Critical Race, Gender & Sexuality Studies

Our Program
The Critical Race, Gender and Sexuality Studies (CRGS) Department is a welcoming community of students, faculty and staff who collaborate to critique structures of power and to create a more just world. By combining Ethnic Studies, Women’s Studies and Multicultural Queer Studies into one department, CRGS offers a unique program of study focusing on the observation that “no form of subordination ever stands alone” (Matsuda), but instead, systems of subordination are intertwined and support each other.

CRGS focuses on the intersections of race, gender, sexuality, nation, class and physical ability. At the heart of our major is an examination of relationships of privilege and oppression, the workings of power and forms of resistance. We study urgent social issues at multiple levels, reading personal identity alongside analysis of communities, social institutions, and national and transnational political economies.

CRGS also offers minors in Comparative Ethnic Studies, Multicultural Queer Studies and Women’s Studies, as well as a certificate in Women’s Studies. Our general education classes and weekend workshops offer additional opportunities for students to analyze systems of inequality and strategies for resistance.

Mari Matsuda, Where is Your Body? and Other Essays on Race, Gender and the Law:
The way I try to understand the interconnection of all forms of subordination is through a method I call "ask the other question." When I see something that looks racist, I ask, "Where is the patriarchy in this?" When I see something that looks sexist, I ask, "Where is the heterosexism in this?" When I see something that looks homophobic, I ask, "Where are the class interests in this?" Working in coalition forces us to look for both the obvious and the nonobvious relationships of domination, and, as we have done this, we have come to see that no form of subordination ever stands alone.

For more information
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Bachelor of Arts
Emphases available in:
Ethnic Studies
Multicultural Queer Studies
Women's Studies

Minors
Comparative Ethnic Studies
Multicultural Queer Studies
Women's Studies

Certificate of Study
Women's Studies

Career Areas
Business
Education
Student Affairs
Community Organizing
Social Work
Government
Public Policy
Social Services
Nonprofit Work
Violence Prevention
Sexual Health Education
Counseling
Law
Health Care
Journalism
Wellness Center Work
Academic Research
Public Relations
Human Resources

Career areas listed may require additional education. For more information about careers & employers, see the CRGS Career Guide.

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