**GENDER STUDIES MISSION**

The University of Utah Gender Studies Division offers a space for the study of a wide range of feminist thought and practices. The curriculum offers theory and practice (community-engaged learning); activism and professional development; lively debate and professional skill building. The Division fosters intellectual rigor and practical application for students as they pursue their passions.

The overall mission of the Division of Gender Studies is to provide a quality graduate and undergraduate education in gender scholarship, to promote an integration of this scholarship and research into the university curriculum, to encourage new pedagogies, and to foster the growth of an interdisciplinary community of scholars who are interested in gender as a category of analysis. The Division provides students with the tools of academic analysis so that they may explore the significance of gender as a crucial component in the organization of personal lives and social institutions. To this end, the courses offered by Gender Studies – core courses, cross-lists with other departments, diversity, and community-engaged learning – re-evaluate the assumptions at work in traditional disciplines as they study individuals, cultures, social institutions, policy and other areas of scholarly inquiry. In these ways, the Division prepares students for graduate work and professional studies (e.g. Law or Medical School) and for employment in professional and community organizations.

**GENDER STUDIES EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES**

**Outcome 1: Theory and History (Knowledge)**

Students who complete a degree in Gender Studies will have intersectional knowledge of the field’s theories, concepts, and history. They will:

* 1. Identify theories and approaches to gender and sexuality as these intersect with class, ethnicity, race, disability, religion, indigeneity, colonialism, and other social forces.
  2. Use these theories to evaluate how these forces construct our worlds and to reveal power inequities within them.
  3. Understand the history of social movements and connect social movements of the past with those of the present and articulate the theoretical implications of both.

**Outcome 2: Communication and Critical Thinking (Skills)**

Students who graduate with a degree in Gender Studies will:

* 1. Develop information literacy: assess and evaluate the validity, reliability, and appropriateness of sources.
  2. Cogently synthesize, employ, and communicate theories and key concepts in analytical essays, creative projects, and research papers.
  3. Communicate effectively in written and oral formats in an audience-appropriate manner.

**Outcome 3. Social Responsibility in a Diverse World (Values)**

As an academic field, Gender Studies emerged from a long history of activism. Students will learn to value the activist legacy of the field, to think and act at various scales, and to act in full awareness of their position within power systems and their relationships to others. Students who graduate with a degree in Gender Studies will:

3.1 Use knowledge of the historic and contemporary role and differential effects of gender and sexuality on local and global systems to develop or advocate for informed action to solve complex problems in society.

3.2 Identify one’s own cultural patterns and values and how they shape attitudes to difference and relationships to power.

3.3 Engage ethically with others in class and in the larger community.

3.4 Attend to and be accountable to diverse ways of being, thinking, seeing, and acting.

3.5 Understand one’s positionality within interdependent global communities.

**ASSESSING GENDER STUDIES EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES**

[Timeline: Gender Studies will develop methods for assessing the expected learning outcomes over the remainder of the 2018-19 academic year. The first phase of this process will involve mapping our curriculum onto our ELOs.]