

COMBINED BACHELOR'S AND MASTER'S OF SCIENCES IN WOMEN'S STUDIES

The combined Bachelor's and Master's program in Women's Studies is designed to allow students to complete combined undergraduate and graduate degrees in five years. This program is designed for the three existing tracts in Women's Studies: Women, Leadership and Social Change; Women in International Context; Women, Health and Sexuality. This combined degree program allows qualified undergraduate Women's Studies majors to pursue a combined Bachelor's and Master's in Women's Studies.

Students enrolled in the combined Bachelor's and Master's program in Women's Studies may elect to follow one of three Culminating Experiences already in place: Thesis, Internship, or Two-Course Option. The degree requirements are the same as those for the regular M.S. program in Women's Studies with the following exception: the combined Bachelor's and Master's require 3 less credits of planned electives. All M.S. students in this program, regardless of their plan, are expected to demonstrate a proficiency in research and meet the requirements of all learning outcomes listed for both undergraduate and graduate programs.

Eligibility and Logistics:

- Students may apply for this program during the first semester of their junior year, i.e. after earning 60 credits. Students may begin the program once they have completed a minimum of 75 but have not exceeded a maximum of 96 credit hours in their undergraduate programs, including credits earned from advanced placement. Transfer students must have completed a minimum of two semesters as full time students at Towson University before applying to the combined program;
- A minimum undergraduate GPA of 3.25 overall and in the major, at the time of application, is required for full admission to the program. All GPA calculations for admission are based upon the last 60 credits of undergraduate study. Continuance in the MA program is contingent upon maintaining these GPA levels, and students who fall below them will be ineligible to continue graduate work. Students must receive a grade of B or better in the double-counted graduate-level courses;
- Nine credits taken at the 500 and 600 level in the Senior year will be counted towards fulfilling the 33 hours required for the MA.;
- The Bachelors degree will be awarded after all degree requirements for the Bachelors are met. This timeframe should normally be at the end of the fourth year;
- Students who do not successfully complete the Bachelors portion of this track, or whose GPAs do not meet the requirements for this track, may not proceed to the MA-level unless such deficiencies are resolved;
- Students who complete the Bachelors but decide not to continue with the MA program will terminate their program with the fulfillment of all requirements for the Bachelors degree. Students may withdraw from the combined Bachelors – Masters degree program in Women's Studies at any time by informing the Chairperson and Graduate Program Director to that effect in writing;
- A student who does not follow the approved plan of graduate work may become ineligible to participate in this combined degree program.
- If a student becomes ineligible to participate in the combined program, the Women's Studies Graduate Director shall inform the student in writing;
- A student who is ineligible to continue participation in or who withdraws from the combined degree program cannot double-count any courses for both Bachelor's and Master's degrees.
- Applicants must be a full-time Women's Studies undergraduate major;
- Applicants must submit a recommendation from a current WMST faculty member in the form of a nomination letter;
- Applicants must submit a personal essay in WORD, 12 font, 3-4 pages in length; the essay must articulate reasons for acceptance to the program, including link between matriculation and career goals.

The WMST Three Plus Two Admissions Committee shall include the Department Chair, the Graduate Program Director and a tenured or tenure-track faculty member of the WMST Department.

Core Requirements (9credits):

WMST 603 The Diversity of Women
WMST 607 Advanced Feminist Theory
WMST 609 Applied Research Methods and Skills

Concentration Requirement: (3 credits)

Leadership & Public Policy: WMST 611 Women, Public Policy and Social Change
International: WMST 605 Women in an International Context
Health & Sexuality: WMST 613 Women and Health

Planned Elective Courses Appropriate to Concentration: (15 credits)

Culminating Experience: (6 credits)

Thesis, Internship or Two-Course Portfolio

NOTE: A maximum of nine credits (either 500 or 600) will be applied toward satisfying requirements of both the BA/BS and MA programs. A maximum of nine credits at the 500 level can be selected for application toward satisfying the MS degree.