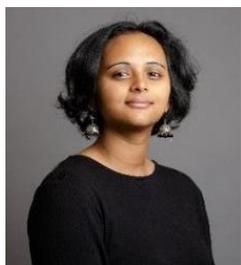


WGSS students are often double majors, members of Phi Beta Kappa, and campus activists. WGSS graduates have entered into the fields of law, education, environmental policy, government, non-profits/NGOs, medicine and the health services, and much much more. They are well poised to think critically about power and domination and committed to bringing equity, social justice, and social change to the organizations in which they work. Here are some examples of what WGSS alum are up to!



Ruthie Hawley, '15
WGSS and Environmental Studies
double major
Program manager at Amazon

Project management requires both commitment and flexibility when endeavors turn out differently than you expected when you set out. Half-way through my thesis, my argument needed to change based on my research. I will always remember sitting in Professor Thomas's office discussing whether I should give up on the project. I remember her saying, "Be nimble. Rethink your argument, support it, and make it work based on what you know now." That lesson in perseverance has stayed with me into my career after Colby, where I now work at Amazon in Seattle as a program manager. Knowing how to do in-depth research, make clear arguments in writing and persevere when projects require flexibility were skills that the Colby WGSS department nurtured from seed to sprout. The books I read in WGSS still sit on my bookshelf, reminding me to be courageous, act with conviction, argue with humility, and in the face of a challenge, always do your best to persevere, even if that means changing course.



Mansi Hitesh, '19

WGSS and Philosophy
double major

PhD student.

Awarded
the University of
Cambridge's Centre for
Gender Studies Bell
Scholar Award for best
research dissertation for
the MPhil, 2020.

As a WGSS/Philosophy major, I am invested in feminist scholarship as a transformative tool that re-vision the methods and theory we use to engage with pertinent problems. The two disciplines have trained me to be able to bring two seemingly disparate strands of thought in conversation with each other. Gender is an essential condition of possibility for personal expressions of identities and the politics of protests, but also the debilitation of populations in settler camps or the building of institutional archives. Thus, it is only through continual engagement with gender as a vector of analysis that one can envision its applications in new and apposite ways, which is why I was excited to head to graduate school to pursue an MA in Gender Studies, and deploy gender as a powerful analytic to re-vision these pressing problems. And now, after my MA, I am pursuing my PhD in WGSS.



Emily Harper, '15
WGSS and East Asia
Studies double major
Client Service,
Bridgewater Associates

I currently work at a hedge fund, in an industry where historically if you didn't have "Econ" or "Quant" on your resume, you were often overlooked. Nowadays though, hiring managers are realizing that hiring people who all look and sound the same is actually a detriment. In order for any business to thrive and continue to innovate, you need employees from diverse backgrounds (academic, gender, racial, socio-economic etc.) to all bring their diverse set of thoughts and experiences to the table. I actually got this job because they saw WGSS on my resume, and most of my interview was spent talking about my senior capstone project! I often cite themes and authors that I was exposed to in my WGSS classes in meetings, as a means of trying to understand the world and my colleagues better, and am currently working on some of our diversity and inclusion initiatives at the firm because of my background. Choosing to study WGSS was one of the best decisions I made at Colby, and my WGSS degree has been instrumental as a diversifying and competitive edge in my career post-grad.



Carter Wynn, '20
WGSS and Art History
double major
Legal Analyst, Wilshire &
Grannis LLP

As a legal analyst, I'm tasked daily with a multitude of assignments for which I have no frame of reference. Whether it be cite-checking a medical malpractice complaint or drafting a memorandum on telecom case law, I'm expected to complete my assignments with speed and accuracy. I report to several attorneys, each of whom works in a different legal practice area. Switching back and forth between practice areas depending on the day requires a high degree of flexibility and an ability to connect the dots between seemingly unrelated rules and ideas. Thankfully, as a WGSS major, this isn't a novel experience for me. WGSS is a multidisciplinary and ever-evolving field, instilling in its academics a sense of fluidity as they draw connections between theories of information. WGSS helped me develop adept and creative research skills through my various projects that dealt with diverse sets of epistemologies. Thus, when I'm tasked with an assignment that I'm not familiar with, I'm not intimidated by the challenge. I owe much of my problem-solving and research abilities to my WGSS major. I'm eager to continue to discover ways in which WGSS will help me in my professional pursuits.