

**Common Course Outline for: WMST 1101: Introduction to Women's Studies****A. Course Description**

1. Number of credits: 3
2. Lecture hours per week: 3  
Lab hours per week: None
3. Prerequisites: None
4. Co-requisites: None
5. MnTC Goal 5: History and the Social and Behavioral Sciences

## Catalog Description:

This course investigates the history and role of women in regard to psychology, political, sociological, philosophical, economic, and religious thought. The aim of the course is to enhance women's knowledge, sense of self-worth, images, and rights.

**B. Date last revised:** December, 2015**C. Outline of Major Content Areas**

1. Concepts of gender, patriarchy, sociobiology, psychology and socialization
2. Role of gender, language, communication styles and self-expression
3. Education, the history of women, and women in sports
4. Health, fitness, beauty, and the mass media
5. Sexual relationships, cohabitation, and marriage
6. Women in religion, politics, the history of feminism, and the women's movement
7. Economic issues, the glass ceiling, the second shift, and childcare
8. Issues of race, class, age, ability, and sexual orientation
9. Women in art, music, and literature
10. Issues of violence and women

**D. Course Learning Outcomes**

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to:

1. Define "patriarchy" as a social force. (Goal 5c)
2. Discuss the history of women in economic, philosophical, psychological, educational and religious thought. (Goal 5b and 5c)
3. Understand the role of women in diverse ethnic groups and cultures, and those with diverse lifestyles. (Goal 5b)
4. Recognize the way that patriarchy influences women's physical and emotional space. (Goal 5d)
5. Explain institutional sexism and discrimination. (Goal 5a and 5b)
6. Examine the relations between men, women and transgender individuals. (Goal 5d)
7. Develop an awareness of the history and role of the Women's Movement in the United States and cross-culturally. (Goal 5b)

**E. Methods for Assessing Student Learning:**

Assessment methods may include, but are not limited to, the following formats exams, essay exams, quizzes, journals, research papers, oral presentations, written assignments, reflection essays, group work, and/or any other assessment measures based on the discretion of the instructor.

**F. Special Information:** None