

New Mexico State University

Gender & Sexuality Studies

MACS: Media Arts & Cultural Studies

Transform Through
Inquiry and
Creative Innovation



genders.nmsu.edu

Welcome to MACS

INTRODUCTION

Media Arts and Cultural Studies (MACS) within Gender & Sexuality Studies (G&SS) at NMSU is more than a course concentration—it's a transformative educational experience. Integrating critical theories with hands-on media production, we challenge you to explore, analyze, and shape the ever-evolving landscapes of media, culture, and society.



FEMINIST & LGBTQ+ FILM & MEDIA STUDIES

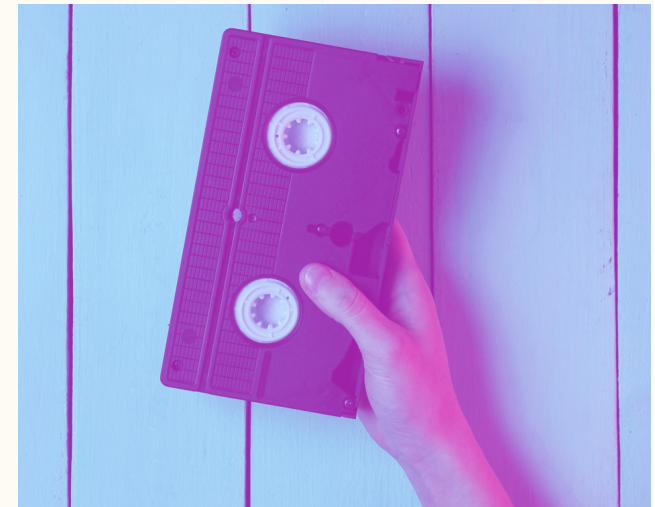
In a world increasingly shaped by media narratives, there's an urgent need for analytical minds that can dissect and question these powerful cultural tools. MACS within G&SS equips you with the critical consciousness and creative skills to not just understand but also influence media. Here, you'll gain a nuanced understanding of how gender and sexuality intersect with media and culture, offering you the tools to engage in meaningful dialogues and drive social change.



Forge Your Path

MACS & FBA

Feminist Border Arts (FBA) IS a groundbreaking initiative where where research, creativity, and social change meet. Through FBA, you'll have exclusive opportunities to participate in boundary-pushing projects like the Feminist Border Arts Film Festival and SJZ: Social Justice Zine. These platforms offer an engaging blend of critical theory and creative practice, allowing you to gain practical experience while expanding your understanding of feminist, queer, and trans perspectives. It's not just about studying media—it's about creating media that matters.



Literacies & Competencies

Critical Craftwork

In MACS, we merge film, graphic narrative, written texts, and digital media studies with a hands-on, D.I.Y. approach, embodying feminist and queer traditions of "making it ourselves." Whether face-to-face or online, students gain integrated skill sets—critical analysis and practice—vital for today's interconnected world.

How to Enroll

An Inclusive Approach

MACS courses invite students to immerse themselves in an interdisciplinary curriculum that melds the creative with the analytical. Whether you're interested in digital storytelling or physical media like zines, you'll explore it alongside critical discussions in gender and sexuality studies. Open to G&SS majors, minors, graduate minors, and all inquisitive minds at NMSU, our courses offer an inclusive academic journey that breaks down traditional subject boundaries.

MACS Courses

MACS courses are deeply rooted in G&SS, drawing inspiration from the DIY ethos and participatory media traditions in feminist, queer, and trans communities. These courses embrace a range of expression—from comics and movies to digital media—while exploring art activism and public humanities.

Here's a snapshot of the courses you can take:

- GNDR 371: Intro to LGBTQ+ Studies
- GNDR 403/503: Gender & Horror
- GNDR 407/507: Gender and Graphic Narrative
- GNDR 408/508: Feminist Food Studies
- GNDR 412/512: Gender and Film Studies
- GNDR 482/582: Gender and Popular Culture
- GNDR 484/584: Women's Literature
- GNDR 450/550: Special Topics (Recent courses: Feminist Border Arts, Feminist Media Activism). (May repeat with different subtitles)
- GNDR 451/551: G&SS Practicum (Permission required)
- GNDR 461/561: G&SS Independent Study (Permission required)

Broaden Research and Creative Potential

Bridging Theory and Practice

Our core G&SS courses like GNDR 455/555 Feminist Research Methodologies, GNDR 465/565 Sex, Gender, and the Body, and GNDR 471/571 Seminar in Feminist and Queer Theories offer in-depth scholarly explorations within the field. However, G&SS doesn't stop at theory; MACS courses bring those theories to life through analysis and practical applications in film, comics, literary expression, and public humanities projects. Together, MACS and G&SS empower students to apply interdisciplinary critical thinking to complex issues related to gender, sexuality, race, and social change. Join us on an educational journey that's both intellectually rigorous and creatively engaging, equipping you for a future where adaptability and interconnected knowledge and skills are essential for an ever-evolving world.



MACS: Explore, Create, Transform.

The Future is Now

“So much of what I learned in my G&SS classes has proven useful in the decade since I graduated. First, those classes opened my eyes to exciting new ideas, texts, forms, and frameworks, which complemented and influenced my practice. My first major publication was an experimental text, a form introduced to me not in my MFA classes, but in a G&SS class.”

-Melanie Sweeney Bowen

melaniesweeney_dot_com

G&SS Graduate Minor Alum
Author of *Take Me Home* (Putnam, 2024)

Contact Us For further Inquiries:

Dr. L. Anh Williams, Academic Director, Gender & Sexuality Studies, Email: lawill@nmsu.edu

Dr. M. Catherine Jonet, Associate Professor, Gender & Sexuality Studies Email: mjonet@nmsu.edu

Feminist Border Arts Founders & Directors

Learn more about MACS, its goals, and applications:

genders.nmsu.edu