



WHAT CAN I DO WITH A MAJOR IN ...

WOMEN STUDIES

OCCUPATIONAL OVERVIEW:

Women Studies is an interdisciplinary field that investigates how women's lives are affected not only by gender but also by race, class, age, sexuality, religion, and nationality. It studies the history and culture of women, as well as the social structures of gender (*adapted from the UNM Women Studies website*).

EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS:

A bachelor's degree is the minimum formal education required, and is excellent preparation for entering a variety of diverse occupations. Women Studies majors go into every field, just as graduates of other liberal arts areas do. However, most professional anthropological jobs require a graduate degree (M.A./M.S. or Ph.D.). However, depending upon the student's career interests, some occupations may require a graduate degree (master's, Ph.D., J.D.). Women Studies often leads to graduate/professional study in law, business, medicine, political science, history, religious studies, sociology, social work, psychology, art history, music, family studies, journalism, English, education, and many others.

EMPLOYERS/INDUSTRIES & SUGGESTED STRATEGY:

Please ask your Career Advisor (CDF) for identifying employers or additional resources for your occupation of choice.

Education: Teaching - Research - Administration – Two- and four-year colleges and universities – University research institutes – Women's Resources Centers

Suggested Strategy: As an undergraduate obtain a research assistant position. Concentrate on maintaining a high GPA and developing relationships with professors to prepare for graduate school applications. An M.A./M.S. will be required for community college positions, while a Ph.D. is required for university/college faculty or research positions.

Research/Preservation: Exhibit preparation coordinator – Librarian – Conservator - Researcher

Suggested Strategy: As an undergraduate obtain internship or volunteer positions to gain related experience. Prepare for and obtain a graduate degree in library science for librarianship. Obtain a position assisting faculty with their research.

Government: Women's issues coordinator – Public information coordinator – Census/survey work (Bureau of Labor Statistics has a women's division!) – Peace Corps volunteer – Women's health, education, finance, domestic violence – WHO

Suggested Strategy: Get involved in campus organizations to develop leadership abilities and interpersonal skills. Develop statistical, analytical and computer skills and investigate research methodologies for census positions. Gain related experience in your area of interest through internships, volunteer, or part-time employment. Research governmental application procedures. A graduate degree may be required for higher level positions.

Health & Human Services: Women's issues advocate – Social worker – Women's health advocate – Non-governmental agency worker – Youth counselor – Volunteer services coordinator – Community planning specialist – Women's programming – Health care practitioner specializing in women's/girl's health

Suggested Strategy: As an undergraduate obtain internship or volunteer positions to gain related experience. Gain experience in a social service setting. Obtain a graduate degree in a related field for counseling, social work, or healthcare practitioner positions.

Business/Nonprofit: Human resources – Market research analyst – Sales/marketing representative – Organizational planner – Management trainee – Consultant – Cultural resource manager – Arts council director – Foundation administrator – Political action advocacy -

Suggested Strategy: Gain relevant experience through internships, volunteer positions, or part-time work in your area of interest. Consider earning a second degree, minor, or pursuing additional coursework in a complementary field of study. Focus on developing "transferable skills" such as computer competency, written/verbal communication, and project management.

Communication/Journalism: Editor – Journalist – Researcher/technical advisor – Public opinion analyst

Suggested Strategy: As an undergraduate obtain internship or volunteer positions to gain related experience. Supplement coursework with classes in Communication & Journalism and English. Gain experience with campus media outlets.

INFORMATIONAL WEBSITES:



<http://online.onetcenter.org>



<http://www.bls.gov/oco/>