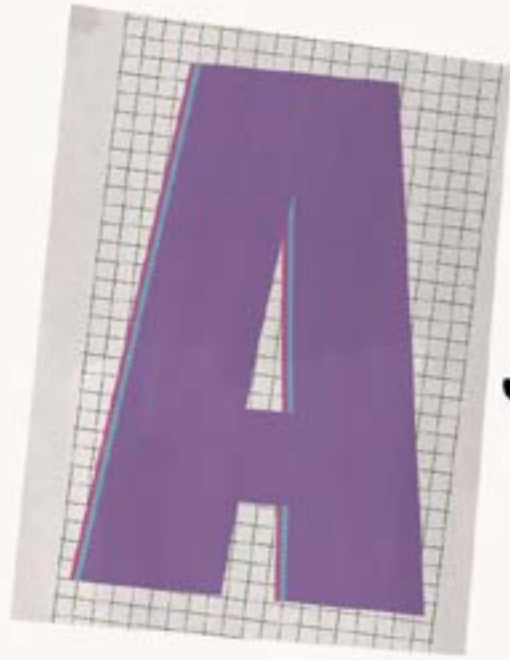


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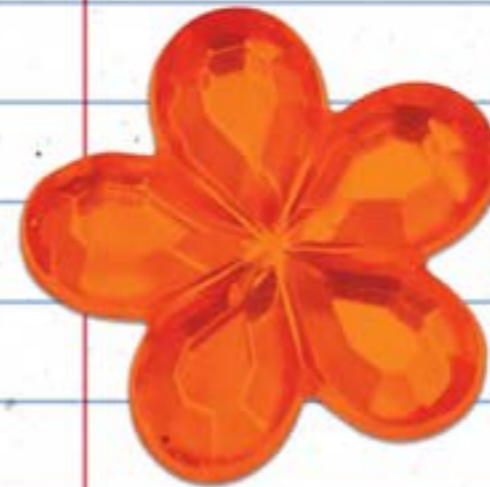
GUIDE TO THE WOMEN'S, GENDER, AND SEXUALITY STUDIES PROGRAM

AT PURDUE UNIVERSITY FORT WAYNE



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

THIS GUIDE WAS MADE POSSIBLE
BY THE EFFORTS OF THE
SPRING 2020 WOST 40000 STUDENTS.
WE THANK THEM FOR THEIR TIME AND
CREATIVITY. AND A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO
OLIVIA SCHOWE, 2024 WOST GRAD, WHO
PUT THEIR WORK INTO THIS FUN DESIGN!





ACADEMIC ADVISING

ACADEMIC ADVISING IS ONE OF THE MOST USEFUL RESOURCES OFFERED AT THE UNIVERSITY. EVERY MAJOR WITHIN COLA HAS TWO ADVISORS. ONE ADVISOR IS A FACULTY MEMBER FROM WOST (YOU MAY HAVE OTHER FACULTY ADVISORS AS WELL IF YOU HAVE ADDITIONAL MAJORS OR MINORS). YOUR SECOND ADVISOR IS A PROFESSIONAL ADVISOR. YOU MAY HEAR OR SEE THIS PERSON REFERRED TO AS YOUR "PRIMARY" ADVISOR. THIS TITLE REFLECTS THAT ADVISING IS THEIR PRIMARY JOB HERE ON CAMPUS. REGARDLESS OF TITLE, BOTH OF YOUR ADVISORS ARE AVAILABLE TO MEET WITH YOU TO DISCUSS ANYTHING YOU NEED, BUT EACH HAS A SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT AREA OF EXPERTISE AND ROLE. FOR WOST MAJORS, YOUR FACULTY ADVISOR IS INDISPENSABLE AND IS THERE FOR YOU NOT ONLY FOR ADVICE ABOUT WHAT CLASSES YOU NEED BUT FOR MENTORSHIP, PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES, AND VALUABLE CAREER ADVICE. THEY CAN EVEN CONNECT YOU TO THE AMAZING NETWORK OF WOST ALUM WHO ARE ALREADY PUTTING THEIR DEGREES TO WORK IN THEIR CAREERS AND COMMUNITIES!



FOR MORE THAN 15 YEARS NOW, WOST STUDENTS HAVE BEEN GATHERING IN THE WOST LIBRARY IN THE LIBERAL ARTS BUILDING TO EAT BAGELS ON TUESDAY MORNINGS! PROVIDED BY THE PROGRAM, THE BAGELS ARE THERE FOR YOU TO EAT IN THE LIBRARY OR TO TAKE WITH YOU AS YOU RUN OFF TO CLASS. WHY DO WE DO IT? BECAUSE EVERYONE GETS HUNGRY--WHETHER IT'S FOR A SNACK OR FOR A COMMUNITY OF LIKE-MINDED FOLKS WHO YOU CAN CHAT WITH ABOUT LIFE ON AND OFF CAMPUS.



BAGELS

C LASSES

ALTHOUGH OUR PROGRAM IS SMALL AT PURDUE FORT WAYNE, WE STILL OFFER MANY CLASSES THAT CATER TO YOUR INTERESTS. FOR THE WOMEN'S, GENDER, AND SEXUALITY STUDIES DEGREE, THERE ARE CERTAIN CLASSES THAT ARE REQUIRED: INTRODUCTION TO WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES, FEMINIST THEORIES, INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES ON WOMEN, AND CAPSTONE IN WOMEN'S STUDIES. HOWEVER, THE OTHER 21 CREDITS PROVIDE A LOT OF FLEXIBILITY. AS YOU ARE DECIDING ON WHAT TO TAKE, DON'T OVERLOOK THOSE COURSES THAT ARE CROSS-REFERENCED WITH THE WOST MAJOR. THESE ARE COURSES OFFERED BY OTHER DEPARTMENTS AND PROGRAMS--LIKE ANTHROPOLOGY AND HISTORY FOR EXAMPLE--THAT YOU CAN TAKE TO FULFILL CREDITS IN THE MAJOR. THESE AREN'T LISTED IN THE SCHEDULE OF CLASSES, BUT THEY ARE HIGHLIGHTED IN THE WOST COURSE BROCHURE FOR EACH SEMESTER (YOU CAN FIND A COPY IN THE WOST LIBRARY!) AND YOUR ADVISOR CAN ALWAYS HELP YOU FIND THEM!

BUT READER: THE MOST IMPORTANT THING FOR YOU TO KNOW ABOUT IS MYBLUEPRINT. YOU WILL WANT TO USE MYBLUEPRINT RELIGIOUSLY. AND ONE MORE NOTE: NO MATTER WHAT UNIQUE COMBO OF CLASSES YOU PUT TOGETHER FOR YOUR DEGREE, ALWAYS SAVE YOUR WORK. YOUR WILL NEED FOR YOUR CAPSTONE PORTFOLIO. MORE ON THAT LATER!

A "DOUBLE MAJOR" DESCRIBES A STUDENT WHO IS ENROLLED IN TWO ACADEMIC PROGRAMS AT THE SAME TIME. ALTHOUGH HAVING A SECOND MAJOR IS NOT A REQUIREMENT FOR WOST MAJORS MANY STUDENTS (MORE THAN HALF OF ALL WOST MAJORS) ADD A SECOND MAJOR. WHY IS THIS? BECAUSE WOST IS INTERDISCIPLINARY AND YOU CAN COUNT SIX OF YOUR WOST CREDITS TOWARD ANOTHER MAJOR, STUDYING WITHIN MULTIPLE PROGRAMS IS OFTEN MORE ATTAINABLE COMPARED TO OTHER DEGREES. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN DOUBLE MAJORING, SPEAK WITH YOUR ADVISOR AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.



D OUBLE MAJOR

E

MPLOYMENT

BEFORE DECIDING ON A MAJOR, YOU NO DOUBT WILL WEIGH THE QUESTION OF FUTURE EMPLOYMENT CAREFULLY. EVERYONE WANTS TO KNOW: WHAT WILL I DO WITH THAT, RIGHT? NEVER FEAR! AS THE HISTORY OF THE WOST PROGRAM HAS SHOWN, YOU WILL BE ABLE TO PUT YOUR DEGREE TO GOOD USE. IN FACT, OUR ALUM REPORT THAT THEIR WOST DEGREE WAS A MAJOR ASSET IN THEIR JOB SEARCHES AS EMPLOYERS WANT FOLKS WHO CAN READ AND WRITE WELL, THINK CRITICALLY, ANALYZE AND RESEARCH COMPLEX ISSUES, AND COMMUNICATE WELL. AND TODAY, EMPLOYERS ESPECIALLY VALUE THOSE WHO APPRECIATE DIVERSITY AND CAN RESHAPE THEIR WORK ENVIRONMENT IN WAYS THAT REFLECT THAT APPRECIATION. TALK TO YOUR WOST FACULTY ADVISOR TO LEARN MORE ABOUT HOW WOST ALUM ARE USING THEIR DEGREES IN A WIDE-RANGE OF CAREERS. ALSO, KEEP IN MIND THAT THE WOST PROGRAM OFFERS A VARIETY OF HANDS-ON LEARNING EXPERIENCES, INCLUDING A PRACTICUM COURSE YOU CAN TAKE TO GET REAL WORLD EXPERIENCE THAT WILL BOOST YOUR CREDENTIALS AND GIVE YOU A CHANCE TO EXPLORE POSSIBLE CAREER PATHWAYS!



FEMINISM IS AN ESSENTIAL PIECE OF THE WOMEN'S, GENDER, AND SEXUALITY STUDIES EXPERIENCE. PUT SIMPLY, FEMINISM IS A MOVEMENT FOR EQUALITY BETWEEN THE GENDERS BUT AS SOCIETY HAS EVOLVED SO HAS FEMINISM. IN YOUR CLASSES, YOU WILL LEARN ABOUT THE WIDE VARIETY OF FEMINIST PERSPECTIVES, INCLUDING LIBERAL FEMINISM, RADICAL FEMINISM, BLACK FEMINISM, INDIGENOUS FEMINISM, AND MORE! OF COURSE, MISCONCEPTIONS OF FEMINISM PERSIST: SOME WOULD HAVE YOU BELIEVE FEMINISTS ARE BRA BURNERS, MAN HATERS, UNFEMININE, CHILDLESS CAT LADIES. YOUR WORK IN THE WOST PROGRAM WILL EXPOSE JUST HOW HOW WRONG THE STEREOTYPES ARE (THOUGH WE DEFINITELY LOVE CATS!) AND WILL ALLOW YOU TO BETTER APPRECIATE WHY FEMINISM IS AT THE HEART OF WOMEN'S, GENDER, AND SEXUALITY STUDIES. INDEED, THERE IS NO WOST PROGRAM WITHOUT FEMINISM!



FEMINISM

GENDER

IF YOU'RE JUST GETTING STARTED IN THE WOST PROGRAM, YOU MIGHT HAVE FOUND YOUR WAY HERE BECAUSE YOU ARE INTERESTED IN STUDYING GENDER. WHAT IS GENDER? WHY DOES IT MATTER?

THESE ARE COMPLEX QUESTIONS, AND THE VARIETY OF CLASSES YOU WILL TAKE FOR YOUR WOST DEGREE ARE DESIGNED TO HELP YOU ANSWER BOTH OF THESE QUESTIONS IN THE DEPTH THAT EACH DESERVES. HERE YOU WILL READ THE WORK OF THEORISTS, PHILOSOPHERS, SOCIOLOGISTS, BIOLOGISTS, AND A WIDE RANGE OF FEMINISTS RESEARCHERS WHO OFTEN PROVIDE DIFFERENT ANSWERS TO THESE CORE QUESTIONS. WHETHER THE TOPIC OF THE CLASS IS THE BODY, GENDER IDENTITY, OR GENDER ROLES AND STEREOTYPES, YOU WILL LEAVE IT WITH A DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT GENDER IS, THE ROLE IT PLAYS IN OUR LIVES, AND WHY SOOOOO MANY PEOPLE GET ANXIOUS OVER THE ANYTHING THAT CHALLENGES THE GENDER BINARY.



LET'S FACE IT. COLLEGE CAN BE STRESSFUL AND OVERWHELMING. THANKFULLY, THE WOST PROGRAM PROVIDES PLENTY OF OPPORTUNITIES TO RELAX AND HAVE FUN! FROM ZINE-MAKING EVENTS DURING FINALS WEEK TO MOVIE NIGHTS DURING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH, THE WOST PROGRAM AND WOST-RELATED STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS PRIORITIZE THE WELL-BEING OF THEIR STUDENTS AND MEMBERS. BUT, THE FUN IS NOT LIMITED TO OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM. UNLIKE OTHER ACADEMIC DISCIPLINES, WOST CLASSES REVOLVE AROUND CONVERSATIONS INSTEAD OF LECTURES. THESE DISCUSSIONS OFTEN RESULT IN LAUGHTER AND REFLECTION AS YOUR CLASSMATES WILL EXPLORE CONCEPTS THROUGH PERSONAL EXPERIENCE, COLLECTIVE OBSERVATION, AND A WIDE RANGE OF MEDIA, INCLUDING MAGAZINES, MUSIC, FILM, AND MORE!. DON'T BELIEVE US? ASK ANY CURRENT WOST STUDENT OR ALUM.



HAVE FUN!



INTERDISCIPLINARY

WOMEN'S, GENDER, AND SEXUALITY STUDIES IS AN INTERDISCIPLINARY DEGREE. INTERDISCIPLINARY MEANS THAT THE APPROACH TO THE SUBJECT MATTER INTEGRATES KNOWLEDGE AND METHODS FROM DIFFERENT DISCIPLINES. COURSES IN THE WOST PROGRAM COME FROM DISCIPLINES AS DIVERSE AS POLITICAL SCIENCE, SOCIOLOGY, PSYCHOLOGY, COMMUNICATION, AND HISTORY. WHAT MAKES WOST UNIQUE IS THE WAY IT ASKS YOU AS A STUDENT TO CONNECT THESE DISCIPLINES AND CREATE NEW APPROACHES TO LEARNING AND RESEARCH. AN INTERDISCIPLINARY DEGREE IS HELPFUL IN OBTAINING A CAREER BECAUSE IT WILL ENHANCE YOUR ABILITY TO COMPREHEND AND INTERPRET DISPARATE INFORMATION, TO APPROACH COMPLEX ISSUES FROM DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES, AND TO ADAPT TO A VARIETY OF CHALLENGES.

IN WOMEN'S, GENDER, AND SEXUALITY STUDIES CLASSES, YOU WON'T FIND A CLASS THAT DOESN'T HELP YOU TO FURTHER UNDERSTAND THE WAYS IN WHICH PEOPLE HAVE ADVANCED THE FIGHT FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE. WITHOUT SOCIAL JUSTICE, SOME PEOPLE WOULDN'T HAVE THE RIGHT TO VOTE, WOMEN WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO WEAR PANTS, TAKE OUT A MORTGAGE, OR PURSUE A COLLEGE DEGREE! IN YOUR WOST CLASSES, YOU CAN EXPECT TO LEARN ABOUT THE VARIOUS SOCIAL MOVEMENTS THAT HAVE SHAPED A MORE JUST WORLD FOR YOU AND FUTURE GENERATIONS, FROM THE FIRST AND SECOND WAVE FEMINIST MOVEMENTS, TO THE MOVEMENT FOR LGBTQ RIGHTS, TO THE ACTIVISM OF AFRICAN-AMERICANS WHO FOUGHT FOR LIBERATION AND CIVIL RIGHTS, YOU WILL STUDY HOW CHANGE HAS BEEN MADE IN THE PAST AND WHY IT IS IMPORTANT TO KEEP STRIVING FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE TODAY.



JUSTICE



KEYS-TO-SUCCESS

1. DO THE READINGS ASSIGNED TO YOU ON A COURSE SYLLABUS! THIS MIGHT SEEM OBVIOUS, BUT A LOT OF STUDENTS BELIEVE THEY CAN GET BY ON LECTURES ALONE, BUT YOU WILL FIND THAT YOUR GRADE WILL IMPROVE IF YOU DO THE READING AND DO THEM ON TIME!
2. ATTEND FACULTY OFFICE HOURS! YOUR PROFESSORS WANT TO MEET WITH YOU AND HELP YOU UNDERSTAND THE MATERIAL.
3. DON'T ALLOW MISTAKES TO OVERWHELM YOU. MISTAKES ARE AN IMPORTANT PART OF THE LEARNING PROCESS. EMBRACE THE OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN FROM THEM AND IMPROVE.
5. BUILD A COMMUNITY WITH A NETWORK OF LIKEMINDED INDIVIDUALS WHO CAN OFFER SUPPORT WHEN YOU NEED IT.
6. REACH OUT FOR HELP! DON'T BE AFRAID TO ASK FOR THE RESOURCES YOU NEED. THERE IS A NETWORK OF SUPPORT ON CAMPUS YOU CAN TAP INTO!
7. ATTEND WOST ACTIVITIES! THE PROGRAM HOSTS MANY EVENTS THAT YOU CAN JOIN IN, FROM BOOK DISCUSSIONS, TO GUEST LECTURES, TO STUDY BREAKS.
8. KEEP ALL YOUR WORK AND BACK IT UP! YOU WILL NEED ALL YOUR PAPERS, PROJECTS, EVEN DISCUSSION POSTS FOR YOUR CAPSTONE PORTFOLIO THAT ALL WOST MAJORS AND CERTIFICATE STUDENTS MUST COMPLETE AS PART OF WOST 40000. TRUST US: YOUR LIFE WILL BE SO MUCH EASIER YOUR SENIOR YEAR IF YOU SAVE YOUR WORK!

THE WOST LIBRARY IS YOUR SPACE. LOCATED ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF THE LIBERAL ARTS BUILDING IN ROOM 28, HERE FIND NOT ONLY A STUDY SPACE AND RESOURCES BUT COMMUNITY TOO. IT HOUSES STUDENT COMPUTERS WITH A WORK STATION THAT MAKE FOR A QUIET STUDY AREA AS OPPOSED TO A SOMETIMES-PACKED COMPUTER LAB. THERE ARE ALSO COMFY COUCHES, A SMALL FRIDGE FOR STORING A LUNCH YOU MIGHT HAVE BROUGHT TO CAMPUS, AND EVEN PUZZLES AND TAROT CARDS WHEN YOU JUST NEED A BREAK! AN EXTENSIVE COLLECTION OF BOOKS ON FEMINISM, GENDER STUDIES, AND SO MUCH MORE CAN BE FOUND HERE, AND YOU ARE WELCOME TO READ THEM AT YOUR LEISURE, JUST BE SURE TO PROPERLY CHECK THEM OUT AND RETURN THEM AT THE END OF THE SEMESTER AND, DON'T FORGET, ON TUESDAYS WE HAVE BAGELS!



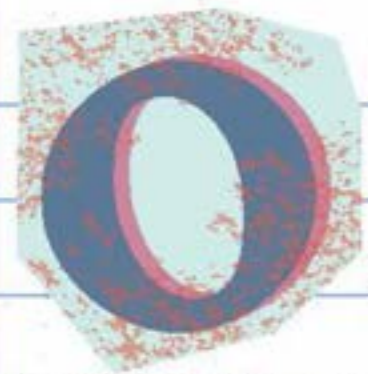
MEN

DESPITE WHAT YOU MIGHT HAVE HEARD, MEN ARE WELCOME IN THE WOMEN'S, GENDER, AND SEXUALITY STUDIES PROGRAM. AS BELL HOOKS HAS SAID, "FEMINISM IS FOR EVERYBODY!" MOST MAJORS INCLUDE WOMEN, MEN, AND THOSE WHO IDENTIFY AS NON-BINARY AND GENDERQUEER, AND NO MATTER THE MOST CLASS YOU TAKE, YOU WILL ENCOUNTER A DIVERSITY OF PEOPLE WITH DIFFERENT LEVELS OF KNOWLEDGE ABOUT FEMINISM. ANYONE WITH AN INTEREST IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT HOW SEX AND GENDER SHAPES OUR LIVES SHOULD TAKE A MOST CLASS. NO MATTER HOW YOU IDENTIFY, PLEASE DON'T FEEL LIKE A PROGRAM THAT CENTERS THE STUDY OF WOMEN'S LIVES AND EXPERIENCES IS NOT YOUR PLACE. AS YOU WILL DISCOVER, WE STUDY HOW GENDERED SYSTEMS, SEXISM, AND DISCRIMINATION AFFECT US ALL, INCLUDING MEN. YOU CAN BE CURIOUS ABOUT FEMINISM, INTERESTED IN THE SPECIFIC TOPIC OF ONE OUR CLASSES, OR LOOKING FOR WAYS TO BE AN ALLY AND FIND A PLACE HERE.

COLLEGE IS NOT JUST ABOUT CLASSES. IT'S ALSO ABOUT NETWORKING. NOT ONLY DOES NETWORKING PROVIDE A SPACE FOR FUTURE PROFESSIONAL OPPORTUNITIES TO ARISE, BUT IT ALSO STRENGTHENS YOUR ACADEMIC COMMUNITY WHILE YOU ARE HERE. THROUGHOUT THE YEAR, THE MOST PROGRAM HOSTS A VARIETY OF EVENTS THAT ARE OPEN TO BOTH STUDENTS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS. THESE EVENTS ARE PERFECT OPPORTUNITIES TO EXPLORE THE NETWORK OF PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITY WHO KNOW THE IMPORTANCE OF YOUR DEGREE AND WHO SHARE YOUR FEMINIST COMMITMENTS. AS A STUDENT, YOU WILL WANT TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THESE OPPORTUNITIES. WHENEVER YOU CAN, ATTEND THE EVENTS AND ENGAGE IN CONVERSATIONS WITH COMMUNITY MEMBERS, ALUM, OTHER STUDENTS, ETC. YOUR FUTURE SELF WILL THANK YOU.



NETWORKING



OPPORTUNITIES

AS A WOMEN'S, GENDER, AND SEXUALITY STUDIES MAJOR, THERE ARE MANY WOST-RELATED EVENTS TAKING PLACE ACROSS THE CAMPUS AND THE COUNTRY THAT YOU CAN PARTICIPATE IN. ON CAMPUS, WE OFFER SPECIAL EVENTS DEDICATED TO TOPICS RELATED TO FEMINISM, INCLUDING SEVERAL THAT TAKE PLACE DURING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH. BEYOND CAMPUS, YOU COULD CONSIDER PRESENTING YOUR RESEARCH AT A CONFERENCE OR ATTENDING THE NATIONAL WOMEN'S STUDIES CONFERENCE WITH OTHER STUDENTS.

ADDITIONALLY, EVERY YEAR THE WOST PROGRAM AWARDS SEVERAL SCHOLARSHIPS AND PRIZES, INCLUDING A PRIZE FOR THE BEST ESSAY WRITTEN IN A WOST CLASS AND ONE FOR OUTSTANDING MAJOR. THE CALL FOR THESE USUALLY GOES OUT IN JANUARY, SO KEEP YOUR EYES OUT FOR THAT. SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND ON THE PFW.EDU/WOST WEBSITE.



A PRACTICUM ALLOWS STUDENTS TO APPLY WHAT THEY'VE LEARNED IN CLASS TO THE "REAL WORLD". TAKEN AS A 3-CREDIT CLASS THAT CAN COUNT TOWARDS YOUR MAJOR OR CERTIFICATE, A PRACTICUM CAN PROVIDE YOU WITH PROFESSIONAL SKILLS RELATED TO YOUR FIELD. MANY STUDENTS TAKE A PRACTICUM TO EXPLORE AN ACADEMIC PASSION, GAIN PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE, OR EXPLORE A POSSIBLE CAREER PATHWAY. THESE PRACTICUMS CAN TAKE SHAPE IN THE FORM OF INTERNSHIPS OR COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICE. FOR EXAMPLE, IF YOU ARE PASSIONATE ABOUT REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS, YOU CAN INTERN WITH PLANNED PARENTHOOD AND WORK WITH A FACULTY MEMBER TO CONNECT YOUR ACTIVIST EXPERIENCES WITH RELATED COURSE WORK. IF YOU ARE PASSIONATE ABOUT A SPECIFIC CAUSE OR ISSUE AND WOULD LIKE TO DEVELOP THIS INTEREST FURTHER, REACH OUT TO YOUR WOST ACADEMIC ADVISOR TO DISCUSS THE OPPORTUNITY TO BUILD A PRACTICUM RELATED TO YOUR INTERESTS.





QUEER STUDIES

AS WE'VE ALREADY MENTIONED, WOMEN'S, GENDER, AND SEXUALITY STUDIES ENCOMPASSES A LOT! WHILE WOMEN'S STUDIES WAS ORIGINALLY FOUNDED TO REDRESS THE GAP IN KNOWLEDGE ABOUT WOMEN'S LIVES AND EXPERIENCES, IT HAS GROWN TO FOCUS ON THE INTERSECTIONS OF IDENTITY, INCLUDING GENDER IDENTITY AND SEXUALITY--HENCE THE REASON SO MANY PROGRAMS, INCLUDING OURS HAS ADDED GENDER AND SEXUALITY TO ITS NAME.

WHETHER IT'S ONE OF OUR INTRODUCTORY LEVEL COURSES OR AN ADVANCED LEVEL COURSE ON A SPECIFIC TOPIC, YOU WILL HAVE MANY OPPORTUNITIES TO EXPLORE QUEER HISTORIES, QUEER IDENTITIES, AND QUEER THEORIES.

IT IS SO IMPORTANT TO READ FOR YOUR WOST CLASSES. ALL OF THE READINGS THAT ARE REQUIRED ARE INTERESTING, IMPORTANT, AND USEFUL TO REMEMBER WHEN YOU GET INTO OTHER CLASSES AND BEYOND. EVEN AS WE WROTE THIS GUIDE, WE ENCOUNTERED A CONVERSATION ON SOCIAL MEDIA AMONG WOST ALUM WHO WERE DISCUSSING A READING FROM THEIR CAPSTONE CLASS--TEN YEARS AFTER THEY GRADUATED! IF SOMEONE HAD TOLD US WHEN WE FIRST STARTED THE WOST DEGREE TO KEEP ALL OF THE READINGS, WE WOULD HAVE THOUGHT THEY WERE JOKING. BUT WHEN YOU ARE IN CAPSTONE AND FEMINIST THEORIES, YOU WILL FIND THAT ALL OF THE PREVIOUS READINGS FOR YOUR WOST CLASSES WILL COME RUSHING INTO YOUR HEAD! SOME PEOPLE LIKE TO PRINT READINGS OR SAVE THEM ON THEIR COMPUTERS/FLASH DRIVES, BUT ANYWAY YOU DO IT, KEEP THEM AND ORGANIZE THEM! AND DID WE MENTION, YOU SHOULD KEEP EVERYTHING YOU WRITE FOR YOUR WOST CLASSES, TOO!?



READINGS



STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

MAKE FRIENDS! UNITY IS STRENGTH! WE WOULD LIKE YOU TO KNOW THAT THERE ARE STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS OUT THERE TO NETWORK WITH PEOPLE AND BUILD COMMUNITY. STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS PROMOTE DIVERSITY, CULTURE, AND GIVE YOU A PLACE TO MAKE FRIENDS WITH FOLKS WHO SHARE YOUR INTERESTS. A FEW STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN /ARE HOUSED IN THE WOST PROGRAM ARE:

1. **CAMPUS FEMINISTS IN SOLIDARITY** IS A SUPPORTIVE, POSITIVE, AND SAFE PLACE TO REFLECT ON THE INEQUALITIES OF MODERN SOCIETY. THIS ORGANIZATION FOCUSES ON HIGHLIGHTING FEMINIST CONVERSATIONS ON CAMPUS AND ADVOCATING FOR GENDER EQUALITY MORE BROADLY.
 2. **GENERATION ACTION** IS AN ORGANIZATION THAT PROMOTES KNOWLEDGE ABOUT REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE. HERE YOU CAN ADVOCATE AND EDUCATE YOUR FELLOW STUDENTS ABOUT SAFER SEX, SEXUALITY, RAPE CULTURE, AND CONTRACEPTION WITH ACCURATE INFORMATION.
 3. **TRIOTA! AKA IOTA IOTA IOTA.** TRIOTA IS A NATIONAL HONORS SOCIETY THAT ENCOURAGES AND REWARDS ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE WITHIN THE WOST PROGRAM. THEY ALSO OFFER THEIR MEMBERS THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE MENTORED AND TO MENTOR OTHERS IN THE WOST PROGRAM.
- ALL OF THESE CAMPUS ORGANIZATIONS PROVIDE AN INTERSECTIONAL FEMINIST PERSPECTIVE BY RECOGNIZING SYSTEMIC OPPRESSION AND ITS EFFECT ON HUMANITY AS A WHOLE. FOR MORE INFORMATION ON STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS FOLLOW THE LINK: PFW.EDU/WOST

"WOST WAS AN EYE-OPENER FOR ME. IT HELPED ME UNDERSTAND PEOPLE AND SYSTEMS IN NEW WAYS AND TRULY CHANGED MY LIFE."

- SARA PATALITA, 2003 GRADUATE

"WOMEN'S STUDIES ALLOWED ME THE ABILITY TO UNDERSTAND AND DESCRIBE THE SOCIOPOLITICAL SYSTEMATIC ABUSE OF WOMEN AND IGNITED THE PASSION TO BE FEARLESSLY VOCAL ABOUT IT."

- SAVANNAH MEYER, 2019 GRADUATE

"WOST TO ME HAS BEEN LIFE CHANGING. WHEN I TOOK MY FIRST WOST CLASS IT WAS LIKE A LIGHT SWITCHED ON AND I COULD FINALLY NAME MY EXPERIENCES AS A WOMAN AND A WOC AND BRING PERSPECTIVE TO INJUSTICES I SAW. WOST HAS INFLUENCED EVERY ASPECT OF MY LIFE, ESPECIALLY MY ROLE AS A PARENT AND A SOCIAL WORKER. I WOULD NOT BE WHO I AM TODAY WITHOUT THE OPPORTUNITIES AND EDUCATION I RECEIVED FROM WOST."

- MARIA NEELS HOGLE, 2014 GRADUATE

"DECIDING TO JOIN THE WOMEN'S STUDIES PROGRAM ONE MONTH BEFORE GRADUATING WITH MY B.A. IN ENGLISH WAS THE BEST DECISION THAT I'VE MADE IN REGARDS TO EDUCATION. MY UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD AND MYSELF EXPANDED. I FOUND MYSELF AT HOME IN AN EMPOWERING, DEDICATED, AND ECLECTIC FAMILY OF RAD FOLKS."

- NIKKI SANDERS, 2019 GRADUATE



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NIVERSITY HISTORY AND THE WOST PROGRAM

TO FULLY APPRECIATE THE WORK THAT IS PUT INTO THE WOST PROGRAM AT PURDUE UNIVERSITY FORT WAYNE WE MUST TURN BACK TO 2016, WHEN PFW WAS IFFW AND OBAMA WAS IN THE LAST YEAR OF HIS SECOND TERM AS PRESIDENT. IN AN ATTEMPT TO CUT COSTS, INDIANA UNIVERSITY-PURDUE UNIVERSITY FORT WAYNE CUT MANY LIBERAL ARTS MAJORS INCLUDING WOMEN'S STUDIES. UNSURPRISINGLY, STUDENTS AND FACULTY PROTESTED THESE CUTS, PICKETING THE CAMPUS AND CREATING A PETITION ON CHANGE.ORG THAT GARNERED 2,148 SUPPORTERS. THANKFULLY, THE ADMINISTRATION REINSTATED THE PROGRAM. THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS VICTORY BECOMES CLEAR WHEN YOU CONSIDER THAT OUR UNIVERSITY WAS THE FIRST PUBLIC UNIVERSITY TO OFFER A WOST BACHELOR'S DEGREE AND THE PROGRAM IS ONE OF OLDEST IN THE COUNTRY, HAVING BEEN FOUNDED IN THE EARLY 1970S BY A COALITION OF FEMINIST FACULTY AND COMMUNITY ACTIVISTS.



ONE OF THE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WOST PROGRAM IS ITS CORE BELIEF IN THE IMPORTANCE OF THE INDIVIDUAL VOICE. HERE, STUDENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO FIND THEIR VOICE THROUGH CLASSROOM DISCUSSIONS, PUBLIC SPEAKING, AND ACTIVISM. MANY CURRENT STUDENTS AND ALUMS OF THE PROGRAM WILL TELL YOU THAT THE WOST PROGRAM HAS NOT ONLY CULTIVATED A SPACE FOR THEIR VOICE TO BE HEARD AND RECOGNIZED BUT AMPLIFIED IN WAYS OTHER ACADEMIC DISCIPLINES DO NOT. NO MATTER WHAT SOCIAL JUSTICE CAUSE YOU ARE PASSIONATE ABOUT, OR WHAT YOU WANT TO CENTER YOUR ACADEMIC CAREER AROUND, THE WOST PROGRAM WILL SERVE AS A SPACE FOR YOU TO DEVELOP YOUR OWN PERSONAL VOICE AND PASSIONS.



VOICE

WOMEN'S HISTORY

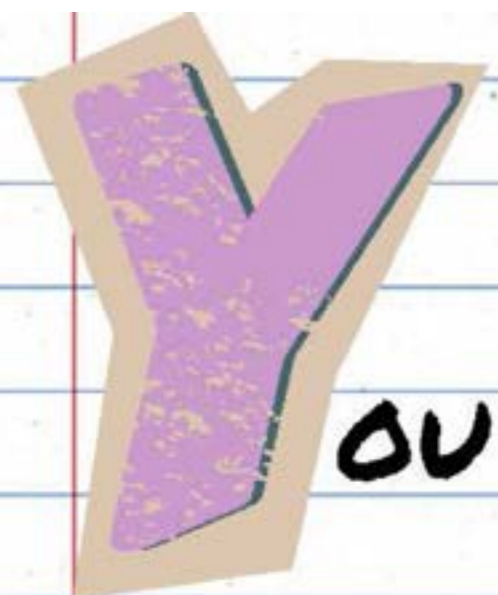
WOMEN'S STUDIES COURSES CAME ON THE SCENE IN THE 1970S ALONG WITH SECOND WAVE FEMINISM AND THE WOMEN'S MOVEMENT. A MAJOR COMPONENT OF EARLY WOMEN'S STUDIES WAS A RECOVERY OF WOMEN'S HISTORY AND OTHER FORMS OF SUBJUGATED KNOWLEDGE ABOUT WOMEN'S LIVES AND EXPERIENCES. OVER THE YEARS, OUR PROGRAM HAS CELEBRATED THIS WORK THROUGH ITS COMMITMENT TO OFFERING PROGRAMMING FOR WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH.

AT THE SAME TIME AS WE CELEBRATE WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH, WE ALSO RECOGNIZE THAT THE CATEGORY "WOMEN" IS COMPLEX AND HAS BEEN THE SUBJECT OF CONTINUAL EXAMINATION AND REFLECTION. NO MATTER THE COURSE, YOU WILL HAVE MANY OPPORTUNITIES TO PARTICIPATE IN CONVERSATIONS THAT WILL ALLOW YOU TO GRAPPLE WITH THE CENTRAL QUESTION: WHAT IS GENDER ANYWAY?

LIKE CULTURES, LANGUAGES ARE ALWAYS EVOLVING THIS INCLUDES PRONOUNS. AS MORE AND MORE FOLKS LIVE LIVES OUTSIDE THE GENDER BINARY, IT'S VITAL TO RECOGNIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF RESPECTING THE PRONOUNS OF THOSE AROUND US. ALONGSIDE SHE/HER, HE/HIM, AND THEY/THEM, THERE ARE ALSO NEOPRONOUNS LIKE XE/XIM AND ZE/ZIM. AS YOU ENTER THE WOST PROGRAM, YOU WILL LEARN MORE ABOUT THE HISTORY OF THE LGBTQIA+ COMMUNITY, WHICH INCLUDES THE USE OF GENDERED AND GENDER-NEUTRAL PRONOUNS. IT'S ALSO IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT THE WOST PROGRAM IS AN INCLUSIVE, SAFE PLACE. NO MATTER WHAT PRONOUNS YOU USE, WE WELCOME YOU AUTHENTIC SELF BOTH IN AND OUT OF THE CLASSROOM.



E/XIM, ZE/ZIM



THE BEST PART OF A PROGRAM LIKE WOMEN'S, GENDER, AND SEXUALITY STUDIES IS UNDERSTANDING THAT THE CLASSES IMPACT THE REAL WORLD. THE KNOWLEDGE YOU GAIN FROM EACH COURSE AND PROFESSIONAL OPPORTUNITY CAN BE TAKEN INTO YOUR PERSONAL LIFE AND ACADEMIC CAREER OUTSIDE OF CLASS. MANY OF THE CORE CONCEPTS DISCUSSED WITHIN THE PROGRAM ARE APPLICABLE TO THE COMMUNITIES MANY OF OUR STUDENTS ARE A PART OF.

OVER TIME, FEMINISM HAS DEVELOPED AND EVOLVED THROUGH A VARIETY OF WAVES. WITH THE KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCES GAINED IN THE WOST PROGRAM, YOU CAN BECOME INVOLVED WITH THE ONGOING FEMINIST MOVEMENT AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR BOTH YOURSELF AND THOSE AROUND YOU.



WHEN WE COME TO COLLEGE, WE WANT TO DO OUR BEST TO TO GET ON TRACK FOR A SUCCESSFUL FUTURE. THE PATH FOR DOING SO IS NOT ONLY THROUGH EDUCATION BUT THROUGH OUR SELF-CARE PRACTICES AS WELL. SLEEP IS IMPORTANT! DO NOT UNDERESTIMATE THE POWER OF SLEEP. IT'S CRUCIAL FOR OVERALL HEALTH AND PRODUCTIVITY. WE CANNOT WRITE OUR BEST PAPERS UNDER SLEEP-DEPRIVED EYELIDS. ALONG WITH SLEEP, TRY TO FIND TIME TO RELAX AND RECALIBRATE. HAVE YOU EVER READ A BOOK IN THE BATHTUB? TRY STUDYING WHILE RELAXING! DID YOU KNOW MEDIATION IS PROVEN TO HELP REDUCE STRESS? IS YOUR BODY GETTING SORE FROM SITTING IN CLASSROOMS AND STARING AT COMPUTER SCREENS? YOGA IS BENEFICIAL (IF YOU CAN BREATHE, YOU CAN DO YOGA!) AND OUR CAMPUS OFFERS FREE CLASSES. CHECK THE TOILET TIMES FOR FREE SELF-CARE WORKSHOPS TOO! OR TAKE A STUDY BREAK AND ENJOY A BAGEL IN THE WOST LIBRARY OR KICK YOUR FEET UP ON ONE OF THE COUCHES. WHATEVER WORKS FOR YOU, IT'S IMPORTANT TO FIND TIME TO RELAX AND GET YOUR ZZZS.



ZZZZZZZZZZZZZZS
+ SELF-CARE