Founded in 1972, Sarah Lawrence’s Master of Arts Program in Women’s History was the first to offer a graduate degree in the field. The program immerses students in a combination of historical studies, feminist theory, and gender studies. It also draws extensively upon resources in the social sciences and literature, and on a legacy of continuing activism both within and outside the College community.

Notable facts about the program:

- An accelerated degree option for students especially concerned with practical applications of historical knowledge to issues of gender policy and advocacy. This option allows students to earn the MA in Women’s History in 15 months of continuous study.
- Advanced undergraduates at SLC may apply to this graduate program and, if admitted, may begin working toward the MA during their senior year.
- Joint degrees in Women’s History and Law are offered in cooperation with Pace University Law School. Students in this program earn both a Master of Arts and a Juris Doctor.
- Annual Women’s History Month Conference held the first weekend of March.

THE PROGRAM

Requirements for the MA in Women’s History include 48 course credits, earned in a variety of courses and independent projects. Among the courses are research seminars in history and related fields; shop in research methods; a colloquium that combines a speaker series with readings and discussion; and a seminar that examines both feminist and historical scholarship on women. In addition we offer an option to earn the degree in 15 months. The accelerated degree option includes an intensive seminar on practical applications of historical knowledge of women and a capstone course focused on independent projects, and students who opt to write theses combine independent work with participation in a thesis seminar. Individual conferences with professors are an integral part of every credit-bearing course. Students are also welcome to audit courses on a non-credit basis.

ADMISSION

Applicants for the Women’s History graduate program must have received a Bachelor of Arts or equivalent degree from an accredited college or university. Previous college work is expected to be at 3.0 or higher and should reflect advanced course study.

“Going to Sarah Lawrence was one of the best decisions I ever made. ... They were very, very supportive of me. ... That’s the way education should be. You open doors for people.”
—Kyes Stevens, Teacher, Federal Correctional Institution and Julia Tutwiler State Women’s Prison, Alabama

“I gained much more intellectual confidence from my time at Sarah Lawrence. I entered the program with specific ideas of my own, but was exposed to so much more that I had to continually evolve and rework my thinking.”
—Lea Osborne, Processing Archivist, Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University
FINANCIAL AID
Graduate students are welcome to apply for financial aid. All aid is awarded on the basis of need. Non-teaching assistantships are available.

THE FACULTY
The Women’s History faculty is enriched by professors from other fields, including anthropology, Africana studies, sociology, and LGBTQIA studies.

The Sarah Lawrence faculty has been consistently recognized among the best in the country by The Princeton Review.

ABOUT SARAH LAWRENCE COLLEGE
Sarah Lawrence is located on a wooded suburban campus just 30 minutes north of Midtown Manhattan. Offering both graduate and undergraduate degrees, the College is nationally known for academic rigor and commitment to developing students as individuals. Sarah Lawrence College is also noted for cross-disciplinary study and integrated learning, making it an ideal academic setting for the Women’s History Program.

GRADUATE STUDIES
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