



GENDER STUDIES MA PROGRAM

2024-2025 Graduate Handbook

GENDER STUDIES MA PROGRAM HANDBOOK 2024-2025

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ORIENTATION

Welcome Message from the Coordinator of the MA Gender Studies Program

Welcome back to your Gender Studies program at UNBC! I am excited to have had the chance to know some of you throughout your studies and even more thrilled to see how your MA serves you in the future.

As you know, UNBC offers an undergraduate degree in Women's Studies and an MA in Gender Studies. Despite being a smaller program on campus, the teaching and learning in this space is transformative. To date, you have likely seen our interdisciplinary nature through faculty and your peers. Each one of you inhabits a specialized space of study which will illuminate your respective topics, some of which will embody lived experience. Our interdisciplinary foundation gives us strength in the social sciences, humanities, including professional programs like social work and education.

You will find exciting courses in politics, peace and security, post-colonialism, Indigenous issues, feminist theory and feminist methods all offered in small class sizes to optimize your learning environment. The discussions you will have in these courses will offer you the skills to address current global and national issues.

UNBC takes pride in our reputation as a small, research-intensive university with a strong community presence. Operating both locally and regionally, we are claiming our stake in conversations and research that matters in the North for the North. In your instructors, you will see empathy, caring natures, and also a compelling reason to push forward to obtain your goals with their encouragement.

As a former student of UNBC, I encourage you to reach out to your peers, faculty, and the incredible range of services we offer on campus. Many folks are waiting in their offices to support you in your journey, so take advantage of those welcoming spaces. My time at UNBC began in 2005 with lifelong friendships and partnerships that I carry with me today as a faculty member and your outgoing Program Coordinator. Reach out and get involved!

Again, welcome back to your Gender Studies MA program. I wish you every success in your studies and beyond.

Dr. Jessie King, Hadiksm Gaax
Outgoing Coordinator, Women's and Gender Studies

WHAT DO I NEED TO DO IN MY FIRST TWO WEEKS AS A GRADUATE STUDENT IN GENDER STUDIES AT UNBC?

1. Select courses to be taken in the first year. (Go to page 13 to see the courses available).

If you are a *coursework (without thesis)* student or a *thesis* student, do this in consultation with your assigned supervisor.

2. Complete Course [Registration Form](#).
Note: The graduate registration process has changed. Please review the information on the [Registration Guide](#) page before submitting the form. This form is submitted to the Office of the Registrar once completed.

3. Submit Course Registration Form at the Registrar's Office (located beside the Library) and receive your Student Identification Card at the Cashier's Office (located in the Agora across from the Security Office). Payment of Fees will be required at this point!

4. Read carefully through the [2024-2025 Graduate Academic Calendar](#). The Graduate Calendar contains important information about graduate studies at UNBC, including all relevant policies and regulations.

5. Obtain an email account from the Computer Help Desk (located in the Lab Building, 8-265, Phone: (250) 960-5321, Email: support@unbc.ca). You require an official UNBC email account for all communications and for accessing e-learning technology in your courses.

6. Please find enclosed, on page 16 of the Handbook, information from the Graduate Student Society (GSS) on the location of the Graduate Lounge and other information they can provide you.

7. ***Attend chosen classes!***

WORDS OF WISDOM

Faculty and graduate students have offered some words of advice to help new students through some of the difficulties often experienced during graduate studies. We hope this 20/20 hindsight will help you avoid some of the common pitfalls experienced by graduate students and sail through your studies here at UNBC.

- **MEET PEOPLE!** Get to know your fellow graduate students since they will be your most important resources during your course studies at UNBC and time in Prince George. This includes students who are ahead of you in the program – they are likely to be happy to answer your questions from everything about how to find an apartment and to navigate the academic resources on campus.
- **GET TO KNOW A LIBRARIAN!** Pay a visit to the university library and ask a librarian to show you around and learn about the resources available to you. We have some of the most knowledgeable and nicest librarians in the business – go meet them! The subject librarian for Gender Studies is Heather Empey, (heather.empey@unbc.ca) you can set up an appointment with her for research help through <https://library.unbc.ca/>.
- **PREP FOR SUCCESS!** The Academic Success Centre <http://www.unbc.ca/academic-success-centre> has several handouts <http://www.unbc.ca/academic-success-centre/proposal-and-thesis-writing-tools> and resources for thesis writing and research. It is in your best interest to peruse these materials as they contain important information that will help you through many academic challenges.
- **EXPLORE NATURE!** Take the time to explore the fantastic natural areas around Prince George such as Forests for the World (on campus!) or the Ancient Forest a short drive nearby. There is a multitude of hiking trails to enjoy all summer long. A good place to find out about all this is to check out the student-run Outdoors Club (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/UNBCOutdoorsClub/>) or the community-based Caledonia Ramblers (<https://caledoniaramblers.ca>).
- **GET OUTSIDE!** If you are not accustomed to the long Canadian winter, the best way to enjoy it and avoid ‘cabin fever’ is to learn to play in the snow. For instance, try snowshoeing around the university hill; learn to cross-country ski at Otway Nordic Ski Centre; downhill ski or snowboard at the Hart Ski Hill, Tabor Mountain, Purden Ski Village, or Powder King; ice skate at the Ice Oval by the bottom of the university hill; take up curling; or even fish on a frozen lake. This is the best way to get sunshine; in addition, exercise and fresh air clear your mind and offer an exciting escape from your reading and papers! Getting active outside is also a great way to meet people in the community.
- **PREFER THE INDOORS?** If you want to try and avoid the winter cold or

summer heat, there are plenty of indoor activities available as well. Located just down the road from the university is the [Aquatic Centre](#), one of two of Prince George's indoor pools. Downtown (but still reachable by bus) is the [Canfor Leisure Pool](#). This pool was just recently built and offers many great options for anyone looking for a place to swim. There are [indoor ice skating](#) rinks available during the winter months that will limit your exposure to the cold. Please check out the City of Prince George webpage for information on skating times and locations. Check out your [local community centre/hall](#) for any events they may be hosting as well. [The Prince George Public Library](#) hosts a wide variety of events, even some that involve graduate students. Check out their website for more information.

- CHECK OUT LOCAL ARTS! Prince George is home to [Theatre Northwest](#), a professional theatre organization. Prince George also has community theatre and improv groups (e.g. Nechako Community Theatrics Society.) Interested in live music? Many of the locally run restaurants host live music nights weekly or monthly. Check out a variety of local restaurants and their FaceBook pages to learn when they are hosting musicians. [The Omineca Arts Centre](#) also hosts a variety of events as well as live music. The City of Prince George has a list of local community events on [their website](#). [The Two Rivers Art Gallery](#) is located in downtown Prince George and is a great place to visit to see local artists' work. It wouldn't be a section about the arts without mentioning [Studio 2880](#). Check out their wide variety of events, groups, and more that are open to all.

CONTACT INFORMATION

MA GENDER STUDIES FACULTY Contact Information

Name, Title & Department	Email	Phone	Office
Coordinator - TBA			
Dr. Jacqueline Holler, Professor (<i>History</i>)	Jacqueline.Holler@unbc.ca	250-960-6343	ADM 3003
Dr. Maryna Romanets, Professor (<i>English</i>)	Maryna.Romanets@unbc.ca	250-960-6658	ADM 3079
Dr. Kristen Guest, Professor (<i>English</i>)	Kristen.Guest@unbc.ca	250-960-6642	ADM 3072
Dr. Catherine Nolin, Professor (<i>Geography</i>)	Catherine.Nolin@unbc.ca	250-960-5875	LAB8 148
Dr. Fiona MacPhail, Professor (<i>Economics</i>)	Fiona.Macphail@unbc.ca	250-960-6660	TAL 4536
Dr. Dana Wessell Lightfoot, Professor (<i>History</i>)	Dana.Wessellightfoot@unbc.ca	250-960-5706	ADM 3010
Dr. Angele Smith, Professor (<i>Anthropology</i>)	Angele.Smith@unbc.ca	250-960-6492	ADM 3057
Dr. Annie Duchesne, Assistant Professor (<i>Psychology</i>)	Annie.Duchesne@unbc.ca	250-960-6633	TAL 3554
Dr. Gabrielle Daoust, Assistant Professor (<i>Global and International Studies</i>)	Gabrielle.Daoust@unbc.ca	250-960-6015	ADM 3006
Dr. Sara Farhan, Assistant Professor (<i>History</i>)	Sara.Farhan@unbc.ca	250-960-5759	ADM 3092
Dr. Luna KC, Assistant Professor (<i>Global and International Studies</i>)	Luna.Kc@unbc.ca	250-960-6014	ADM 3005
Dr. Loraine Lavallee, Assistant Professor (<i>Psychology</i>)	Lorraine.Lavallee@unbc.ca	250-960-6500	TAL 3560

ADDITIONAL CONTACT INFORMATION

WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES			
Administrative Assistant	womens.studies@unbc.ca	250-960-6668	ADM 3073
FACULTY OF INDIGENOUS STUDIES, SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES (FISSSH) DEAN'S OFFICE			
Dr. Kriston Rennie Dean of FISSSH	kriston.rennie@unbc.ca	250-960-5892	ADM 3012
Selina Ross Administrative Coordinator (FISSSH)	selina.ross@unbc.ca	250-960-5822 250-960-5545 (Fax)	ADM 3013
OFFICE OF GRADUATE ADMINISTRATION			
Jill Mitchell Nielsen Associate Registrar, Graduate	jill.mitchellnielsen@unbc.ca	250-960-5244	7-788
Michelle Stephens Graduate Admissions & Retention Officer	Michelle.stephens@unbc.ca	250-960-5125	7-113
Mariah Snih Graduate Services Enrollment Representative	Mariah.snih@unbc.ca	250-960-5249	7-115
Enrolment Services Representative for Graduate Programs	grad-office@unbc.ca		
OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR			
Admissions Officer	graduate-admissions@unbc.ca		

**MA GENDER
STUDIES
INFORMATION**

MA Gender Studies Program Requirements

The Gender Studies MA program at UNBC offers the opportunity to work with scholars in a variety of disciplines who share a focus on women and/or gender as a category of analysis.

The program has particular strengths in areas such as gender, literature, and cultural studies; gender, history, and anthropology; gender, colonialism, and postcolonialism; gender and globalization; feminism, justice, and ethics; gender and health; and gender and international studies. Gender Studies MA students have the opportunity to design a course of study that incorporates gender- or feminism-based methodologies and interdisciplinarity while developing expertise in an area of concentration. While providing a transnational frame of reference, we also pay attention to the national and regional; students will therefore emerge from the program with both a broad analytical framework and a well-developed focus.

Requirements

MA with Thesis

The MA with thesis is 24 credit hours in total, normally taking up to two years.

Fifteen credit hours (five courses) plus [GNDR 700-9](#) (Gender Studies Thesis) are required. Students may take a maximum of four courses per semester. The thesis includes a written text (maximum of 100 pages) and is defended in an oral examination. Students interested in alternative forms of presentation must obtain special permission from the Chair of the program and Dean.

MA thesis work is expected to be original, and make a substantive contribution to knowledge and the means of expressing that knowledge.

Students are required to include in their credit hours [GNDR 611-3](#) (Feminist Theories). Students working in the field of Social Science research are required to include in their credit hours [GNDR 611-3](#) (Feminist Theories) and [GNDR 609-3](#) (Advanced Feminist Methods).

MA without Thesis

The MA with course work only is 24 credit hours, and can be completed in one year.

Twenty-one credit hours (seven courses) plus [GNDR 701-3](#) (Gender Studies Major Research Paper) are required. Students may take a maximum of four courses per

semester. The major research paper is expected to be 30 to 40 pages, and to extend from an original research project already initiated in course work.

Students are required to include in their credit hours [GNDR 611-3](#) (Feminist Theories). Students working in the field of Social Science research are required to include in their credit hours [GNDR 611-3](#) (Feminist Theories) and [GNDR 609-3](#) (Advanced Feminist Methods).

Students taking either the MA with Thesis or MA without Thesis may take courses in other graduate programs with the approval of the Chair or the Coordinator of the Gender Studies Program and the Dean. The interdisciplinary component in the Gender Studies program encourages students to articulate their studies with other interdisciplinary graduate programs such as International Studies, Environmental Studies, and First Nations Studies. Students may also choose to take graduate courses in the regular disciplinary fields such as History, Biology, and Political Science.

Course selection for students in GNDR MA
Fall 2024–Winter 2025

RED = required
GREEN = Gender Studies course

Fall 2024

GNDR 609 – Advanced Feminist Methods – (3 credit hours)
GNDR 616 – Gender and Politics (3 credit hours)
GNDR 698 A1 – Gender, Peace and Security (3 credit hours)
GNDR 698 A2 – Contemporary Women’s Literature (3 credit hours)

Winter 2025

GNDR 611 – Contemporary Feminist Theories (3 credit hours)
GNDR 706 – Contemporary Theory (3 credit hours) **crosslisted** with **ENGL 600** – Advanced Contemporary Theory

Please contact your Graduate Advisor regarding selecting your elective courses.

UNBC RESOURCES

Prince George Campus Building Directory

Room numbers include building code prefixes. For example, room 5-152 is located in the Geoffrey R. Weller Library (Building 5), and room 8-322 is located in the Teaching Laboratory (Building 8).

The first number after the building code prefix indicates the floor level on which the room is located. For example, room 10-4520 is located on the fourth floor in the Teaching and Learning Centre (Building 10).

- | | | | |
|---|-------------------------|---|------------------------|
| 1 | Human Resources | A | Canfor Theatre |
| 2 | UNBC Bookstore | B | Weldwood Theatre 7-238 |
| 3 | Security | C | Lecture Theatre 7-212 |
| 4 | Recruitment & Advising | D | Lecture Theatre 7-150 |
| 5 | Office of the Registrar | E | Lecture Theatre 7-152 |
| 6 | First Nations Centre | F | Lecture Theatre 7-158 |
| 7 | Continuing Studies | G | Lecture Theatre 7-200 |
| 8 | Gymnasium | H | Lecture Theatre 7-164 |
| 9 | Field House | I | Lecture Theatre 7-166 |

 Elevator  Main Entrance



NORTHERN BRITISH COLUMBIA GRADUATE STUDENTS' SOCIETY (NBCGSS)



NBCGSS Services

Download the NBCGSS Mobile app here:

[NBCGSS Mobile App on Google Play](#)

[NBCGSS Mobile App on iTunes](#)

Helpful Links

[Access Resource Centre](#)

[Academic Success Centre](#)

[Alumni](#)

[Career Centre](#)

[Centre for Teaching, Learning and Technology \(CTLT\)](#)

[Childcare Centre](#)

[First Nation Centre](#)

[Northern Women's Centre](#)

[Office of Graduate Administration](#)

[UNBC Medical Clinic](#)

On Campus Services

[Degrees Coffee Company](#)

[Thirsty Moose Pub](#)

[CFUR Radio Station](#)

[Northern Pride Centre](#)

[Northern Undergraduate Student Society \(NUGSS\)](#)

[Over The Edge Newspaper](#)

[Prince George Public Interest Research Group \(PGPIRG\)](#)

STUDENT COMPUTER LABS

Student [Computer Lab](#) Locations:

- 7-105 General Purpose - First Nations Centre
- 8-127 Teaching Only
- 8-129 Teaching Only
- 8-362 General Purpose and Teaching **** (open 24 hrs 7 days a week)****
- 8-365 General Purpose and Teaching
- 10-3034 General Purpose and Teaching

Lab Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00 am to 9:00 pm ******

For more information on Student Lab configurations please choose a lab

If you have inquires, comments, or concerns please visit the [IT Service Desk](#)

SERVICE DESK

The Computer Helpdesk is here to assist faculty, staff and students with all of their computing needs. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, we are always happy to assist in any way we can.

[IT Services for Students](#)

Location:

Second floor of the Teaching Lab, room (8-265).

Service Desk Hours:

Spring & Summer

Monday - Friday 8:00 am to 4:30 pm

*****Closed Saturday & Sunday*****

Fall & Winter

Monday - Friday 8:00 am to 4:30 pm

Monday - Friday 4:30 pm to 9:00 pm

*****Student Assistance only*****

Weekends 11:00 am to 4:00 pm

*****Student Assistance only*****

Contact:

Telephone: 250-960-5321

Toll Free: 866-960-5321

Email: support@unbc.ca

ALL GRADUATE FORMS
CAN BE FOUND AT:

<http://www.unbc.ca/graduatestudies>

Please refer to this site for
ALL graduate information.

**OTHER
RESOURCES
AND
INFORMATION**

FINANCIAL AWARDS AND ASSISTANCE

Funding your graduate education can be a challenge. Make sure you invest time in finding out what funding opportunities are available to you from UNBC and other external sources. Below is a list of some places to start. Do not leave this for the last minute, and make note of upcoming deadlines (many are in the fall and spring). Apply early and often!

If you have questions about applying for UNBC Awards and Financial Aid, contact awards@unbc.ca or 250-960-6319.

If you have questions about tips for applying for external scholarships, make an appointment to speak with Dr. Jacqueline Holler, Coordinator.

UNBC Teaching Assistantships

There are a small number of UNBC TAships available in Women's and Gender Studies. Graduate students in Gender Studies are also eligible for TAships in other departments for which they are qualified. Available positions are posted on the Human Resources Career Opportunities webpage.

Visit: <https://www.unbc.ca/career-opportunities/current-graduate-teaching-assistantship-postings>

Research Assistantships

Research Assistantships become available when MA Gender Studies faculty members secure external research grants. Students are normally approached by faculty holding grants to work as research assistants.

UNBC Awards and Financial Aid

Check out the Office of Graduate Programs webpage (<http://www.unbc.ca/financial-aid>) for information about potential university and outside funding for your studies. Don't forget to also check out the Office of Graduate Programs' on-line Scholarship, Bursary and Award Guide at <https://www.unbc.ca/graduate-programs/awards/awards-and-scholarships-introduction> .

UNBC offers internal grants to graduate students for research and conference expenses: a valuable resource if you are conducting field research or presenting a paper. See <https://www.unbc.ca/research/internal-funding-opportunities> for more information.

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Scholarships

The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) of Canada offers graduate scholarships for Canadian students.

Visit: <http://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/> and click on "Search for Funding".

Funding for International Students

If you are an international student, the Government of Canada has a limited number of scholarships available for non-Canadian students. <http://www.scholarships-bourses.gc.ca/scholarships-bourses/index.aspx?lang=eng>

INTERNSHIPS

Internships (paid or unpaid) are a great way to put your research into practice during or after your MA studies. It is ever more common for internships to be a platform for launching a future career. Below are some Canadian and international programs relevant for students with a Gender Studies background.

Government of Canada International Youth Internship Program

The federal government's International Youth Internship Program is open to interns aged 19—30 and has a particular focus on implementing Canada's Feminist International Assistance Policy. Visit: https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/study_work_travel-etude_travail_voyage/youth_internship-stages_jeunes.aspx?lang=eng

Equality Fund

This initiative, funded by the Government of Canada, fosters “sustainable investment in gender equality” and offers internships.

Visit: <https://equalityfund.ca>

United Nations (UN) Internship Programme

The UN provides opportunities for students enrolled in a graduate programme to undertake an internship at its Headquarters in New York, Geneva, Vienna, Nairobi, Addis Ababa, Bangkok, Beirut and Santiago. In addition, interns are welcomed at various UN agencies.

Visit: <https://www.un.org/en/academic-impact/page/internships>

UN Women Internship Programme

UN Women, like other UN agencies, regularly offers internships to highly qualified graduate students.

Visit: <https://www.unwomen.org/en/about-us/employment/internship-programme>

World Bank Internship Program

This paid internship seeks candidates in economics, finance, human development (public health, education, nutrition, and population), social science (anthropology, sociology), agriculture, environment, private sector development, as well as other related fields. Fluency in English is required. Women are particularly encouraged to apply.

Visit: <https://www.worldbank.org/en/about/careers/programs-and-internships/internship>

Asian Development Bank (ADB) Internship Program

The Internship Program is a project-oriented learning opportunity for graduate students to gain experience through research assignments based on ADB's current operational needs. ADB advertises internship assignments three times per year and welcomes motivated, open-minded, and self-directed individuals to apply.

Visit: <https://www.adb.org/site/careers/internship-program>

Oxfam Internships and Volunteering

Oxfam is one of the largest international non-governmental organizations in the world with offices in dozens of countries and has a particular interest in women's rights.

Visit: <http://oxf.am/Jiv>

Human Rights Watch (HRW) Internships

Human Rights Watch offers internship opportunities in many of their global offices.

Internship descriptions vary but may include desk research, drafting documents, assisting with event planning, helping researchers prepare for missions, monitoring human rights developments in various countries, data analysis, liaising with current and prospective donors, and engaging in advocacy efforts aimed at curtailing human rights violations.

Visit: <http://www.hrw.org/about/volunteering>

EMPLOYMENT

Below are some websites that are helpful for employment in the public and non-profit sectors once you have completed your studies.

Gender-Related Jobs and Consulting Opportunities

Charity Village is the top Canadian source for Canada non-profit news, non-profit jobs, non-profit funding, non-profit training and more.

Visit: <http://charityvillage.com/>

DevNetJobs - This website contains hundreds of international development jobs around the world.

Visit: <http://www.devnetjobs.org/>

Development/Environment Jobs - This is a development and environmental policy jobs listings site run by the Guardian newspaper in the UK.

Visit: <http://www.devnetjobs.org/>

Policy Jobs in Canada/Abroad

Canadian Foreign/Diplomatic Service:

Careers in Global Affairs Canada are global in scale, offering you a wealth of international perspectives that increase your professional skills and expand your cultural perceptions.

Visit: <https://www.international.gc.ca/qac-amc/careers-carrieres/index.aspx?lang=eng>

Federal Government Jobs- Website with links to jobs in the Canadian government and working in Canada.

Visit: <http://www.jobbank.gc.ca/>

United Nations

Career opportunities with the *United Nations* and related links.

Visit: <https://careers.un.org/lbw/Home.aspx>

CONSIDERING FURTHER GRADUATE STUDIES?

Many of our graduates have gone onto further graduate studies. If you are seriously considering pursuing further graduate studies, speak to the Gender Studies Coordinator about applying to other masters and doctoral programs in Canada and abroad.

Gender Studies–related research, education, and activism opportunities @UNBC

UNBC houses three organizations focussed on women and gender, all of which welcome student participation.

The first of these is the Northern Feminist Institute for Research and Evaluation (Northern FIRE), which focusses on research relating to gender and health, understood in the broadest terms. Students are welcome to join the institute as student associates or simply to attend events and colloquia. For more information, see <https://www2.unbc.ca/northern-fire>

The Northern Women's Centre is a collective-run organization that offers education, events, and leadership on women's issues on campus and in the Prince George community. The centre also has a 24-hour-a-day lounge available to all self-identified women, which is a safe space to relax and meet other women on campus. Check it out! <https://web.unbc.ca/~empower/>

Finally, Inspiring Women Among Us (IWAU) is an annual series of events highlighting women and women's issues. Students are welcome to attend events and volunteer. For more information, see <https://iwau.ca> .