the most urgent issues in the global and local socio-political, cultural and economic landscape while identifying new directions for feminist scholarship and intervention.

The programs are offered full-time and part-time. Courses are offered both in English and in French. In accordance with University of Ottawa regulations, students can write their papers, exams, and theses in the official language of their choice (either English or French). Students are encouraged to acquire at least a passive knowledge of the second official language before graduation.

The programs are governed by the academic regulations (<https://www.uottawa.ca/about-us/leadership-governance/policies-regulations/>) in effect for graduate studies.

Learn more about this program (<https://www.uottawa.ca/faculty-social-sciences/feminist-gender-studies/graduate/programs/>)

## Admission Requirements

For the most accurate and up to date information on application deadlines, language tests and other admission requirements, please visit the specific requirements (<https://www.uottawa.ca/graduate-studies/programs-admission/apply/specific-requirements/>) webpage.

Students holding an honours bachelor's degree with a specialization or major or equivalent from an accredited university in social sciences, health sciences, arts, education or law, with a minimum average of 70% (B), calculated in accordance with graduate studies guidelines, and who have had an adequate background in Feminist and Gender Studies (minimum of two undergraduate level courses or one Master's level course on women, gender, feminism, sexualities), are eligible for admission to the MA program. Students who do not have an adequate background may be eligible to our Special Policy for Admissions.

## Language Requirements

Proficiency in either English or French is required. Applicants whose first language is neither English nor French must provide proof of proficiency in one or the other. The list of acceptable proofs is indicated in the

"Admission" section of the general regulations in effect for graduate studies.

## Program Requirements

Requirements for this program have been modified. Please consult the 2022-2023 calendars (<https://catalogue.uottawa.ca/en/archives/>) for the previous requirements.

## MA with Thesis

### Compulsory courses

FEM 5103	Feminist Methodologies	3 Units
FEM 5300	Feminist Theories	3 Units

### Optional courses

3 optional course units from: 3 Units

FEM 6101	Gender, Power and Representations
FEM 6102	Women, Rights and Citizenship in a Globalized World
FEM 6104	Intersectional Perspectives on Environmental Change
FEM 6105	Anti-Colonial and Anti-Racist Feminisms
FEM 6106	Feminist Disability Studies
FEM 6107	Critical Muslim Studies
FEM 6100	Special Topics in Feminist Studies
FEM 6900	Special Topics in Feminist Studies

### Elective courses

3 elective course units from the list of approved elective courses at the graduate level 3 Units

### Thesis Proposal:

FEM 6997	Master's Thesis Proposal
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### Thesis:

THM 7999	Master's Thesis <sup>1</sup>
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Note(s)

<sup>1</sup> After consultation with the thesis supervisor and during the first term of enrollment, students must present a thesis topic to the Feminist and Gender Studies Graduate Committee for approval. The master's thesis should be between 125 and 150 pages in length.

## MA with Research Paper

### Compulsory courses

FEM 5103	Feminist Methodologies	3 Units
FEM 5300	Feminist Theories	3 Units

### Optional courses

9 optional course units from: 9 Units

FEM 6101	Gender, Power and Representations
FEM 6102	Women, Rights and Citizenship in a Globalized World
FEM 6104	Intersectional Perspectives on Environmental Change
FEM 6105	Anti-Colonial and Anti-Racist Feminisms
FEM 6106	Feminist Disability Studies
FEM 6107	Critical Muslim Studies
FEM 6100	Special Topics in Feminist Studies

FEM 6900 Special Topics in Feminist Studies

#### Elective courses

3 elective course units from the list of approved elective courses at the graduate level 3 Units

#### Research Paper:

MRP 6999 Major Research Paper <sup>1</sup>

Note(s)

<sup>1</sup> The research paper topic must be approved by the supervisor, who is appointed by the graduate program director or a delegate. The research paper is evaluated on a Satisfactory/Not satisfactory (S/NS) basis by the supervisor and one other professor appointed by the graduate program director or a delegate. The research paper should be between 50 and 60 pages in length.

## MA with Coursework

#### Compulsory Courses

FEM 5103 Feminist Methodologies 3 Units  
FEM 5300 Feminist Theories 3 Units

#### Optional courses

12 optional course units from: 12 Units

FEM 6100 Special Topics in Feminist Studies

FEM 6101 Gender, Power and Representations

FEM 6102 Women, Rights and Citizenship in a Globalized World

FEM 6104 Intersectional Perspectives on Environmental Change

FEM 6105 Anti-Colonial and Anti-Racist Feminisms

FEM 6106 Feminist Disability Studies

FEM 6107 Critical Muslim Studies

FEM 6900 Special Topics in Feminist Studies

#### Elective courses

6 electives course units from the list of approved elective courses at the graduate level 6 Units

## Research

### Research at the University of Ottawa

Located in the heart of Canada's capital, a few steps away from Parliament Hill, the University of Ottawa ranks among Canada's top 10 research universities. Our research is founded on excellence, relevance and impact and is conducted in a spirit of equity, diversity and inclusion.

Our research community thrives in four strategic areas:

- Creating a sustainable environment
- Advancing just societies
- Shaping the digital world
- Enabling lifelong health and wellness

From advancing healthcare solutions to tackling global challenges like climate change, the University of Ottawa's researchers are at the forefront of innovation, making significant contributions to society and beyond.

## Research at the Faculty of Social Sciences

The Faculty of Social Sciences represents a place of excellence in knowledge creation, research and training. Driven by both disciplinary and interdisciplinary perspectives, research at the Faculty is rich, innovative and varied, contributing to the depth of understanding and breadth of discussions on a variety of issues nationally and internationally. This research, whether it be fundamental, theoretical, applied or action-oriented, is generated by our renowned expertise, ultimately culminating in applications designed to influence individual communities and the betterment of society.

We have identified five research themes which collectively represent a large proportion of the research undertaken at the Faculty of Social Sciences:

- International Studies
- Francophonie
- Public Policy
- Health, Well-Being
- Justice, Society

## Facilities, Research Centres and Institutes at the Faculty of Social Sciences

Centre for Interdisciplinary Research on Citizenship and Minorities (CIRCEM) (<http://socialsciences.uottawa.ca/circem/>), Centre for International Policy Studies (CIPS) (<http://www.cips-cepi.ca/>), Centre for Public Management and Policy (<http://socialsciences.uottawa.ca/public-management-policy/>), Centre for Research on Educational and Community Service (CRECS) (<http://crecs.uottawa.ca/>), Centre on Governance (COG) (<http://socialsciences.uottawa.ca/governance/>), Human Rights Research and Education Centre (affiliation) (<http://cdp-hrc.uottawa.ca/en/>), Institute of Feminist and Gender Studies (<http://socialsciences.uottawa.ca/feminist-gender-studies/>) and Institute for Science, Society and Policy (<https://issp.uottawa.ca/en/>).

For more information, refer to the list of faculty members and their research fields on [Uniweb](#).

**IMPORTANT: Candidates and students looking for professors to supervise their thesis or research project can also consult the website of the faculty or department (<https://www.uottawa.ca/study/graduate-studies/academic-unit-contact-information/>) of their program of choice. Uniweb does not list all professors authorized to supervise research projects at the University of Ottawa.**

## Courses

### FEM 5103 Feminist Methodologies (3 units)

Methodologies developed in Women's Studies. Critical examination from both multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary perspectives.

**Course Component:** Seminar

### FEM 5300 Feminist Theories (3 units)

Approaches to contemporary feminist theory. Critical examination from both multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary perspectives.

**Course Component:** Seminar

Permission of the Department is required.

### **FEM 5503 Méthodologies féministes (3 crédits)**

Méthodologies élaborées en études des femmes. Examen critique dans une perspective à la fois pluridisciplinaire et interdisciplinaire.

**Volet :** Séminaire

Permission du Département est requise.

### **FEM 5700 Théories féministes (3 crédits)**

Différentes approches de la théorie féministe contemporaine.

Examen critique dans une perspective à la fois pluridisciplinaire et interdisciplinaire.

**Volet :** Séminaire

### **FEM 6100 Special Topics in Feminist Studies (3 units)**

**Course Component:** Seminar

### **FEM 6101 Gender, Power and Representations (3 units)**

This course analyses the diverse body of feminist scholarship theorizing conceptions of gender, power and representation. Examining the construction and representation of gender/sex differences, the course explores the power relations inherent in these representations, while also examining how gender roles and expectations are linked to representations of class, race, sexuality, age, nationality and ability.

**Course Component:** Seminar

### **FEM 6102 Women, Rights and Citizenship in a Globalized World (3 units)**

This course examines women's rights and citizenship; gender and development; and gender, migration and health in the context of globalization. Topics include the following: mainstreaming gender and health development; initiatives bringing feminist Southern voices across the world; health consequences of the massive incorporation of Third World women into a transnational labour force; women's agency and resistance; social capital and pluralism in health services and health care.

**Course Component:** Seminar

### **FEM 6103 Directed Readings (3 units)**

**Course Component:** Research

### **FEM 6104 Intersectional Perspectives on Environmental Change (3 units)**

Intersectional perspectives (feminist, Indigenous, queer and others) of the politics of environmental change focusing on relationships between gender, race, class and the environment in classical and contemporary literature. Possible topics include climate activism, Indigenous peoples' sovereignty and autonomy; environmental and reproductive justice movements; the social determinants of health; human, animal and land rights; food security and food sovereignty.

**Course Component:** Lecture

### **FEM 6105 Anti-Colonial and Anti-Racist Feminisms (3 units)**

In-depth exploration of anti-colonial and anti-racist feminist theories and activism. Possible topics include: Black feminist theories; intersectionality; critiques of whiteness; mobility and migration; anti-Black racism; Islamophobia; Indigenous epistemologies; critical settler studies; decolonial, postcolonial and anticolonial feminisms; reproductive justice; environmental racism.

**Course Component:** Lecture

### **FEM 6106 Feminist Disability Studies (3 units)**

Exploration of key debates in burgeoning field of feminist disability studies. Themes include: emergence of feminist contributions to field of critical disability studies; changing contours of disability activism rooted in recognition of interlocking systems of oppression; intersectional analyses of disability, including cultural and artistic representations; notions of embodiment and "crippled" subjectivities; disability politics in its broader political and social environment.

**Course Component:** Lecture

### **FEM 6107 Critical Muslim Studies (3 units)**

Exploration of feminist and anti-racist approaches to the global "war on terror" and its specific impacts on diverse Muslim people and communities. Possible topics include: critiques of hegemonic discourses of terror; gendered impacts on Muslim women; cultural production about and by Muslims post 9-11; surveillance, policing and socio-legal studies; racial justice in settler colonial contexts; transnational circulation of anti-Muslim racism; Orientalism and anti-Black racism; experiences of LGTBQ + Muslims.

**Course Component:** Lecture

### **FEM 6500 Thèmes spéciaux en études féministes (3 crédits)**

**Volet :** Cours magistral

### **FEM 6501 Rapports sociaux de sexe, pouvoir et représentations (3 crédits)**

Ce cours analyse les diverses théories féministes qui visent à formaliser les concepts de genre, de pouvoir et de représentation. Les représentations des différences entre les genres/les sexes y sont abordées sous l'angle de leur construction sociale, ainsi que des rapports de pouvoir qui leur sont intrinsèquement liés. Le cours examinera également la façon dont les rôles et les attentes quant au genre sont aussi façonnés par des représentations concernant la classe, « la race » et l'ethnicité, l'âge, la nationalité et la présence/l'absence de handicap.

**Volet :** Séminaire

### **FEM 6502 Femmes, droits et citoyenneté dans un monde globalisé (3 crédits)**

Ce cours englobe les domaines d'études connexes touchant aux droits des femmes et à la citoyenneté : genre et développement international; genre, migrations et santé dans un contexte mondialisé. Des sujets variés y sont abordés, qu'il s'agisse de l'intégration des rapports sociaux de sexe dans le développement de la santé, des initiatives novatrices permettant de faire entendre les voix féministes du sud ou encore des conséquences sur la santé de l'enrôlement massif des femmes du Tiers monde dans un marché du travail multinational et mondialisé. On s'intéressera aussi à l'agentivité et aux résistances de ces femmes, à leur capital social et au pluralisme en matière de services et de soins de santé.

**Volet :** Séminaire

### **FEM 6503 Lectures dirigées (3 crédits)**

**Volet :** Recherche

### **FEM 6504 Perspectives intersectionnelles sur les changements environnementaux (3 crédits)**

Perspectives intersectionnelles (féministes, autochtones, queer, anti-racistes et autres) sur les enjeux politiques des changements environnementaux explorant les relations entre genre, race, classe sociale, et environnement dans la littérature classique et contemporaine. Parmi les thématiques possibles : le militantisme climatique; la souveraineté et l'autonomie des peuples autochtones; les mouvements pour la justice environnementale et reproductive; les déterminants socio-environnementaux de la santé; les droits humains, des animaux et territoriaux; la sécurité et la souveraineté alimentaires.

**Volet :** Cours magistral

### **FEM 6505 Féminismes anticoloniaux et antiracistes (3 crédits)**

Exploration approfondie des théories et militantismes féministes anticoloniaux et antiracistes. Parmi les thématiques possibles : théories féministes noires; intersectionnalité; critiques de la blancheur; mobilité et migration; racisme antinoir; islamophobie; épistémologies autochtones; études critiques des colonies de peuplement; féminisme décolonial, postcolonial et anticolonial; justice reproductive; racisme environnemental.

**Volet :** Cours magistral

### **FEM 6506 Études féministes du handicap (3 crédits)**

Exploration des débats centraux dans le champ des études féministes du handicap. Parmi les thématiques abordées: l'émergence des contributions féministes dans le champ des études féministes du handicap; les transformations du militantisme suite à la reconnaissance de l'imbrication des systèmes d'oppression; analyses intersectionnelles du handicap, incluant dans les représentations culturelles et artistiques; notions de corporéité et de subjectivités "crip"; la politique du handicap dans ses relations avec son contexte politique et social plus large.

**Volet :** Cours magistral

### **FEM 6507 Études critiques musulmanes (3 crédits)**

Exploration d'approches féministes et antiracistes de la « guerre globale contre le terrorisme » et de ses impacts sur les diverses populations et communautés musulmanes. Parmi les thématiques possibles : critiques des discours hégémoniques sur la terreur; impacts en termes de genre sur les femmes musulmanes; productions culturelles relatives aux musulman.e.s après le 11 septembre; surveillance, maintien de l'ordre et études sociojuridiques; justice raciale dans le contexte des colonies de peuplement; circulation transnationale du racisme antimusulman; orientalisme et racisme antinoir; expériences des musulman.e.s LGBTQ +.

**Volet :** Cours magistral

### **FEM 6900 Thèmes spéciaux en études féministes / Special Topics in Feminist Studies (3 crédits / 3 units)**

**Volet / Course Component:** Cours magistral / Lecture

### **FEM 6997 Projet de thèse de maîtrise / Master's Thesis Proposal**

Master's Thesis Proposal

**Volet / Course Component:** Recherche / Research

Préalables : FEM 5503, FEM 5700 et 6 crédits de la banque de cours au choix. / Prerequisites: FEM 5103, FEM 5300 and 6 credit from the list of electives.

### **FEM 8101 Seminar in Women's Studies (3 units)**

This seminar deals with professional development (the preparation of grant applications, conference papers and articles), and reviews the central issues and debates of the discipline.

**Course Component:** Seminar

Prerequisites: FEM 5103 and FEM 5300. Reserved for students registered in the PhD program in Women's Studies.

### **FEM 8501 Séminaire en études des femmes (3 crédits)**

Ce séminaire porte sur le développement professionnel (préparation de demandes de subvention, conférences, articles) et sur les enjeux principaux de la discipline.

**Volet :** Séminaire

Préalables : FEM 5503 et FEM 5700. Réservé aux étudiantes et étudiants inscrits au doctorat en étude des femmes.

### **FEM 9997 Projet de thèse de doctorat / Doctoral Thesis Proposal**

**Volet / Course Component:** Recherche / Research

Préalable: FEM 9998 / Prerequisite: FEM 9998

### **FEM 9998 Examen de synthèse / Comprehensive Examination**

**Volet / Course Component:** Recherche / Research