Legal Studies and Women’s Studies Double-Major

A total of 14 courses, including four unique courses from LGST, four unique courses from WSTD, and 6 shared courses are required.

Four LGST Courses:
- 1110 Legal Systems in American Society (taken in the student’s first year)
- 1250 Legal Research and Writing (taken in the student’s first or sophomore year)
- 3520 Litigation and Trial Practice
- 4 credits of Legal Specialty Coursework (see a legal studies advisor)

Four WSTD Courses:
- 1010 Foundations of Women’s Studies (taken in the student’s first year)
- 3850 Feminist Theory (taken in the student’s sophomore or junior year)
- One WSTD elective (either 1000- or 3000-level)
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Six Shared Courses
Four Are Required:
- Internship/practicum LGST 5900 or WSTD 3990 (taken in the student’s junior or senior year)
  *Prior approval and signature needed by both WSTD and LGST chairs. In order for the internship/practicum to count for the paralegal certificate it has to involve paralegal experience components approved in advance by the chair of LGST.
- Senior Seminar LGST 5800 or WSTD 5900 (taken in the student’s senior year)
  *Prior approval and signature needed by both WSTD and LGST chairs.
- LGST 3540 Family and Gender Issues in Law
- LGST 3420 Law and the Lives of Women

Two 3000-Level Electives may include:
- WSTD 3500 Engendering Justice
- WSTD 3500 Women, Conflict & Social Change
- WSTD 3750 Transforming a Rape Culture
- SOCJ 3200 Sexuality and the Law

The interdisciplinary double major in legal studies and women’s studies provides students with a unique program of study combining learning experiences in both fields, allowing them to explore intersections between the law and other areas such as gender, sexuality, race, class, and ability. Because we live in a world with a number of justice issues present, a double major in legal studies and women’s studies provides students with both practical and theoretical tools for making social change in the pursuit of creating a better world for everyone.

By pursuing the double major, students develop both legal and cultural competencies that will allow them to engage in a variety of opportunities in the law, public policy, non-profit work, human services, legislative initiatives, human rights, or social service. In addition, elective coursework in the double major allows students to complete a paralegal certificate; this pairing of practical legal training with a liberal arts program of study focused on cultural and political awareness is highly valued by employers. With advanced planning, students are able to use complimentary coursework from both of these academic areas to satisfy the requirements of this vibrant double major.

Students interested in pursuing the double major in legal studies and women’s studies should consult with one of the program chairs as soon as possible to plan their academic program of study.

Program Chairs:
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Kristin Mapel Bloomberg, women’s studies kbloomberg@hamline.edu