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The Exploratory Exposé

The Exploratory Newsletter

Being an Exploratory Student allows you to consider all your options and learn about GVSU's various majors before choosing your own path. Our general education curriculum is designed to provide you exposure to a sampling of academic areas while earning credit. GV also provides several other resources to help you discover your path which will be highlighted every month in this Exploratory Newsletter. Read on to learn more, and reach out if you need to!



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THE
EXPLORATORY
TEAM PRESENTS:

MAJORS FAIR

2022

NOVEMBER 2, 2022 |
11-2PM

Need to choose or change
a major?
Considering adding a
minor?
Talk with faculty, staff, and
alumni about any major!

**KIRKHOFF CENTER | GRAND RIVER
ROOM**

CVSU.EDU/EXPLORATORY/MAJORSFAIR

EXPLORATORY
ADVISING

GRAND VALLEY
STATE UNIVERSITY

Major Landing: Women, Gender, & Sexuality Studies



WGS Alum Margie Munoz

How would you describe the Women, Gender, & Sexuality Studies (WGS) Major?

"The best words that come to mind when describing WGS as a major are: knowledge as power, perspective-shifting, community-building, and a space for real-life practice."

A major in Women, Gender, and Sexuality studies is engaging, transformative, and relevant.

What topics would I be studying in this major?

Some topics include: the social constructions of gender and sexuality; community and social change; global feminisms; critical media studies; gender and health; gender and environment and intersectionality.

What made you

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pick WGS as a major?

"I didn't - the major chose me! A friend recommended I take WGS 200 my sophomore year as an elective. This class helped me contextualize and understand questions that were floating around in my mind, it helped me feel seen as a Latina

immigrant, and it challenged my perspectives and understandings of the world around me. I declared WGS as my major by the end of the semester."

How do you use your WGS degree?

"My WGS degree has helped me develop a career deeply invested in supporting individuals in navigating their identities, addressing systemic injustice, and understanding creative solutions for social and cultural obstacles. I have worked in child welfare, program development, resource coordination, and now run my own therapy practice."

WGS students apply their education to careers in:

- Non-profit organizations
- Teaching and administration
- Counseling
- Social services
- Government and international nongovernmental agencies
- Politics and lobbying

What out of the classroom experiences did you gain from your program?

"I gained so many experiences from this program! I interned for the Women's Resource



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through the Women's Community Collaborative program, which was my first exposure to the non-profit world and helped me figure out ways in which my skillset could be beneficial to community work. I was connected to the Planned Parenthood Advocate community of West Michigan, which offered opportunities to engage in community action and legislative efforts. I studied abroad in South Africa, where I was challenged to explore my own assumptions, the differences between change on paper and real social change, and my responsibilities as I benefit from various privileges. I attended the National Women's Studies Association Conference, where I was able to connect with people from around the country, and explore ideas and movements in various areas of social and environmental justice. I also continue to maintain relationships with colleagues and professors, which have provided support, guidance, and solidarity through the events of the past decade"

Out of classroom experiences can include:

- Study abroad
- Faculty led research
- Co-curricular activities
- Internships

What is something that makes WGS stand out?

WGS students are passionate about combining critical and analysis and action to improve their communities on and off campus. The faculty are committed to providing a space for rigorous discussion and learning in a supportive feminist community.



What are tips for someone considering WGS as a major?

"I recommend allowing yourself to enter this major with willingness to learn, be flexible, and think

critically. I also recommend not worrying too much about the major-to-career pathway.

Although this major is not built to streamline students into one specific career field, it is

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adaptive, critical, and productive. In the words of Dr. DeMuth, we need feminists everywhere, and this major allows you to think creatively about how your skillsets and passions can lead to true, practical change in various fields. (Also, be ready to read - but they are interesting readings! I still refer to them today!)"

Any additional information?

WGS offers several introductory level courses (WGS 101, 224, and 255) that are designed to meet Gen Ed requirements and allow you to explore the discipline. Come check us out!

Events

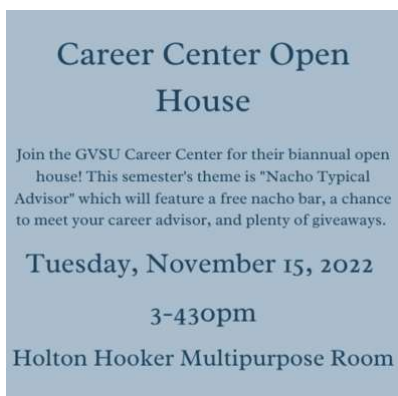
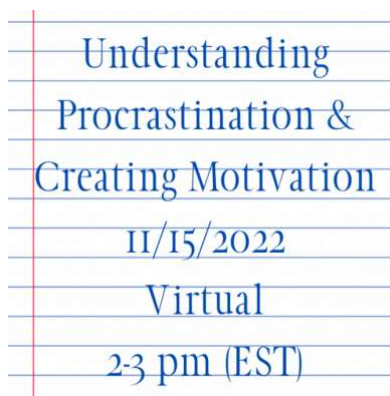
Click on each event to learn more!



The Applied Food & Nutrition bachelor degree program will be hosting a series of information sessions, with tours of the health campus, for prospective AFN students *click here to RSVP and receive meeting details!*

November 4, 2022

10-11am



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Resources

Join a Career Community!

The Career Communities are a way for you to connect with fellow students, faculty, career advisors, employers and career content related to different industry areas. We encourage you to explore the 6 career community options and recommend joining as many as you'd like. By joining a career community you will receive direct communication regarding job & internship postings, events, and specific resources to help you explore the industry area(s) you are interested in. Click on the categories below to learn more and join today!



**Human & Public
Service**



**Business &
Entrepreneurship**



**Communication &
The Arts**



STEM



Healthcare



Education

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Have you considered GV's over 300 clubs? Finding interests through clubs is a great way to explore possible majors. [Lakerlink](#) is your way to connect to organizations.

Every Exploratory Student is assigned an Academic Advisor who will:

- Guide you to resources and tools to make an informed major and career decision
- Help you find courses that will include general education requirements and exploration
- Interpret university policies, procedures, and degree requirements.
- Refer you to campus-wide academic support resources such as tutoring and study skills

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Important Dates

Thanksgiving Day Recess | November 23 - 27

Classes End | December 10

Examinations | December 12 - 17

Semester Ends | December 17

1 Campus Drive
C-1-120 & C-1-140 Mackinac Hall
Allendale, MI 49401

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