

June 7, 2021

Dr. Elizabeth Chilton  
Provost and Executive Vice President  
Washington State University  
Pullman, WA 99164

Dear Provost Chilton,

On behalf of the Affiliate Faculty of the Program in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, and with the approval of Todd Butler, Dean, College of Arts and Sciences, and the endorsement of Donna Potts, Chair, Department of English, I am writing to formally request Provost approval for a change to the Course Subject (formerly "Course Prefix") for the Program in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies from "WOMEN\_ST" to "WGSS," effective fall 2021.

As you know, Women's Studies reorganized in 2018 and became the Program in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, administratively relocating to the Department of English while retaining a BA in Women's Studies and minors in both Women's Studies and Queer Studies. Along with creating a formal [Affiliate Faculty](#) system from across the WSU system, the Provost and Dean-approved restructuring proposal included updating the name of the unit and the curriculum—the major and two minors. The rationale for these changes included better alignment with recent developments in the field nationally and internationally (to include the study of masculinity and other genders, as well as sexualities outside normative heterosexuality), more accurate representation of the range of courses offered in a robust cross-listed curriculum, and a streamlined program structure. The curriculum revision was completed in 2019-2020 and is in place. In March 2021, materials, including a rename degree form and a formal request, were submitted to rename the BA from Women's Studies to Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, effective fall 2021, which will align it as well with developments in the field and better reflect coursework that students currently take as requirements and electives for degrees in WGSS.

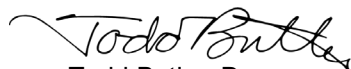
I now write to complete the process of aligning program name, curriculum, degree name, and course prefix so that they all accurately reflect the updated range of courses that are offered through WGSS, including both those parented in WGSS and those that are cross-listed with other units. I understand from the Registrar that the Catalog Subcommittee has approved both the request to rename the BA to Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies and the request to change the course subject to WGSS.

Thank you, and if you have any questions or concerns about the course subject change for WGSS, please contact me at [pthoma@wsu.edu](mailto:pthoma@wsu.edu).

Sincerely,



Pamela Thoma, PhD  
Associate Professor of English  
Director, Program in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies



Todd Butler, Dean  
College of Arts and Sciences