WHAT CAN I DO WITH A MAJOR IN … WOMEN STUDIES

OCCUPATIONAL OVERVIEW:
Women Studies is an interdisciplinary field that investigates how women’s lives are affected not only by gender but also by race, class, age, sexuality, religion, and nationality. It studies the history and culture of women, as well as the social structures of gender. (Adapted from the UNM Women Studies website).

EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS:
A bachelor's degree is the minimum formal education required, and is excellent preparation for entering a variety of diverse occupations. However, most professional anthropological jobs require a graduate degree (M.A./M.S. or Ph.D.). Women Studies majors go into every field, just as graduates of other liberal arts areas do. Women Studies often leads to graduate/professional study in law, business, medicine, political science, history, religious studies, sociology, social world, psychology, art history, music, family studies, journalism, education, and many others. Employers and graduate programs are often interested in graduates with a degree in Women Studies because it often indicates excellent writing, critical thinking, and leadership skills as well as experience applying analyses of gender and other factors of identity to local, national, and global issues UNM Women Studies’ website. Consult O*Net for more information on the specific KSAs (Knowledge, Skill, Ability) that are required for this career.

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO:
The UNM Women Studies Program offers a Bachelor’s of Arts in Women Studies as well as an Undergraduate Minor. You can find further information on the UNM Women Studies’ website.

INDUSTRIES & TARGET EMPLOYERS:
Please ask your Career Advisor (CDF) for identifying employers or additional resources for your occupation of choice.

Education: Teaching - Research - Administration – Two- and four-year colleges and universities – University research institutes – Women’s Resources Centers

Research/Preservation: Exhibit preparation coordinator – Librarian – Conservator - Researcher

Government: Women’s issues coordinator – Public information coordinator – Census/survey work (Bureau of Labor Statistics has a women’s division!) – Peace Corps volunteer – Women’s health, education, finance, domestic violence

Health & Human Services: Women’s issues advocate – Social worker – Counseling - Women’s health advocate – Non-governmental agency worker – Youth counselor – Volunteer services coordinator – Community planning specialist – Women’s programming – Health care practitioner specializing in women's/girl's health - Public policy research and analysis; Policy consultancy


Business/Nonprofit: Human resources – Market research analyst – Sales/marketing representative – Organizational planner – Management trainee – Consultant – Cultural resource manager – Arts council director – Foundation administrator – Political action advocacy

Communication/Journalism: Editor – Journalist – Researcher/technical advisor – Public opinion analyst

SUGGESTED STRATEGIES:
• Consider specializing your skill set through a double major or minor in another area.
• Gain professional experience in your area of interest through involvement in internships, student employment, Co-ops, and/or volunteer opportunities.
• Shadow professionals in your field of interest to gain a better understanding of their occupation and to build relationships with professional mentors.
• Build your network and get involved on campus through student organizations and campus events. One related student organization is Active NOW:Women and Allies. Find more organizations and events at the Student Activities Center website.
• Attend career-related campus events such as career fairs, company information sessions, and or career workshops.
• Students who are interested in graduate school should maintain a high undergraduate GPA and develop relationships with faculty and community leaders.
• Speak with mentors and faculty about career opportunities.
• Job leads can be found on your department’s website, list-serv, newsletters, and social media sites.

INFORMATIONAL/ORGANIZATIONAL WEBSITES:

UNM Women’s Studies Program
The National Women’s Studies Association
Feminist Majority Foundation
Worldwidelearn Guide for Women’s Studies Major
Feminism and Women’s Studies
National Council of Women’s Organizations
Global List of Women’s Organizations

http://www.unm.edu/~womenst/
http://www.nwsa.org/
http://www.feminist.org/911/jobs/911jobs.asp
http://www.worldwidelearn.com
http://feminism.eserver.org/
http://www.womensorganizations.org/
http://www.distel.ca/womlist/womlist.html

OTHER INFORMATIONAL WEBSITES:

http://online.onetcenter.org
http://www.bls.gov/oco/

REFERENCES