

WOMEN AND INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT - BS

The Women¹ and International Development major prepares students to lead and influence in global development work, with a focus on equity, sustainability, and the vital roles women play in shaping resilient communities. Drawing from disciplines such as economics, political science, sociology, and global studies, students examine the forces that drive poverty, inequality, and underdevelopment while learning how to promote more just and inclusive solutions.

Students develop core competencies in applied research, data analysis, policy evaluation, professional writing, and advocacy. The curriculum emphasizes the intersection of gender with global development challenges, helping students understand how structures of power, culture, and economics affect resource distribution and human rights. Whether analyzing the impact of microfinance programs or evaluating public health policy, students gain practical tools to assess needs and recommend data-informed strategies.

This major is especially well-suited for students pursuing careers with NGOs, international aid organizations, government agencies, foundations, or private sector initiatives that promote sustainable development and gender equity. Through coursework, internships, and research opportunities, students graduate ready for roles such as program analysts, policy advocates, research associates, and community development leaders.

Women and International Development majors are encouraged to pursue internships and study abroad experiences that deepen their understanding of global challenges and cross-cultural collaboration. Graduates leave St. Kate's equipped with the skills and global awareness to lead efforts for justice, equity, and sustainable change—living out the university's mission to shape a more just and compassionate world.

¹ Women are people with diverse backgrounds of gender, class, race, sexuality, nation, age and ability. This vision of women is central to St. Catherine University Women's Studies.

See also: Gender and Women's Studies (<https://catalog.stkate.edu/undergraduate/humanities-arts-sciences/womens-studies/>)

his major is offered in the College for Women.

The women¹ and international development major prepares students for development careers in such contexts as NGOs, government agencies, foundations, and private development initiatives. The program emphasizes issues of justice and sustainability, women's roles in communities and organizations, applied research, and women's leadership in development.

With an emphasis on development practice, this major helps students use economic, social, cultural, and political structures to understand the process of development, women's crucial roles in that process, and persistent inequities in the distribution of social and economic goods. Students will learn the context of globalization to understand how to build a just and sustainable global society with equal rights for men and women across nations and cultures.

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Curriculum

This major is offered in the College for Women.

Code	Title	Credits
WOST 2050W	Foundations of Gender and Women's Studies	4
ECON 1120	Economics of Social Issues	4
ECON 2620	Principles of Macroeconomics	4
STAT/ECON/HLTH/PSYC 1090	Statistical Analysis	4
ECON/POSC 3450W	Haves and Have Nots: Development, Poverty, and Inequality	4
ECON 3050	Quantitative Impact Evaluation: Applied Research Skills	4
BIOL 1110 or HLTH 3350	Environmental Biology with Lab Environmental Health	4
POSC 3350 or POSC 3150	Nationalism and Ethnic Conflict Women and Globalization	4
WOST 4850W	Senior Seminar	4
Select two of the following:		8
COMM 3100	Communicating across Cultures, Identities and Differences	
ECON 3480W	International Economics: Trade and Immigration	
HLTH 3250	Global Health	
SOCI 3250	Cultural Anthropology	
SOCI 3450	Women's Issues from Global Perspectives	
Total Credits		44

WOST Courses: Students must take a minimum of five WOST or WOST cross-listed classes (many in the major are cross-listed, see specific classes).

Substantive International Experience: Majors are encouraged to engage in a substantive international experience (such as study abroad, an internship, an independent study, or work/lived experience abroad) during their studies.

Students are encouraged to check course prerequisites prior to planning their individual program of study.

Women¹ and international development majors satisfy the Writing Requirement for Majors by completing WOST 2050W Foundations of Gender and Women's Studies and WOST 4850W Senior Seminar. They complete the Liberal Arts and Sciences Core Writing Requirement with two other writing-intensive courses (CORE 1000W The Reflective Woman and CORE 3990W Global Search for Justice).

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Code	Title	Credits
Fall Term		
ECON 1120	Economics of Social Issues	4
Spring Term		
Select one from:		4
ECON 1080	Statistical Analysis for the Social Sciences	
ECON 1090	Statistical Analysis for Decision Making	
PSYC 1090	Statistical Methods in Psychology	
STAT 1090	Statistical Analysis	
Fall Term		
ECON 2620	Principles of Macroeconomics	4
WOST 2050W	Foundations of Gender and Women's Studies	4
Spring Term		
Select one from:		4
BIOL 1110	Environmental Biology with Lab	
HLTH 3350	Environmental Health	
ECON 3050	Quantitative Impact Evaluation: Applied Research Skills	4
or SOCI 2200	People, Stories and Images: Qualitative Social Research	
Fall Term		
ECON 3450W	Haves and Have Nots: Development, Poverty, and Inequality	4
Select one from:		4
ECON 3480W	International Economics: Trade and Immigration	
HLTH 3250	Global Health	
NPSO 2100	Intro to the Nonprofit Sector	
SOCI 3250	Cultural Anthropology	
SOCI 3450	Women's Issues from Global Perspectives	
Spring Term		
POSC 3150	Women and Globalization	4
or POSC 3350	Nationalism and Ethnic Conflict	
Fall Term		
Complete other graduation requirements		
Spring Term		
WOST 4850W	Senior Seminar	4
Select one from:		4
COMM 3100	Communicating across Cultures, Identities and Differences	
HLTH 3250	Global Health	
SOCI 3250	Cultural Anthropology	
Total Credits		44

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