

Gender Studies Undergraduate Certificate Program

Program Advisor: Dr. Poranee Natadecha-Sponsel

The program aims to develop a holistic understanding of both sexes. It has a focus on working together in partnership to better understand differences in social structures. Students need to develop their knowledge of inclusiveness and not be one-sided on either women's or men's issues only. In teaching and learning, the class needs to approach the subject from both the female and male perspectives to fully understand the materials.

To achieve the program objectives students are required to complete 12 credit hours chosen from a set of interdisciplinary courses listed in the Chaminade University Undergraduate Catalog. At least 50% of the contents of these courses must deal with the problems and issues of women and men in various subjects and disciplines.

Students have a large pool from which to make their choices to enhance their knowledge of gender related issues in their major academic discipline.

In addition, there are two required core courses to complete for the total of the 16 credit hours needed to receive the certificate: SO/PH 360 Sociology and Philosophy of Gender (3), and the capstone course, Topic in Gender Studies (1).

Program Objectives:

1. increase student knowledge about the different social roles of women and men cross-culturally;
2. better understand the different expectations and experiences of different gender roles in diverse societies;
3. enhance the student's ability to effectively work with people from different cultures and sexes in their career;
4. motivate students to make a difference in social justice concerns by contributing to applied research that promotes possible solutions to conflicts and misunderstandings based on gender differences; and add value to their undergraduate degree for employment.

Program Outcomes:

The student who successfully completes the requirements of the certificate will:

- Enhance their professional qualifications;
- Demonstrate an awareness of gender issues.
- Identify the key problems and issues in gender studies through the exploration of the relevant literature.

Requirements:

16 credits in courses covering gender issues

Required Core Course (3 Credit Hours):

SO/PH 360 Sociology and Philosophy of Gender (3)

Required Elective Courses (12 Credit Hours)

Students select four courses from the following list. These courses may also satisfy

1. requirements in the student's major program, and
2. three upper division requirements outside the major.