

Goddard College

Sexuality Studies Concentration

UNDERGRADUATE HANDBOOK
ADDENDUM

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WELCOME

Welcome to the Handbook Addendum for the Sexuality Studies Concentration This document is an addendum to the Undergraduate Student Handbook and the Undergraduate Curriculum Guide, with which all students are expected to be familiar, and provides details specific to the Sexuality Studies Concentration.

Note on this Handbook Addendum

As of August 2018, this addendum and the documents to which it refers represent current Goddard policies and procedures specific to the Sexuality Studies Concentration and supersede policy statements previously distributed by the College. Goddard College reserves the right to revise any policy or procedure in this addendum at any time without written prior notice. This addendum is not written as a contract and is not intended to create contractual rights.

Questions on policies or protocols not addressed here or in the Undergraduate Student Handbook may be referred to the appropriate administrative officials. Refer to the College website (www.goddard.edu) for a list of College officers and their areas of responsibility.

By accepting admission to Goddard College and completing registration, the student acknowledges that the College has provided the student with a Student Handbook and, when appropriate, a Handbook Addendum. These documents are provided electronically; however, hard copies of each are available upon request from the Academic Services Office.

The Undergraduate Student Handbook details information related to the terms and conditions of enrollment including the College's policies and the student's responsibilities in attending the College. As a condition of enrollment and attendance at Goddard, the student hereby agrees to comply with and abide by the terms and conditions detailed in the Handbook, Handbook Addenda, and future revisions. Students understand that if they have questions about the Handbook or any Addendum, they should check the College's website to review the current versions of the Handbook and also contact their Academic Services Coordinator, Program Director, or other College administrators for assistance.

Note on Language

In keeping with our community's dedication to inclusiveness, this handbook does not use gendered pronouns. Goddard also uses the language of progressive education and, at times, has its own language, as explained in the Undergraduate Student Handbook.

Nondiscrimination Statement

Goddard College does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, marital/civil union status, age, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, veteran/uniformed service status, disability or other legally protected classification in any of its policies or procedures – including but not limited to those related to admission, employment, the provision of educational services, and the granting of financial aid – or in its services, facilities, privileges or benefits in compliance with and to the limits of applicable state and federal laws. All Goddard scheduled and sponsored programs and activities are open to all individuals on an equal basis or on the basis of gender identity or expression.

Accreditation Statement

Goddard College is accredited on probation by the New England Commission of Higher Education, effective October 10, 2018, because the Commission finds that the institution is in danger of losing its accreditation because it is not in compliance with the Standards for Accreditation. Of concern are accreditation standards 3 (organization and governance) and 7 (institutional resources). A statement providing further information about the probationary status is available on the website of the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education (<https://cihe.neasc.org>).

Accreditation of an institution of higher education by the Commission indicates that it meets or exceeds criteria for the assessment of institutional quality periodically applied through a peer review process. An accredited college or university is one which has available the necessary resources to achieve its stated purposes through appropriate educational programs, is substantially doing so, and gives reasonable evidence that it will continue to do so in the foreseeable future. Institutional integrity is also addressed through accreditation.

Accreditation by the Commission is not partial but applies to the institution as a whole. As such, it is not a guarantee of every course or program offered, or the competence of individual graduates. Rather, it provides reasonable assurance about the quality of opportunities available to students who attend the institution.

Inquiries regarding the accreditation status by the Commission should be directed to the administrative staff of the institution. Individuals may also contact:

New England Commission of Higher Education

3 Burlington Woods Drive, Suite 100

Burlington, MA 01803-4514

(781) 425 7785

E-Mail: info@neche.org

SEXUALITIES STUDIES CONCENTRATION

Mission, Philosophy, History

The mission of the Goddard Sexualities Studies Concentration is to increase sexual literacy with a focus on intersectionality, diversity and decolonization. The Goddard Sexuality Studies Concentration program purpose is to support students intellectual pursuit of critical sexuality studies with an emphasis on self-reflexivity, self-determination, sexual/relational wellbeing, compassion, respect, social justice (including racial justice, ecological justice, erotic justice, epistemic justice, economic justice, gender justice, relational justice, etc.) and unlearning oppressive hierarchical mentalities (associated with racism, sexism, cissexism, ableism, classism, heterosexism, monosexism, etc).

Mainstream human sexuality discourse(s) has a propensity to perpetuate settler-colonial, white, capitalistic, cisheteropatriarchal monoepistemic views of sexuality, eroticism, gender and relationships. Decolonial perspectives and non-hegemonic discourses are imperative to the comprehensive study of human sexuality and laying the foundation for liberation. Multiepistemic sexual literacy can assist in improving services for individuals of diverse identities, expressions, orientations and relationship structures. We believe people have the right to love, pleasure, experience the erotic, accurate/comprehensive sexuality information, and sexual/erotic/relational wellbeing.

The Sexuality Studies Concentration at Goddard is the first anti-racist sexuality education program founded by scholars of African descent in the United States. The founders, Drs. H. "Herukhuti" Sharif Williams and Zelaika Hepworth Clarke, are sexuality scholars committed to erotic justice, the decolonization project and liberation. This Undergraduate concentration is uniquely situated because of Goddard's low-residency, learning-centered model in which students co-create their studies in collaboration with faculty advisors.

Entering into the Sexuality Studies Concentration

Existing students (Levels 1-4) can indicate their interest in enrolling in the concentration before the start of the residency in which they want to enroll by completing the concentration enrollment form in the students resources tab at ugp.goddard.edu.

New students (Levels 1-4) can indicate their interest in enrolling in the concentration by emailing H. "Herukhuti" Sharif Williams at herukhuti.williams@goddard.edu before the residency of the semester in which they intend to enter the concentration.

Students who are at level 5 or higher who wish to enter the concentration must submit a petition to enroll in it to H. "Herukhuti" Sharif Williams at herukhuti.williams@goddard.edu. The petition must describe how they will complete the concentration requirements in less than four semesters. The petition can highlight

previously completed work that addresses one or more of the concentration requirements.

General Undergraduate Degree Requirements

To earn a bachelor's degree, students must successfully fulfill the requirements for an undergraduate degree at Goddard College as indicated in the Undergraduate Student Handbook and further explicated in the Undergraduate Curriculum Guide.

Undergraduate students are required to complete 120 credits of undergraduate study, up to 75 credits of which may be transferred from other accredited liberal arts undergraduate programs. In the completion of those credits, all undergraduate students will demonstrate learning in the areas of:

- Wide knowledge
- Thoughtful action
- Understanding of social and ecological context
- Positive self-development
- Engaged critical thinking and writing

It is necessary that students enter the Sexuality Studies Concentration at or before level 5.

Faculty Advisors

At the residency, new students are assigned a faculty advisor and returning students are expected to submit an Advisor Selection Form to select three choices of faculty advisors to work with over the course of the semester.

During the semesters that a student is enrolled in the concentration, they must work with a faculty advisor who is affiliated with the concentration.

Study Plan and Areas of Study

Students' academic work is submitted to their advisor at regular intervals during the semester. The Undergraduate Program has established due dates for student work, forms, evaluations, and other materials. These due dates are published in the UG Program Area of GNet and can be downloaded.

Note: Due dates are **the date by which the work should arrive** to the advisor/mentor or administrative offices. Packets/materials submitted late will generally result in delayed responses.

Progress Reviews

Depending on the level at which a student enters the program, students are required to complete either one or two Progress Reviews: a Progress Review I (PRI) and a Progress Review II (PRII). The Progress Reviews, through a portfolio process, must show satisfactory completion of undergraduate general knowledge and degree-specific degree requirements. For more information on Progress Reviews see the [Undergraduate Curriculum Guide](#).

Students must satisfactorily complete the PR II to enter level 8.

Senior Study and the Final Product

Although students can choose a sexuality studies-related focus for their senior study projects, there is no Sexuality Studies Concentration requirements for a senior study.

Guidelines for submission of the Digital Final Product are available online: [Final Semester - Graduating Students](#).

Semester Evaluations

The semester evaluation—narrative student reflection and assessment of semester work—is a key component of a Goddard education. Students are required to complete these evaluations at the close of each semester via the Student Information System (SIS).

Concentration Progress Review Evaluations

Students submit their concentration materials to H. “Herukhuti” Sharif Williams at herukhuti.williams@goddard.edu at the packet four deadline in the semester that the work is completed for an evaluation. The CPRG will evaluate the work by the end of the semester and submit an evaluation to the student, their advisor, and to the Registrar.

The CPRG may request revisions of the concentration materials. Such requests will include a timeline for submission as well as other detailed instructions. In order to receive concentration recognition on a final transcript, students must have received successful evaluations on all of their concentration materials by the CPRG.

Academic Study Requirements

Overview

As undergraduate students, Sexuality Studies Concentration students will address the following Undergraduate Degree Requirements: Wide Knowledge, Thoughtful Action,

Positive Self-Development, Engaged Critical Thinking and Writing, and Social and Ecological Context as explained in the Undergraduate Curriculum Guide.

The residency activities, concentration requirements, and community practices that distinguish the Sexuality Studies Concentration from undergraduate degree tracks and other concentrations are discussed in detail in the following sections of this handbook.

Sexuality Studies Concentration Requirements

Over the four semesters in which sexuality studies will be a portion of their work, Sexuality Studies Concentration students will design their semester studies, in consultation with their faculty advisor, to successfully address each of the following concentration requirements in order to be eligible to graduate. Students must complete the following according to the academic standards of the concentration:

- A statement of focus describing their chosen area of focus within sexuality studies;
- An engaged, principled, reflective, and embodied presence at all concentration-related residency events
- A sexual attitude reassessment (SAR) process to become more aware of their sexological worldview; and
- A sexual philosophy project that reflects their area of focus, scholarly and professional influences, and development as sexological students.

	Academic Activity	Academic Materials (Due at the Packet 4 Deadline of the Semester)
Semester 1	Participation in Residency Track	1. Residency Reflection 2. Statement of Focus
Semester 2	Participation in SAR Participation in Residency Track	1. Residency Reflection 2. SAR Autoethnography
Semester 3	Participation in Residency Track	1. Residency Reflection 2. Worldview/Philosophy
Semester 4	Participation in Residency Track (with presentation during residency of Worldview/Philosophy)	1. Residency Reflection 2. Worldview/Philosophy Presentation Materials

Statement of Focus

Students will produce and submit a statement of focus related to their degree track i.e. IBA, HAS, BAS, BFA-SEA, BFAW, etc. Students will include the creation of the statement in their semester study plan, submit it to their faculty advisor as part of their academic work for the semester, develop it based upon advisor feedback, and submit it to the concentration progress review group (CPRG) at the packet four deadline for an evaluation. This statement in the form of a 10-page, double-spaced essay will describe the student's chosen focus within sexuality studies. In drafting the statement, students will have the opportunity to identify an area of focus within their degree track related to sexology and develop a plan for pursuing that area of focus throughout their undergraduate career. The statement of focus will serve as a guide to students and faculty and a resource for tracking the student's progress. Changes to the plan outlined in the statement of focus will be documented in the Sexual Worldview/Philosophy statement.

Residency Participation and Reflections

Students enrolled in the Sexuality Studies Concentration must attend the residency that begins each semester they are enrolled (i.e., for four semesters). At each residency, UGP will offer a number of sexological events including workshops, guest presentations, screenings, and other kinds of community events. Concentration students are required to attend these events.

Students will include the creation of a reflection (i.e., 10-page double-spaced essay or visual work, multimedia project, or other form equivalent to a 10-page double-spaced essay) on the experience of attending concentration events at the residency in their semester study plan and submit it to their faculty advisor as one part of their academic work for the semester. Based upon advisor feedback the student will continue to develop the reflection and submit it to the CPRG at the packet four deadline for an evaluation.

Sexual Attitudes Reassessment (SAR)

Overview

A SAR is a standard learning tool within sexology (see: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/15546120903001407>). A SAR is an experiential, cognitive and affective experience that is designed to help people become more aware of their sexological worldview by pushing comfort levels, eliciting feelings and confronting attitudes, beliefs and values about sexuality. Presentations can encompass media, (including contemporary film, television and art), along with presentations and panels of live speakers/demonstrations showing the potential range of human sexual expression. A SAR enables the participant to move emotionally, intellectually, spiritually

and psychologically into a zone of greater knowing, acceptance, and tolerance of human sexuality in all of its possible dimensions.

Students will complete a SAR (which will be offered concurrently with New Student Orientation and Faculty Retreat) during their second semester. The 15-hour SAR will be implemented using a co-facilitation model and occur Wednesday afternoon (4.5 hours) to Thursday night (8 hours) with an additional 1.5 hours scheduled during the residency and 1 hour for a video conference the week after the residency.

Advising and Assessment

Students who complete a SAR will include the creation of an autoethnography (i.e., 12-15-page double-spaced essay or visual work, multimedia project, or other form equivalent to a 12-15-page double-spaced essay) on their experience of the SAR and their learning outcomes in their semester study plan, submit it to their faculty advisor as part of their academic work for the semester, develop it based upon advisor feedback, and submit it to the CPRG at the packet four deadline for an evaluation.

The CPRG will provide a short, narrative evaluation of the student's performance for inclusion in the overall evaluation on SIS.

Sexological Worldview/Philosophy

In their 3rd semester in the concentration¹, students will include the creation of statement of their sexual worldview/philosophy in their semester study plan, submit it to their faculty advisor as part of their academic work for the semester, develop it based upon advisor feedback, and submit it to the CPRG at the packet four deadline for an evaluation. This statement, which will be in a form of each student's choosing, e.g., a 20-page, double-spaced essay or visual work, multimedia project, or other form equivalent to 20-page, double-spaced essay, will serve as a culminating work within the concentration and should include:

- An embodied² articulation of their area of focus and the nature and context of any changes they made to it during their studies in the concentration;
- An embodied description of their personal and scholarly approach to sex and sexuality; and
- An embodied genealogy that situates their approach to sex and sexuality in a lineage/tradition

Students will present their sexual worldview/philosophy during the residency of their 4th semester in the concentration as part of the concentration residency track.

¹ Although some students may be completing their 3rd semester of the concentration during their level 7 semesters, the sexual worldview/philosophy statement does not have to be included in or related to their senior study project.

² In this context embodied means an integral and intersectional approach that incorporates all aspects of the self (e.g., body, mind, spirit, and soul) and social identities (e.g., race, ethnicity, gender, class, ability, etc.).

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