

WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT POLICY STATEMENT

I. PURPOSE AND PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

A. Library Collection Development Objective

The Women's and Gender Studies Program (WGST) is an interdisciplinary academic discipline that focuses on the more comprehensive attention to the relations between women and men, and various aspects of gender (femininity and masculinity). Women's and Gender Studies is an academic program in the College of Arts & Sciences that engages students in the study of:

1. Historical and contemporary roles, experiences, and achievements of women
2. The socially and culturally constructed notions of what is feminine and masculine
3. The intersections of gender with race, class, religion, ethnicity, age, nationality, and sexuality in the United States and globally
4. The analysis of sexuality, including lesbian, gay, intersexual, and transgender studies
5. Social Justice

The goals of the Women's and Gender Studies at Valdosta State University is an interdisciplinary program committed to providing feminist scholarship across the disciplines. The mission of the Women's and Gender Studies Program is:

1. To promote gender equity and an academic climate that hears and respects women's voices.
2. To provide resources and an intellectual context for students, the University, and the community which facilitates individual and collaborative research about women, gender, and sexualities.
3. To promote the integration of women, gender, and sexuality issues into courses across the disciplines and so encourage critical and sensitive thinking about women, gender, and sexualities.

4. To initiate and co-sponsor events related to women, gender, and sexualities with campus departments and student organizations.
5. To offer networking, advocacy, and support for all faculty, staff, and students.

B. Description of User Groups Supported

The Library seeks to support the research needs of undergraduates in the minor and faculty. On July 1, 2007, the name of Valdosta State University's Women's Studies Program was officially changed to Women's and Gender Studies Program. The name change recognizes the program's more comprehensive attention to the relations between women and men, and various aspects of gender (femininity and masculinity). Additionally, the collection spans several disciplines, including African American Studies, Art, English, History, The Honors Program, Modern & Classical Languages, Philosophy & Religious Studies, Political Science, Psychology & Counseling, and Sociology, Anthropology, & Criminal Justice.

C. New and Expanding Areas of Interest

D. New and expanding areas of interest include new theoretical perspectives; women's history; feminist and post modern literary criticism; issues concerning embodiment and the body. Women's Studies has been included in the core curriculum in humanities and social sciences to be implemented in Fall 1998.

E. Areas of Established Specialization

F. At this time the established specialization has not been determined.

II. TREATMENT OF SUBJECT DEPTH

A. Treatment of Subject Depth

To support the Women's and Gender Studies Department, the library will collect in the following subject areas at the Basic Study or Instructional Support level (3A).

SUBJECT SUBDIVISIONS	COLLECTING LEVEL
Classical Religion and Mythology (Greek, Roman)	3A
Bible and Feminism	3A
Biographies	3A
Women in the Various Ethnic Groups	3A
Anthropology	3A
Women and Work	3A
Sex Roles	3A
Feminism	3A
Women's Rights/Political Activity	3A
Women and Economics	3A
Education of Women	3A
Women in Music; Feminism and Music	3A
Women in Art	3A
Philology/Linguistics (Mass media, communications)	3A
Literature (women authors, critics, fiction)	3A
History of English Literature (By and About Women)	3A
Women's Health; Health Services for Women	3A
Women in Medicine	3A
Women in the Sciences	3A

B. Specific Delimitations

Formats collected: Monographs extensively; Audiovisual materials, dissertations, electronic resources, periodicals and reference tools selectively.

Imprint dates collected: Current and 20th century extensively.

Chronological focus: Current topics collected extensively

Languages collected: English language, extensively; French and Italian selectively.

Places of publication: North America and Western Europe extensively; other areas selectively.