

Guidelines for Students Enrolled in 131:105
Women's Studies Practicum
(1-2 sh).

The Women's Studies Practicum (131:105) is a 2-semester hour requirement for students seeking a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Women's Studies.¹ The Practicum aims to enhance the academic training students receive in the course of their degree program with direct involvement in outreach and public interest programs that serve women in the Iowa City community. Students enrolled in the practicum are responsible for identifying a community organization and undertaking procedures to volunteer their services. A roster of organizations and agencies that welcome students enrolled in the Women's Studies Practicum and that are located in Iowa City and the surrounding communities is available. This list is not exhaustive and students may design and propose other practicum activities that entail community involvement that serves the interests of women by promoting gender equality on a local, national and global scale. Students may not earn Practicum credit for paid employment.

Students may meet the Women's Studies requirement by enrolling for 1-semester hour credit during two different semesters, or they may enroll for 2 semester-hour credits in one semester. Students who enroll for 1-semester hour credit must devote 4 hours per week over a 15-week semester (60 hours total) to their practicum activity; students who enroll for 2 semester-hours credit should devote 8 hours per week for a 15-week semester (120 hours total). The procedures for enrolling in the Women's Studies Practicum are as follows:

- 1) Student enrolls in the Women's Studies Practicum (131:105), receiving the **special registration number** from their faculty advisor.
- 2) By the end of the second week of classes, the student submits a **2-page proposal** to the faculty member overseeing the Women's Studies Practicum for that semester. The proposal should indicate the organization or agency under whose auspices the Practicum activities will be conducted and outlining the activities to be pursued. The faculty member in charge of the Practicum will either **approve this proposal** or work with the student to identify a suitable site and project.
- 3) By the end of the third week of classes, and once the proposal has been approved, the student must submit a completed **Practicum Information Form** to the faculty member overseeing the Women's Studies Practicum for that semester. The form must be signed by the person at the Practicum site who will be supervising the student's volunteer work.
- 4) On the last day of classes, students will submit a **5-page report** (double-spaced, one-inch margins, 12 point font) describing the Practicum experience and assessing how it complemented, and hopefully, enriched the academic aspects of their Women's Studies degree program.
- 5) On the last day of classes, students will submit a **Practicum Completion Form** to the faculty member in charge of the Women's Studies Practicum for that semester.

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¹ For Women's Studies majors who met the requirement for Introduction to Women's Studies (131:10) when it was offered for 4-semester hours, the Women's Studies Practicum requirement is 1 semester hour.