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Feminist & Gender Studies Staff and Faculty

Staff

Linda Inzer is our **Staff Assistant**. She also works with Asian Studies and Race & Ethnic Studies. She can help students arrange appointments with FGS faculty and can help them navigate the web site or this handbook.

Faculty

The only tenure-track faculty appointed to the Feminist and Gender Studies Program are **Assistant Professor Nadia Guessous** and **Assistant Professor Heidi R. Lewis**, who will serve as Associate Director for the 2016-2017 academic year. The Director of the Program will be **Associate Professor Patricia L. Waters** (Psychology).

Faculty comprising the **FGS Core** administer the program. In other words, they make decisions regarding curriculum, funding requests, and FGS-sponsored activities. They meet regularly to carry out this important work. They often teach cross-listed courses that count as electives toward the major and minor, and they sometimes teach core courses such as FG311 Critical Feminist Methodologies. They can serve as first or second readers for FGS theses, and they often provide advice for students considering a major or minor in FGS.

There are also many faculty and staff who identify as **FGS Affiliates**. Affiliated faculty often teach cross-listed FGS courses that count toward the major or minor. They can direct students to core faculty for advice, and affiliate faculty can serve as second readers for FGS theses.

For more information about our staff and faculty, please click here:

<https://www.coloradocollege.edu/academics/dept/feministandgenderstudies/people/>.

Completing the FGS Major

To declare an FGS major, meet with Nadia Guessous or Heidi R. Lewis. Students majoring in FGS must complete the following 12 units with a C- or higher:

- FG110 Introduction to Feminist and Gender Studies (1 unit)
 - May be waived—with approval—if a student takes an addition elective AND passes FG200. That is, both FG110 and FG200 may not be waived.
- FG200 Feminist Theory (1 unit);
 - May be waived—with approval—if a student takes an addition elective AND passes FG110. That is, both FG110 and FG200 may not be waived.
- FG311 Critical Feminist Methodologies (1 unit);
- FG404 Senior Project (1 unit, senior year);
- FG405 Senior Seminar (1 unit, senior year Block 7);
- Seven Electives
 - At least three of these electives should be taken at the 300-level.

- No more than two units from off-campus study (not counting study abroad courses taught by Colorado College professors) will be counted as electives, and you must petition to have such units recognized by the Program.
- All-College Requirements
 - FYE (2 units)
 - West in Time (2 units)
 - Scientific Inquiry (2 units, one with lab/field component)
 - Social Inequality (1 unit)
 - Global Cultures (1 unit)
 - Quantitative Reasoning (1 unit)
 - Foreign Language (2 units)
 - Writing Requirement: passed first year portfolio or passed Writing Intensive class or passed Writing in the Disciplines class with writing adjunct.
 - Phi Beta Kappa (optional; completion of intermediate language competence, which is the equivalent of the fourth block of language study or any course beyond the fourth unit of language study, including adjunct courses; units must appear on the transcript).

Please note that students with two majors may count up to three units toward each major. Students with one major and one minor may count up to one unit toward both the major and the minor. Students with two minors may not count any units toward both minors. To review/download a copy of the major requirements, click here:

<https://www.coloradocollege.edu/academics/dept/feministandgenderstudies/requirements/>.

FG404 Senior Project

Majors enroll in **FG404 Senior Project** for one block during blocks 1-6 of their senior year in consultation with their major adviser and first-reader. The FGS Senior Capstone Project is an independent study on a topic of the student's choice; it serves as the substantive basis of the required senior thesis. Capstone project topics should be chosen in consultation with the thesis adviser before the end of your junior year. The project may take the form of a community-based internship, an activist project committed to social transformation, a research project, a creative project and/or performance, similar activities undertaken during an off-campus program (with prior approval of the thesis adviser), or a combination of the above that problematizes an issue in feminist and gender studies. In most cases, the project will likely be on going for most of your senior year until the project is submitted. No matter the project, students must have a complete draft of their project by the end of Block 6 of the senior year, and evaluation of this draft will be considered when assigning a grade for FG404. The supervising faculty member will assign a grade of "in progress" until they have evaluated the draft of the senior thesis due at the end of Block 6.

You can read prior student theses by clicking here:

<http://dacc.coalliance.org/fedora/repository/coccc:5220>. Along these lines, remember that you must provide the library with an electronic copy of your final project by clicking here: <http://www.coloradocollege.edu/library/about/policies/thesis-submission.dot>.

FG405 Senior Seminar

Majors enroll in **FG405 Senior Seminar** in Block 7 of their senior year. Students must bring a completed first draft of their thesis to the first day of the course. In FG 405, students will conduct peer reviews, revise drafts, and develop oral presentations of their senior theses. Students will also examine historical and contemporary theoretical feminist texts in order to more effectively contextualize their projects.

During Block 8, students will present their theses for all FGS Core Faculty, current students, some Affiliate FGS faculty/staff, and possibly members of the larger Colorado College community. FGS Core faculty will evaluate the content and style of the presentation. The senior capstone adviser will take these evaluations into account before deciding on the final grade for FG405 in consultation with the FG405 instructor of record.

Completing the FGS Minor

To declare an FGS major, meet with Nadia Guessous or Heidi R. Lewis. Students minoring in FGS must complete the following 6 units with a C- or higher:

- FG110 Introduction to Feminist and Gender Studies (1 unit)
- FG200 Feminist Theory (1 unit);
- FG311 Critical Feminist Methodologies (1 unit);
- Three Electives
 - At least one of these electives should be taken at the 300-level.
 - No more than one unit from off-campus study (not counting study abroad courses taught by Colorado College professors) will be counted as electives, and you must petition to have such units recognized by the Program.

Please note that students with two majors may count up to three units toward each major. Students with one major and one minor may count up to one unit toward both the major and the minor. Students with two minors may not count any units toward both minors. To review/download a copy of the major requirements, click here:

<https://www.coloradocollege.edu/academics/dept/feministandgenderstudies/requirements/>.

Counting Non-FGS Courses toward the Major or Minor

Students can request that a non-cross-listed CC course count toward the major or minor. Only two of these courses may count as two units toward the major and one course as one unit toward the minor with approval from the Program Director and the student's major adviser.

To request permission, students should send the Director and their FGS Adviser an email, copying the Staff Assistant, providing the course number, title, description, instructor of record, host institution, and a 150 to 200-word rationale for counting the course as an

elective in your FGS major or minor. Subsequently, the Program Director and your FGS Adviser will discuss your petition and notify you of a decision within a 14-day period.

Student Honors

Graduation with Distinction

FGS core faculty discuss each student's academic accomplishments, and decide whether a student has earned distinction. Typically, students graduating with distinction have maintained a 3.5 GPA in their FGS courses and earned an A- or A in FG404 and FG405.

Shannon McGee Prize

The Shannon McGee Prize in Feminist and Gender Studies is awarded to Colorado College juniors or seniors who have demonstrated a real and abiding interest in Feminist and Gender Studies. The award will be presented in recognition of the student's active engagement, activism or leadership. The award is announced at Honors Convocation in Block 8. FGS Core Faculty nominate students for the award and decide who will receive the reward.

The award honors the memory of Shannon D. McGee, class of 1989, who was a sociology major and women's studies minor. She won a Watson Fellowship for the summer of 1990 to study Islamic women in Egypt. While taking a break to travel to Jordan, Shannon died in a freak fall as she was climbing behind the monastery ruins at Petra. The award may be based upon, but not limited to, the student's political or artistic endeavors on or off campus, research or project development, or participation in conferences and the like, where the purpose is to enhance the understanding of or commitment to women's issues and/or gender issues. Such purpose is reflective of Shannon's adventurous and inquisitive nature and her commitment to keeping women's issues alive and vibrant.

For more information about this award, including past winners, click here:

<https://www.coloradocollege.edu/academics/dept/feministandgenderstudies/resourcesforstudents/shannon-mcgee-prize.html>.

Iota Iota Iota (Triota) Honor Society

In 2011, the Feminist & Gender Studies Program (FGS) developed the Student Advisory Council (SAC), which provided FGS majors and minors with myriad opportunities to serve as leaders within the program.

In August 2016, FGS revised the SAC after becoming an official chapter (Delta Mu) of Iota Iota Iota (Triota), a National Women's Studies Honor Society with over 50 chapters nationwide, "Iota" selected to represent three goddesses Inanna, Ishtar, and Isis. Triota strives to maintain the feminist values central to Women's Studies and encourage diversity, egalitarianism, and a supportive academic environment for all students. Triota also

encourages volunteerism, advocacy, and activism within the community as important methods for promoting and maintaining the feminist values central to Women's Studies.

The Delta Mu chapter students:

- assists with The Monthly Rag; Triota includes the Editor of The Rag, but other members are expected to contribute at least one entry per year and to solicit entries from the campus community;
- support and attend all FGS-sponsored events;
- plan and implement FGS programs (in collaboration with student organizations and other departments/programs), including, but not limited to, the Feminist Carol Sing, film screenings, informational sessions and panels, workshops, and guest speakers;
- support and represent FGS during on and off-campus events, such as New Student Orientation, Homecoming Weekend, Winter-Start Orientation, Open House, academic fairs, alumni events, and pre-registration;
- develop and maintain networks with other feminist organizations at neighboring colleges and universities, the American Association of University Women (AAUW), and other Triota chapters, for example;
- represent FGS at the National Women's Studies Association annual meeting.

We invite you to join Triota, if you are at least a second semester sophomore, have a GPA of 3.0 or above, have taken at least 6 credit hours in Feminist & Gender Studies (cross-listed courses count). If you are interested, please complete this brief online form by clicking here: <http://tinyurl.com/z3rs6lg>. Then, bring your most recent transcript and one-time \$10 lifetime membership fee (in the form of a personal or cashier's check or money order) to Professor Heidi R. Lewis, Delta Mu Chapter Adviser, in the Interdisciplinary Studies (ID) House for submission to the Alpha chapter at Metropolitan State University in Denver. Then, stay tuned for forthcoming information.

For more information, including the organization constitution, please click here (<https://femgeniuses.com/triota/>) and/or contact the chapter at deltamutriota@gmail.com. Also, follow us on Twitter (<https://twitter.com/DeltaMuTriota>) and like our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/DeltaMuTriota/>).

Student Professional Development

The Monthly Rag

The Monthly Rag is a feminist newsletter published by the Delta Mu chapter of Triota at Colorado College. Affectionately known as *The Rag*, the newsletter provides "a monthly flow" of feminist news, interests, and ideas.

While proofs must be submitted to the Rag Supervisor, Professor Heidi R. Lewis, for review, the content is the final responsibility of the Editor. The Editor is responsible for publishing the Rag on time, corresponding with writers regarding content, proofreading, copyediting and checking submissions for factual inaccuracies. In some cases, the Editor may also revise materials. The Editor must also ensure that content is the appropriate length. If

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content is too long, for instance, it must be edited very carefully to fit the space available. Finally, the Editor is responsible for answering correspondence regarding the Rag and its content. However, some correspondence may be forwarded to the Supervisor and/or Director of Feminist & Gender Studies, depending on the level of appropriateness.

If you are interested in reading past issues of *The Monthly Rag*, click here:

<http://femgeniuses.com/monthlyrag/>. Please also note that you may join *The Monthly Rag* Facebook community by clicking here:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/184108941605072/>.

If you are interested in serving as *The Monthly Rag* Editor, click here:

<http://tinyurl.com/d5dmuem>. Please note that the rising Editor must serve as an apprentice to the current Editor during the former's sophomore year and the latter's senior year. The Editor serves for a two-year period.

National Women's Studies Association

The National Women's Studies Association (NWSA) was established over 35 years ago in order to promote and encourage pedagogical, scholarly, activist, and artistic epistemological commitments to women and gender within and outside of the academy. FGS provides funding for Triota officers to attend the conference, because it:

- provides students with opportunities to present and receive feedback on their research from their peers and leading scholars in the discipline;
- allows students to build and maintain networks with other students, teachers, scholars, activists, and artists in the discipline;
- allows students to remain invested in the development of the discipline;
- establishes FGS and Colorado College as leaders in the discipline (hosting receptions, distributing information about our program and institution, etc.);
- and provides leadership opportunities (i.e. the Undergraduate Student Caucus).

Other students who want to attend the conference should consider applying for funding from the Dean's Advisory Committee. Any funds from the Dean's Office would help FGS have its funds available for other student needs that cannot be funded any other way.

To learn more about NWSA, click here: <http://www.nwsa.org/>.

Summer Soapbox Feminist Camp

FGS recognizes opportunities for learning outside of the classroom so that students may continually strengthen and further develop their formal education. For these reasons, we encourage students to attend the Soapbox Feminist Camp.

Launched in 2007 by Jennifer Baumgardner and Amy Richards, the Feminist Camp is a weeklong immersive program that allows participants the opportunity to engage renowned feminist teachers, scholars, activists, and artists from throughout the world. It is hosted in New York City during the summer and winter. Over the years, the program has

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included representatives from *Ms.* magazine, the Women's Bureau (an agency of the United States Department of Labor), Women Make Movies, Girls for Gender Equity, *BUST* magazine, *The New York Times*, *The New Yorker*, and The Museum of Tolerance. These seminars are particularly valuable, because they bridge theory and praxis by fostering discussions about writing, internships, activism, art and many other topics that help students to build lifelong relationships that lead to internship prospects, publishing opportunities, mentoring relationship, and other important and exciting avenues to success. Participants come to the camp from nearly 30 states and over 80 institutions of higher education, including Bard, Beloit, Bryn Mawr, Carleton, Kenyon, Princeton, NYU, Rutgers, UVA, and Vassar. These participants have then gone on to become leaders in the Girls Leadership Institute, the National Council for Research on women, NARAL, The Feminist Press, and Habitat for Humanity, just to name a few.

The program fee for the camp, which includes lodging, breakfast, most lunches, programming, and a MetroCard, is \$1500. The program fee is lowered if students can secure their own housing. In addition to the program fee, students are responsible for airfare, airport transfers, and meals.

Please click here for more information about the camp:
<http://www.soapboxinc.com/feminist-bootcamp/>.

Program Contributions

Events

Every year, the FGS program hosts several events. After you have declared your major or minor, your name will be added to the student listserv so that you will know when these events occur:

- The **FGS Scholarly Lunch Series** is held on the first Thursday of blocks 2, 4, and 6. During these lunches, faculty share their feminist scholarship with the community while we enjoy a lovely lunch.
- Every year we have a **Feminist Carol Sing**, usually during Block 4. Faculty, students, and staff come together for a party and sing Christmas carols with altered feminist lyrics.
- Every year, we host a **Senior Capstone Presentation** during Block 8, typically on a Thursday or Friday afternoon. Check with the Staff Assistant if you miss the email announcement.

Assessment

Senior majors and minors will be asked to participate in additional assessments, for example through being interviewed to talk about your undergraduate education and more specifically the impact that your FGS major or minor has had on your thinking, doing, and being. Your participation helps us have the most effective possible program. Please respond to requests from the staff assistant, director, or FGS faculty when we ask you to participate

in assessment activities such as surveys, focus groups, or interviews. Your collaboration helps us make sure that student perspectives are reflected in the curriculum and other aspects of the FGS program.

Faculty Promotion

Faculty undergo three critical reviews that determine whether they can remain at the college for the long-term. During these reviews, faculty under review assemble a file of their teaching, scholarly, and service activities, and other provide evidence in support of their case that they should remain at the college and be promoted. At the same time, their Director or Steering Committee collects confidential evidence pertaining to teaching, scholarship, and service from students, staff, and faculty both on- and off-campus. Several committees of tenured faculty then review all of these materials and make recommendations to the Dean and to the President regarding whether someone should be retained or promoted. Additionally, all of the teaching evaluations you fill out online will be used as evidence of teaching effectiveness.

Student and alumni letters are key components of review files, because the letters provide a chance to reflect on a class and its professor long after the class has ended. They are considered essential, and when a file has too few letters, that does not look good for the person under review. If you are asked to contribute a letter to an FGS professor's file, please do so. Your letter should directly address what you yourself have observed about that professor's teaching, advising, and mentoring. You can comment on the effects the faculty person has had on FGS more generally, especially if you were in a position as a feminist leader on campus. Your letters are strictly confidential, and will not be shared directly with the faculty person under review.

Funding

The FGS budget has a limited amount of money reserved for student funding. In any given year, we receive requests for more money than we can provide. In order to apply for funding and for more information about other sources of funding that may support your request, click here: <http://tinyurl.com/k4oq82m>.

Internships, Fellowships, & Graduate School

Click here for a comprehensive list of local and national/international organizations for which you might serve as an intern and/or might consider for fellowships and/or graduate school:
<https://www.coloradocollege.edu/academics/dept/feministandgenderstudies/resourcesforstudents/jobs-internships-and-graduate-programs.html>. You might also consider this list as you prepare to seek post-graduation employment.

Additionally, many feminist summer internships can be funded by the Career Center. For any Career Center opportunities, it is important to apply early in the year. The Career Center has lots of other ways to help you find an internship and support yourself if it

happens to be in the public interest and unpaid. Click here to learn more:

<http://www.coloradocollege.edu/offices/careercenter/internship-funding-awards/>.

LGBTQIA+ Resources

Click here for more information about local and/or national LGBTQIA+ organizations and resources:

<https://www.coloradocollege.edu/academics/dept/feministandgenderstudies/resourcesforstudents/lgbtq-resources.html>.