

Clark University

women's studies



A Matter of Definition

What, exactly, is women's studies? And why pursue it at the college level? At Clark University, women's studies is the opportunity to learn of women's perspectives through many disciplines, and—according to one faculty member—a field that "helps us in the task of 're-inventing' women."

"We need to study women as cultural instruments, to understand how history as well as biology have defined what we have been...to begin to envision what we might become."

Clark, itself, is a four-year,

coeducational liberal arts institution in Worcester, Massachusetts—with a graduate school and evening division—offering a variety of academic majors to bachelor's degree candidates as well as special concentrations (or "minors"). Here, the learning process can be formal or informal; it is always personal and intense.

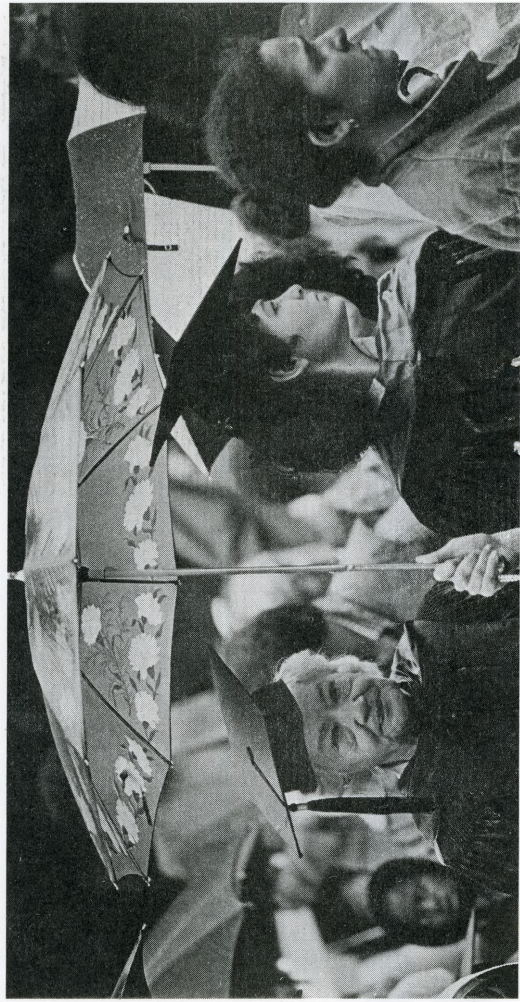
In the words of a recent alumna, "Clark is not a place where you simply absorb or memorize. The University is not parochial. Its teaching demonstrates an acute awareness of the world."

Although these comments apply to many University programs, they are particularly true of Clark's women's studies curriculum, a curriculum that includes academic course offerings, internship opportunities, extracurricular workshops, and a broad range of cultural and social programs and committees.

And because the exploration of women's roles and contributions transcends rigid, departmental boundaries, the Women's Studies Program is interdisciplinary by design. Its offerings span and

integrate the arts, humanities, and social sciences. Its courses are cross-listed with the Departments of Sociology, English, International Development, Geography, Comparative Literature, Government, Philosophy, and more.

In sum, the program is a partnership between faculty members and students. Although there is no major in women's studies at Clark, a newly-created "concentration" permits an in-depth focus in conjunction with an established major, as well as diverse individual course offerings for the more casual women's studies participant.



In Specific Terms

Since 1976, Clark faculty, students, and administrative staff have cooperated in developing the Women's Studies Program and a corresponding concentration. A student wishing to concentrate in women's studies should:

- major in an established academic department or pursue a self-designed major
- take part in an internship experience under faculty supervision—a practical,

"real-world" application of theoretical issues that involve changing female/male roles in contemporary society

- complete three additional academic courses listed as part of the Women's Studies Program.



Courses

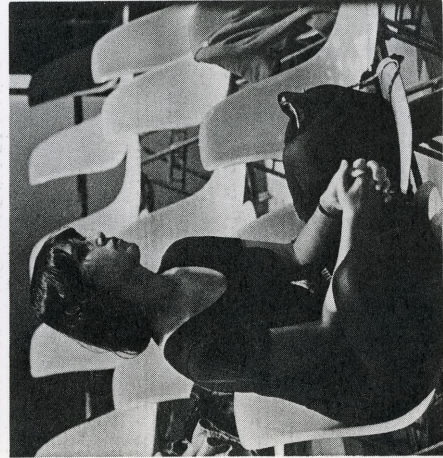
The program continues to develop and evolve by adding to and refining current academic offerings. Courses now offered at Clark through the undergraduate college and the University's College of Professional and Continuing Education include:

Seminar: Virginia Woolf Women Writers
Comparative Politics of Women
International Development and Social Change Economic Planning and Development
Introduction to Women's Studies
The Family

Female Sexuality as Reflected in Jewish Sources
Seminar in Development
Geography (focusing on the theme of women and socioeconomic change)
Exploring Women's Career Potential: Self Assessment and Self Esteem
Financial Planning for Women
Modern Fiction by Women Writers
French/Comparative Literature—
French and American Feminism:
A Cross-cultural Study

Women and Politics
Women and Crime
Advanced Topics in the Anthropology of Women
Sociology of Sex Roles
Criminal Justice in America
Women and Philosophy

Internships



Complementing classroom analysis, the Women's Studies Program encourages students to take part in internships offered by specialized institutions in the Worcester community as well as in nearby Boston and Cambridge. Among the organizations providing field experiences for Clark students are: Daybreak (a shelter for battered women), Child Protective Services, School-age Mother's Program, Worcester Pregnancy Counseling, Family Pregnancy Services, and a Worcester Rape Crisis Center. In

addition, several humanities-based internships (for example, working on a women's newspaper or with a specialized women's publishing house) give students practical experience in the field of communications. And there are other alternative internships possible: Currently under exploration are programs that involve public television, YWCA activities, and creative writing experiences that emphasize a student's working relationship with a professional author.

Special Programs

Beyond the formal aspects of the program, women's studies at Clark is committed to the idea that learning is also an informal, cooperative process. Thus, participating Clark faculty support and encourage shared, nontraditional education.

In conjunction with the Clark Women's Center, the program acts as a resource for women and men who may wish to share their research or discuss personal and social concerns. Related, informal programs at Clark include:

Brown Bag Seminars — luncheon meetings with recent

Clark graduates who often discuss their experiences with alternative life-choices for women.

Feminist Study Groups — short-term, issue oriented groups. Proposed topics include body-image, balancing career and home, mothering, sexual harassment, and re-entry of women students.

Masculinity in Transition Study Groups — informal discussions of issues related to changing male/female roles, the masculine power structure and sexism, the prescribed male role in America, male socialization, and the women's rights movement.

Lecture Series and Special Presentations — reports, by faculty members and other lecturers, on issues of special interest to women; poetry readings; slide presentations; films; and concerts.

Other On-campus Resources — the Clark Women's Center, which sponsors a variety of programs and houses a library of books and magazines generally unavailable elsewhere at the University; and the Women and Politics Library, which maintains country by country files of press clippings, conference papers, and research articles.

Faculty

Ximena Bunster B., Ph.D., Visiting Associate Professor of Social Anthropology; Director, Women's Studies Program, 1979-80

Anne Buttimer, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Geography

Cynthia H. Enloe, Ph.D., Professor of Government
(On leave 1979-80)

Serena S. Hilsinger, Ph.D., Professor of English

Ce Ce Iandoli, College of Professional and Continuing Education

Kirsten Johnson, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Geography

Bernard Kaplan, Ph.D., Professor of Psychology

Dorothy Kaufmann-McCall, Ph.D., Associate Professor of French

Helen J. Kenney, Ed.D., Professor of Education

Sharon P. Krefetz, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Government

Arline Rotman, J.D., College of Professional and Continuing Education

Karen Sacks, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Social Anthropology
(On leave 1979-80)

Edward E. Sampson, Ph.D., Professor of Sociology, Adjunct Professor of Psychology

Ann Seidman, Ph.D., Professor of International Development (Affiliate)

Elizabeth A. Stanko, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Sociology

Lois Wasserspring, M.A., Visiting Assistant Professor of Government

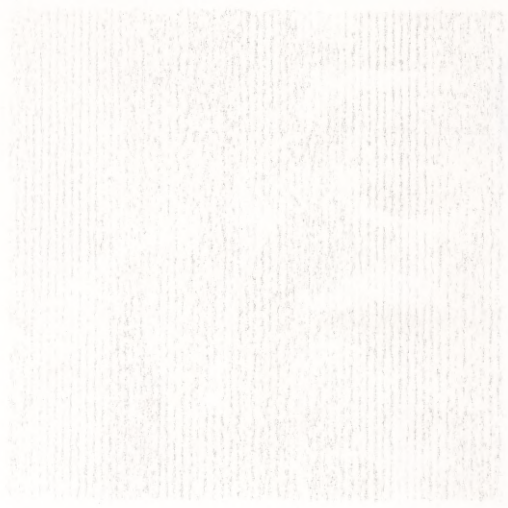
Walter Wright, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Philosophy

For additional information about Clark University, please contact: Admissions Office, Clark University, Worcester, Massachusetts 01610, (617) 793-7431. Clark Admissions officers will be pleased to provide all interested students with additional information regarding requirements, costs, financial aid, application procedures, and all academic programs.

Please request specific information about the Women's Studies Program at Clark by contacting: Program Director of Women's Studies, Room 413 Academic Center, Clark University, Worcester, MA 01610.

It is the policy of Clark University not to discriminate against any applicant on basis of race, color, sex, religion, age, national origin, financial condition, or presence of any handicap. The University encourages minorities, women, the handicapped, and persons between 40 and 70 years of age to apply.





CLARK UNIVERSITY

950 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01610



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