

INTRODUCTION

The Department of Women and Development Studies, which is the only one in the Philippines and a pioneer in the Asia-Pacific region, aims to provide a historical and comprehensive perspective to the study of gender and development particularly in the context of the South and the Philippines.

Its objectives include:

- ⌘ To examine the conditions and position of women and men in the local national, regional, and global setting;
- ⌘ To conduct and disseminate researches towards greater participation and empowerment of women in the context of more equitable gender relations;
- ⌘ To assess development frameworks and strategies as these affect women and men, and encourage the formulation and propagation of alternatives which aims to strengthen women's movement and organizations vis-a-vis larger formations of women and men;

⌘ To critique existing theories and at the same time engage in theory building which can better capture the realities and perspectives of women and men in the Philippines and other countries in the South;

⌘ To provide theoretical knowledge and advanced competencies in gender-related teaching, research, project and program planning and management, gender mainstreaming, organizing, and training through direct field experiences; and

⌘ To facilitate advocacy of women's and gender issues and networking for gender equality, and women's rights and empowerment.

The program provides invaluable opportunities for participants to be directly involved in activities which empower women:



Diploma in Women and Development (Dip WD):

Designed as an intermediate program for individuals interested in women's and gender studies as an academic discipline which relates theory to practice, and which brings them in contact with development practitioners as well as expose them to actual field experiences. Students may proceed to MAWD program after completion.

Master of Arts in Women and Development (MAWD):

Designed as advanced training for women and gender advocates, educators, development practitioners, and other interested individuals, both women and men aiming to be better organizers, educators, trainers, researchers, project and program planners and managers, policy formulators, and extension workers by situating their activities in the context of feminist and development theories.

Two tracks are offered from which students can choose depending on their interests and needs.

Plan A: With thesis but no comprehensive examination

Plan B: Without thesis but with comprehensive examination

Main Feature

The main feature of the WD programs is the division of the curricula into clusters, each of which is designed to attain specific objectives. The first and last modules, namely, core courses and field work, are common to diploma and masteral programs, while the electives and cognates are selected by masteral students depending on their needs and interests:

Required General Courses – provide a firm foundation in terms of basic theories, approaches, and strategies essential to development work with a gender perspective and towards gender equality and women’s empowerment.

WD Elective Courses – focused on the development of specific knowledge and/or competencies in the areas of feminist pedagogy, counseling, policy advocacy, and gender-related national and international development work.

Cognates – provide in-depth analysis of problems and issues related to gender and development from the perspective of related or allied disciplines – e.g., social work, community development, sociology, anthropology, psychology, etc.

Field Work Courses – direct field experience and practice to test and enrich knowledge gained in the classroom.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Bachelor’s degree holders with a general weighted average of at least 2.00 or better in social science courses or their equivalents may apply for admission to the graduate programs. At least one month before the regular registration period of the first semester of any school year, the applicant must submit the following:

- a duly accomplished application form for admission
- an official transcript of academic records of the highest degree obtained by the applicant
- a diploma or certificate of graduation obtained by the applicant
- at least two letters of reference from persons who are in the best position to assess the applicant’s potential for graduate work; and
- for non-English students, a certificate of English proficiency, with at least a grade of 500 (paper mode) or 1.78 (computerized mode)

BASIC CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS

The curricular and units requirements for the three graduate programs in women and development are as follows:

Module	Dip.WD	MAWD Plan A	MAWD Plan B
Core courses	18	24	21
Electives/Cognates*	3	3	12
Fieldwork Courses	3	3	6
Thesis	---	6	---
Comprehensive examination	**	---	**
Total Units Load	24	36	39

*Any level of 200 course in women, gender and developmental studies, CD, SW and social sciences
 ** take the comprehensive exam given by the DWDS

Requirements for Graduation



Requirements	Diploma - WD	MAWD - Plan A	MAWD - Plan A
Residence	1 full year	1 full year	1 full year
No. Of units approved	24 units of approved courses	36 units of approved courses	39 units of approved courses
Weighted Average Grade for retention/graduation	GWA of 2.0 in all courses	GWA of 2.0 in all courses	GWA of 2.0 in all courses
Thesis/Comprehensive Examination	Passing a written comprehensive exam	Submission of an approved thesis after passing an oral exam	Passing a written comprehensive exam



LIST OF GRADUATE COURSES:

CORE COURSES

WD 201 WOMEN, GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT: HISTORY AND PERSPECTIVES. A historical overview of women's issues and of gender relations in the context of development, serving as an introduction to women, gender and development studies. 3 units.

WD 210 FEMINIST THEORIES AND MOVEMENTS. An examination of main currents of feminist thought and movements. 3 units.

WD 221 FEMINIST PERSPECTIVES AND STRATEGIES IN ORGANIZING. Presentation and critique of local and international experiences in women's organizing, linking the feminist perspectives learned in other WD core courses to the strategies and processes involved in organizing women. 3 units.

WD 227 GENDER AND SEXUALITY. Introduction to the study of gender and sexuality as a core area of women, gender and development studies, emphasizing the equality of its investigation and reconstruction to feminist theorizing and politics. 3 units.

WD 230 WOMEN, GENDER, AND WORK. An examination of concepts of work from an interdisciplinary perspective, the situation of women and men at work globally, regionally, and nationally in the light of globalization, the different spheres, sectors, and areas within which women and men work, and strategies for change based on responses and initiatives of various stakeholders. 3 units.

WD 231 GENDER-RESPONSIVE PLANNING AND ADMINISTRATION. Gender planning processes and methodology covering three continuous stages, policy-making, planning and the administrative actions to transform the plans into reality, thereby ensuring that development programs, projects, and institutions contribute to women's empowerment. 3 units.

WD 291 WOMEN, GENDER, AND DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH. Theoretical and methodological perspectives and issues in doing feminist developmental research. 3 units.

WD 292 FEMINIST RESEARCH PERSPECTIVES AND METHODS. A more in depth study of qualitative and quantitative methods which have been used in women, gender and development studies. 3 units.

WD ELECTIVES

WD 270 SPECIAL TOPICS I (May be taken more than once).
GENDER, CULTURE AND IDEOLOGY
FEMINISM IN THE THIRD WORLD
FEMINIST PEDAGOGY
WOMEN, GENDER AND PSYCHOLOGY

WD 271 SPECIAL TOPICS II (may be taken more than once).
FEMINIST ALTERNATIVES IN COUNSELLING
GENDER AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
GENDER AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
WOMEN, GENDER AND HUMAN RIGHTS

FIELD INSTRUCTION

WD 280 WOMEN, GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT FIELD INSTRUCTION I. Supervised field practice in actual community immersion and community work with focus on women's situation and gender relations. Prerequisites: All core courses. 3 units.

WD 281 WOMEN, GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT FIELD INSTRUCTION II. Supervised field practice for students to develop critical analysis of the situation of women and men, implement interventions and develop specialized skills in organizational and program management and other aspects of development work. Prerequisite: WD 280. 3 units.

THESIS AND COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION

WD 300 THESIS. Plan A. 6 units.
COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION. Plan B