

Women's and Gender Studies



A Note from the Director

Happy Spring semester!

It's been a busy year since I've taken on the Director of Women's and Gender Studies role in the Fall. If you don't already know me, I am a sociologist in the Department of Criminal Justice, Cybersecurity, & Sociology and have been involved in the Women's and Gender Studies Program since my first year at the University of Scranton (17 years ago!). My academic background is in urban sociology and feminist intersectionality (I was also a Women's Studies concentrator in my undergraduate program). Women's and Gender Studies has been a wonderful place to land at the University of Scranton, and I have always appreciated the strength and diversity of the curriculum, course offerings, faculty, and collaborative events. I want to thank everyone who has been so helpful to me in my transition into this role, especially the Women's and Gender Studies administrative assistant, Donna Rupp, and the WGS steering committee members, Yamile Silva, Billie Tadros, and Howard Fisher. Dr. Silva and Dr. Fisher are new to the committee this year, and Dr. Tadros will be rotating off at the end of this semester because she will be taking a much-deserved sabbatical leave. We thank her for her years of service on the committee!

In this issue, we highlight some of the past and future co-sponsored Women's and Gender Studies university events, share faculty news, and highlight a current Women's and Gender Studies concentrator. I'd also like to invite you to participate in two important events to our program: the annual University of Scranton **Take Back the Night** rally and march, sponsored by the Jane Kopas Women's Center on April 25, and the **Feminism Expo**, sponsored by Dr. Ann Pang-White's PHIL 218 Feminism: Theory & Practice class on May 8.

Best wishes for a successful semester,

Dr. Meghan Ashlin Rich

Director, Women's and Gender Studies Program, University of Scranton

SPRING 2024

Newsletter Highlights

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WOMEN'S AND
GENDER STUDIES

Women's and Gender Studies Faculty Member Awarded Slattery Center Fellowship



Dr. Susan Poulson (History Department) has a Slattery Center fellowship this semester to study the insanity defense in post-Civil War America. In November 1869, Daniel McFarlane shot and killed star reporter Albert Richardson in front of shocked witnesses at the headquarters of the New York Tribune, America's most influential newspaper. A year later, Laura Fair shot and killed prominent San Francisco attorney Alexander Crittenden as he escorted his wife and children on a ferry in Oakland Bay. Each shooting involved a love triangle – Richardson was engaged to McFarlane's ex-wife, and Fair had been

Crittenden's lover for six years. And each appeared to be a clear case of murder, with a motive, eyewitnesses, and a confession. But when McFarland and Fair both plead not guilty by reason of insanity, Americans across the nation debated the nature of insanity, its treatment, and its relation to gender norms. What exactly is insanity? Does it differ by sex? And does it ever excuse murder? Poulson is doing extensive research in archives at the New York Public Library, the Library of Congress, the University of Michigan, the Beinecke Library at Yale University, the Special Collections at Columbia University, the San Francisco Public Library, and other sources to capture this struggle over American understanding of mental health. She is well into writing a manuscript and will seek a publishing contract before the end of the year.

Motivated by the life and work of St. Ignatius, the work of the Gail and Francis Slattery Center for the Ignatian Humanities seeks to advance the study of the humanities at the University of Scranton by supporting the work of both undergraduate students and faculty pursuing research and creative endeavors in the humanities, and by supporting the work of humanities departments.

Meet one of the WGS Concentrators!

Name: Amelia Esgro

Year: Junior

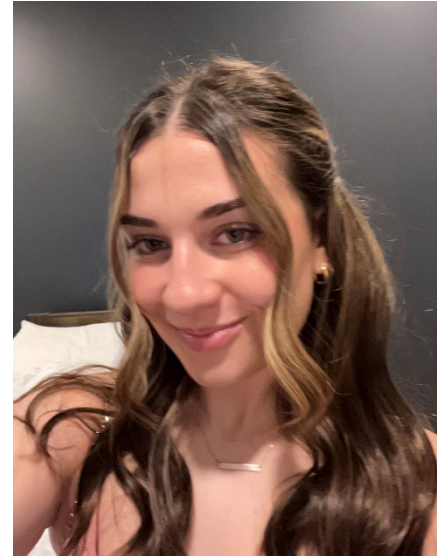
Graduation Year: 2025

What are your major, minor, and concentration(s)?

Major: Political Science

Minor: Criminology

Concentration: Women's and Gender Studies



What made you want to add a WGS concentration?

I began thinking about adding the Women's and Gender Studies concentration to my curriculum while taking a political science course titled Women's Rights and Status (PS 216 with Dr. Jean Harris). As the course progressed, I became more and more interested in studying the impact of women in society and politics. Adding the Women's and Gender Studies concentration felt like the perfect opportunity for me to continue learning about the impact of women and gender on society. One of the things that I love most about this concentration is that it allows for me to take courses in many different disciplines, including political science. As I continue my education in this concentration, my passion for learning only continues to heighten and I look forward to engaging in future courses!

What career do you hope to pursue after graduation? How do you hope to incorporate what you have learned in your WGS courses into your career field?

I am unsure of my near future following graduation, but I plan to further my education and obtain a master's or graduate degree. I am confident that my decision to add the WGS concentration will guide me and help me to make decisions about my career. This concentration is crucial because I can take the knowledge I learn from these courses and apply it to everyday interactions. It will help me to better navigate and understand the sociological changes of women and gender in educational, political, and governmental institutions. I hope that one day, I will hold a position where I can impact the decisions made about and for the rights of women.

How does what you have learned in your WGS courses affect your everyday life?

I am definitely more aware of media and news outlets that tend to warp the information that we consume. It can be really damaging for women and young girls to be exposed to constant criticisms and to be affected by inequality, whether it be in educational institutions, the workplace, social media outlets, or everyday interactions. Taking these courses has opened my mind to understand more about my own interpersonal relationships and interactions. Being aware of the impact of inequalities that limit women has led me to think about my own opportunities and the future of other women around me.

WGS FACULTY SCHOLARSHIP

Dr. Paul Datti

- Olson, K., & Datti, P. A. (2023, November). Best of both worlds: Understanding the Native American two-spirit identity and implications for lgbtq+ practice. Presentation provided at the annual Pennsylvania Counseling Association fall conference, Harrisburg, PA.
- Charette, J., Connell, A., Dalton, S., Gruber, R., Loeffler, D., Petitto, D., & Datti, P. A. (2023, November). Advocacy in action! A queer state of affairs. Half-day pre-conference institute provided at the annual Pennsylvania Counseling Association fall conference, Harrisburg, PA.

Dr. Ann Pang-White

- “Mencius and Augustine: A Feminine Face in the Personal, the Social, and the Political,” in *Dao Companion to the Philosophy of Mencius*, ed. Yang Xiao and Kim-chong Chong, pp. 615-634. Cham, Switzerland: Springer, May 2023. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-27620-0_30
- “Ecological Implications of the Logic of Non-Duality: An Analysis of the Plotinian One and the Daoist Dao,” *Asian Studies*, 11, no. 2 (May 2023): 175-200.
- “Reappraising Ban Zhao: The Advent of Chinese Women Philosophers” in *Ancient Women Philosophers*, eds. Katharine O’Reilly and Caterina Pellò, pp. 209-227. London: Cambridge University Press, July 2023.
- “Feminism, Confucian Role Ethics, and Virtue Ethics: Some Thoughts on the Problematic of Chastity and Filiality,” *Journal of World Philosophies*, vol. 8, no. 2 (Winter 2023): 73-87. The lead article of a symposium organized by the *Journal of World Philosophies*. <https://scholarworks.iu.edu/iupjournals/index.php/jwp/article/view/6785>
- “Feminism and Confucian Ethics: Reply to Commentators,” *Journal of World Philosophies*, vol. 8, no. 2 (Winter 2023): 110-115. <https://scholarworks.iu.edu/iupjournals/index.php/jwp/article/view/6785>
- Invited book chapter, “Empress Xu/Renxiaowen of China,” in *Women Philosophers from Non-Western Traditions: The First Four Thousand Years*, eds. Mary Ellen Waithe and Therese Boos Dykeman (forthcoming, March 2024, Springer).
- Invited book chapter, “Meng Mu of China,” in *Women Philosophers from Non-Western Traditions: The First Four Thousand Years*, eds. Mary Ellen Waithe and Therese Boos Dykeman (forthcoming, March 2024, Springer).

Dr. Meghan Ashlin Rich

- Rich, Meghan Ashlin. 2023. “Cultural Survival amid Disaster: Support for Artists in New Orleans.” *International Journal of Cultural Policy*. DOI: 10.1080/10286632.2023.2235376
- Rich, Meghan Ashlin. Forthcoming, 2024. “Artists, Arts and Culture-based City Revitalization, and the Built Environment.” *Routledge Companion of Creativity and Built Environment*, edited by Julie Miao and Tan Yigitcanlar. Abington, UK: Routledge.
- Rich, Meghan Ashlin. 2023. “We Make the Culture’: Tourism, Institutional Support for Artists, and Cultural Survival in Pandemic New Orleans.” Paper presented at Urban Affairs Association Annual Meeting, Nashville, TN.

Upcoming Events

Slattery Center Lecture:

Dr. Talia Welsh

“What is wrong with health? A feminist critique of wellness culture”

Thursday, April 11, 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Brennan Hall, Pearn Auditorium, (228)

Dr. Welsh is Director of Integrated Studies, a Professor of Philosophy, and a Professor of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga

Co-sponsored by the Women’s and Gender Studies Program

FEMINISM EXPO

May 8, Wed., 2024

5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

TDC 407

Enjoy refreshments while learning from poster sessions!

Sponsored by Dr. Ann Pang-White and PHIL 218, Feminism: Theory & Practice



Women's and Gender Studies News



Pictured: Ann Pang-White, Anthony Betancourt, Yamile Silva, Melissa Anyiwo, Meghan Rich, Jose Sanchez

The WGS Program held a promotional event at the Multicultural Center on March 6, 2024 with Black Studies, Latin American and Latinx Studies, and Asian Studies. Students enjoyed empanadas and other snacks while learning about our academic programs at the University of Scranton.

NEW WGS COURSE APPROVED!

ENLT 226 Novels by Women (CL, D)

A study of novels by and about women. The aim is to expand students' understanding of women's experiences as expressed by women writers. Fulfills Area C requirement for WGS major, or an elective for WGS major or concentration.

The course is being offered in Fall 2024 by Dr. Madeline Gangnes.



WOMEN'S History Month

**Celebrating Women who Advocate for
Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion**

**Join Us in Celebrating Women's History Month by
attending any of the following events**

- **Salary Negotiation Workshop**
Tuesday, March 5th at 6:00 pm
Multicultural Center Lounge
DeNaples 108
Sponsored by the Cultural Centers
- **Dialogue Series on Race, Racism, Identity and
Privilege: "Women Advocating through Politics"**
Tuesday, March 19th at 8:00 pm
Multicultural Center, DeNaples 108
Sponsored by the Cultural Centers
- **Lifting Those Around Us: Celebrating Women's
Influence on Equity + Inclusion at the University of
Scranton**
Tuesday, March 26th at 6:00 pm
Brennan Hall, Rose Room (509)
Sponsored by the Cultural Centers
- **SCRIBE Book Club "Radium Girls"**
Wednesday, March 27th,
from 12 noon to 2 pm
Brennan Hall, 502
Sponsored by Office of Equity and Diversity



Women's & Gender Studies Courses – Fall 2024

CHS 333 Multicultural Counseling (SL, D), P. Datti, MW 3:00-4:15

This course focuses on the current complexities of multiculturalism and diversity in counseling, human services, and other disciplines. Human development in a multicultural and diverse society will be examined, and the basic objectives and dimensions of multicultural and diverse services will be defined. In the spirit of *cura personalis* (care for the whole person), students' self-awareness of values, attitudes, and beliefs regarding diversity in the care of others will be emphasized. Although all counseling and human services are multicultural and diverse in nature, this course will focus primarily on race, ethnicity, sexual/affectional orientation, gender identity, disability, religion/spirituality, and social class/socio-economic factors. *Fulfills Area B requirement for WGS major or an elective for the WGS major or concentration.*

CHS 337 Counseling Girls & Women (D), E. Holmes, R 5:00-7:40

This course is designed to explore the topic of counseling girls and women in a sociocultural, historical, and multicultural context. Through the examination of the history of women (e.g., social construction of gender, identity) from a self-in-relation foundation, and feminist counseling and its role in de-pathologizing the importance of relationships to girls and women will be explored. *Fulfills Area B requirement for WGS major or an elective for the WGS major or concentration.*

COMM 229 Gender and Communication (D, S), K. Pavlick, TR 8:30-9:45

This course focuses on interactive relationships between gender and communication in contemporary American society by examining the multiple ways communication in families, schools, media and society in general creates and perpetuates gender roles. The course considers not only what is in terms of gender roles, but also what might be and how students, as change agents, may act to improve their individual and collective lives. *Fulfills Area B requirement for WGS major or an elective for the WGS major or concentration.*

ENLT 226 Novels by Women (CL, D), M. Gangnes, MWF 12:00-12:50

A study of novels by and about women. The aim is to expand students' understanding of women's experiences as expressed by women writers. *Fulfills Area C requirement for WGS major, or an elective for WGS major or concentration.*

MGT 474 Managing a Multicultural Workforce (D, EPW), O. Cocieru, TR 10:00-11:15 and TR 4:00-5:15

This course addresses the skills and knowledge managers must develop to deal with an increasingly culturally diverse workforce. Specific topics to be covered include diversity in ethnicity, nationality, religion, culture, gender, age, sexual orientation and disability. The course will help students interact and work with people different from themselves and to understand their own cultural values, biases, and behaviors. *Fulfills Area B requirement for WGS major or an elective for the WGS major or concentration.*

PSYC 237 Psychology of Women (D, S), C. Slotterback, MWF 2:00-2:50

(Prerequisite: Grade of C or higher in PSYC 110, AP or Transfer Credit)

Examines the biological, sociological and cultural influences on the psychology of women. Topics include gender socialization, sex roles, and the impact of gender on personality, communication, achievement, and mental health. *Fulfills Area B requirement for WGS major or an elective for the WGS major or concentration.*

SOC 224 Race and Ethnic Relations (D, S), K. Williams, TR 2:30-3:45

An introduction to the sociology of race and ethnicity, this course focuses on the historical construction and continued significance of these categories over time. Various racial and ethnic group experiences will be studied in terms of their treatment by dominant social institutions and their access to social, cultural, and political power in the United States. *Fulfills Area B requirement for WGS major or an elective for the WGS major or concentration.*

SOC 315/WOMN 215 Feminism and Social Change (D), P. Datti, M 5:00-7:40

This course examines the relationship between feminism and social change, studying feminist movements and how feminist ideologies, strategies, and individuals influenced social movements. It also explores outcomes of women's movements, the mobilization of counter-movements, and the consequences of feminism for society for various organizational and professional roles, and for individual women. *Fulfills Foundational/Praxis course requirement (group B) for WGS major; meets Foundational/Praxis requirement for WGS concentration; or an elective for the WGS major or concentration.*

Notes in italics indicate how course fulfills various WGS concentration or major requirements. Students may take multiple Foundational/Praxis courses and/or Area courses as electives in the WGS program. WOMEN'S & GENDER STUDIES COURSES COUNT TOWARDS THE MAJOR OR CONCENTRATION AS WELL AS ANY OTHER GE, MAJOR, MINOR, OR COGNATE COURSES THAT THEY MAY FILL, MAKING IT EASY FOR MOST STUDENTS TO COMPLETE A WOMEN'S & GENDER STUDIES CONCENTRATION AND FOR MOST TO COMPLETE THE WOMEN'S & GENDER STUDIES MAJOR. FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT: Dr. Meghan Rich, Director of Women's & Gender Studies, 570-941-6137, meghan.rich@scranton.edu.