

## **Gender and Sexuality Studies Program Writing Plan**

This document identifies the importance and types of writing done in gender and sexuality study courses, defines expectations for Writing Emphasis courses, and describes how student outcomes are met within the program.

### **Values**

Writing is used in gender and sexuality studies as an important mode of reflection and analysis of historical, social, and individual experience, as well as a tool to learn how to apply theoretical and critical perspectives effectively and appropriately. Therefore, the focus is on clear, specific, nuanced, effective, and empathic written communication. In particular, the program values:

- Demonstration of reading comprehension and the synthesis of information
- Demonstration of critical thinking, analysis, and personal reflection
- Well-organized, structured, focused writing
- Use of evidence to support claims with appropriate citation
- Appropriate use of voice, style, and register
- Revision of longer written texts
- Ability to clearly and effectively summarize and present written texts orally

### **Development of Skills and Activities**

The program sees writing as a process of thought as well as expression, and therefore emphasizes a dialogic engagement with course material and other students. To do so, we teach using the following methods:

- Short, frequent writing assignments offering reflections and feedback
- Evaluation of and commentary on scholarly and media texts
- Revision, including peer-review and multiple drafts
- Scaffolding writing through use of “elevator speeches” and writing abstracts of longer papers
- Use of personal voice and creative forms of written expression
- Inclusion of multiple voices, including secondary sources and interview notes/transcripts
- Engagement with social media forms and texts

### **Types of Texts We Create**

- Response papers
- Summaries of scholarly journal articles
- Comparative analysis
- Research papers
- Illustrated presentations/PowerPoint
- Informal texts (Moodle posts, blogs, social media, etc.)

### **Writing Emphasis Courses**

- GS-107 Introduction to Gender and Sexuality Studies
- GS-327 Theory and Methods in Gender and Sexuality Studies
- GS-387 Topics in Gender and Sexuality Studies