

WOMEN'S, GENDER, AND SEXUALITY (WGS) STUDIES

I. General Statement of collection development policy

The Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (WGS) collection supports the study and research needs of faculty, undergraduate and graduate students in the WGS Department. The collection includes present and anticipated interdisciplinary teaching and research on the subjects of women, gender, feminist and gender theory, international feminism, sexuality, and gender/race/class issues at Wake Forest University at graduate and undergraduate levels. An interdisciplinary field.

II. Description of University program

The Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (WGS) Department seeks to promote academic study and dialogue on a broad range of topics related not only to women's contributions to the fundamental fields of human knowledge and achievement, but also to interdisciplinary studies of feminisms, masculinity, sex, gender and sexuality. A guiding premise of the WGS program is that masculinity, femininity and gender in general are cultural constructs of pervasive social importance that intersect with issues of class, race, ethnicity, religion and sexual orientation. The Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies Department curriculum offers an interdisciplinary major with mandatory courses. A minor is also available,

III. Interdisciplinary elements of subject area

Materials purchased with the library budget for Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies may also support various liberal arts departments as well as interdisciplinary programs or minors such as International Studies and Ethics, as well as in English and foreign literatures, art history, music, psychology, religion, the sciences. Speech, Communication, Theater and Dance, sociology, and other disciplines.

IV. Formats and types of materials

Print and electronic materials such as books and periodicals will be the most common acquisitions, but microforms and audiovisuals are considered and added as needed. Preference may be given to electronic format, depending upon such factors as cost, availability of secure archives and the needs of the program. Duplicative format collecting is avoided.

In consonance with the academic endeavors of the University community, the emphasis is on scholarly research works. The following types of materials are collected:

Monographs – The library collects research and major trade monographs.

Reference – The Reference Collection supports the curriculum emphases of the various academic programs and the information needs of the Wake Forest community. Major reference materials such as bibliographies, dictionaries, encyclopedias, indices and abstracts are collected.

Serials – A serials collection constitutes an integral part of the library's research resources in the Humanities. The serials collection represents the historical and current requirements of the Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies Department and will continue to be developed as new courses are added. The collection includes major scholarly and professional journals. Funds are also available for a limited number of interdisciplinary journals.

Abstracts and Indexes – The library subscribes to a broad range of databases covering disciplines in the Humanities.

Proceedings – Proceedings or reports of conferences, symposia and international congresses are collected selectively.

Theses and dissertations – Dissertations and theses which have not been commercially published are rarely acquired, and then only as specific faculty or student interest warrants.

Textbooks and Anthologies – In general the library does not acquire textbooks adopted as required texts for any given courses nor textbook-style anthologies. However, anthologies which represent previously marginalized groups (gender, ethnic, regional, etc.) or topical cultural themes may be considered for purchase.

Microforms – Microforms are purchased to fill in gaps in periodical holdings or in cases where the information is not available in electronic or print format.

Non-print materials – Video and audio materials that support the curriculum are purchased. Non-print format collecting is subject to change according to available presentation technology. Streaming video databases augment the collections of these resources.

V. Languages

English is the primary language of the collection.

VI. Geographic areas (subject approach)

The primary focus is North America, Latin America, Europe, Asia and Africa.

VII. Time periods (subject approach)

Primary emphasis will be placed on research works covering the 17th century to the present. Contemporary feminist and gender theory across the disciplines will receive special emphasis.

VIII. Dates of Publication

The collecting effort is directed primarily at current and recent scholarship. However, retrospective titles may be acquired in response to changes in the curriculum and other academic initiatives (new courses, minor and interdisciplinary programs), faculty research interests, and significant lacunae in the collection. Very selective retrospective purchasing may involve reprints, microform or electronic archives.

VII. Subject Area and Level of Collecting Intensity

Collecting intensity designations should reflect the Department's present and anticipated curriculum, and should be at levels that enable the Department to implement its academic program.

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Desired level</u>
Literature	
19th and 20th century American (fiction, nonfiction, poetry, drama, criticism)	4
Pre-1800 American and English	3

Other European literatures	3
Asian women's literature	4
African and Caribbean women's literature	4
Religion	
Christian and post-Christian feminist theology and ethics	4
Jewish feminist theology	3
Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam and other eastern religions	2
History	
U.S.-Colonization to present, history of women's suffrage, social history of women, 19th and 20th century labor movements and women	4
European History, Latin and Central	4
American History, history of medicine, women's medicine, Asian women's history	4
African and Caribbean women's history	4
Fine Arts	
19th and 20th century American and European/with special attention to African-American women's art	4
Other art periods	3
Asian women's art	4
African and Caribbean women's art	4
Philosophy	
Feminist philosophy	4
Science	
Gender and science, feminist theory in the sciences	4
Biological origins and human reproduction	3
Sex-linked behavior	3
Women and health	4
Psychology	2
Nutrition	2
Social Science	
Sociology: women and employment, family patterns in society, women and violence, special attention to African-American women in society, sex role socialization, lesbian issues	4
Anthropology: Primitive and contemporary women kinship, feminist approaches to anthropology	3
Psychology	4
Psychology of women, sexuality, feminism and psychoanalysis	4
Developmental psychology	3
Political Science	
Women in U.S. Politics, 19th and 20th Centuries	4

Public policies on women in the U.S.	4
Women in foreign politics and public policies on them-European, non-European, and non-U.S.	3
Education	
Non-sexist education, feminist pedagogy	4
Women as teachers and students at all educational levels	3
Business and economics	
Women in the labor market-U.S.	4
Management, consumerism	3
Women in non-U.S. economies	4
Speech, Communication & Theater Arts	
Rhetoric by African-American and Caucasian women in the U.S.	4
Women and communications	4
Feminism and Theater	4
Law	
Women and law in society	4
International Studies	
International feminism. Third	4
World women	
Interdisciplinary Feminist Theory	4

Tanya Zanish-Belcher, Liaison for Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, January 2015.