



THE ADVISOR ADVOCATE

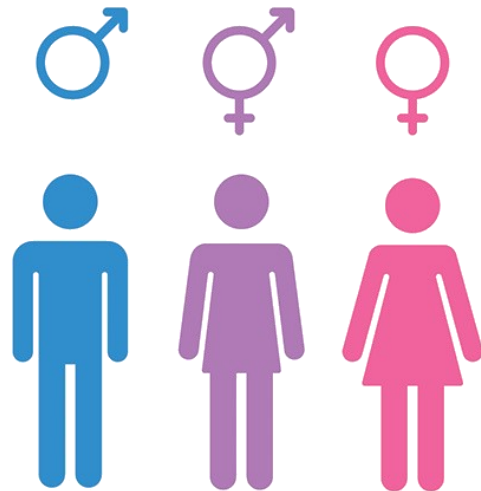
Minor Spotlight: Women's and Gender Studies

You may know that **IUP** offers over **100 majors**, but what about minors? Many majors at IUP offer corresponding minors, but there are also unique minors like **Women's and Gender Studies**. In this week's bulletin, Dr. Lynn Botelho, director of the minor, provides a quick rundown of this field of study.

Women's and Gender Studies is designed to increase a student's interdisciplinary knowledge about the gendered nature of women's and men's experiences and the ways that gender, sexuality, and other identities shape and are shaped by history, culture, and society in today's challenging, diverse, and complex world. It explores and challenges gendered hierarchies, the impact of gender on the experiences of women in employment and society. Additionally, the minor emphasizes and encourages the exploration of critical and historical intersections between gender and other dimensions of difference, such as sexuality, race, ethnicity, class, national origin, culture, age, ability, size, and others.

Women's and Gender Studies strengthens and supplements the future career of our students as they become skillful, knowledgeable, self-reflective, fair-minded, and respectful professionals. Minors become critical and aware of all forms of gendered, sexualized, classed, or racialized hierarchy and injustice in their field, in the work place, and in society. Such knowledge and advocacy make these individuals valuable employees in any position, in any field, as they are more sensitive to diversity and equity issues, and trained to approach such issues with respect.

dictionary.com



For more information:
CTE Office: 103 Stabley

Director:
Stephanie Taylor-Davis
teaching-excellence@iup.edu

**Associate Director for
Academic Advising:**
Erin Conlin
elconlin@iup.edu

Editor and Designer:
Margaret Olin



THE ADVISOR ADVOCATE

Minor Spotlight: Religious Studies

Dr. Theresa Smith explains the importance of **Religious Studies** and the skills the program teaches students. Unlike Women's and Gender Studies, **Religious Studies** does have an accompanying major and is always ready to welcome new students.

Given the impact of religious power, studying it is crucial.

Religion is believed to be the most powerful and widespread force in the world—the **Religious Studies bachelor's degree program** will help students understand the relationship between religion and politics, economics, and social structures. This program allows them to:

- Learn about the faiths, world views, and ways of life of people all over the world.
- Receive a balanced, nonsectarian, cross-cultural perspective leading to a better understanding of the phenomenon of religion in human experience.
- Develop critical thinking and analytical skills, public speaking, and cross-cultural communication.
- Gain experience in factual description, comparative and critical analysis, and historical judgment.
- Enhance their knowledge of cultural diversity.

insidehighered.com



In the process, students may also discover new career options, not only preparing for professions as ministers, priests, or rabbis, but for careers in international relations and development, education, journalism, social work, political and non-profit work, museum studies and much more. Religious Studies is also an ideal choice if students are contemplating a double major or a minor.

For more information:
CTE Office: 103 Stabley

Director:
Stephanie Taylor-Davis
teaching-excellence@iup.edu

Associate Director for Academic Advising:
Erin Conlin
elconlin@iup.edu

Editor and Designer:
Margaret Olin