



Williams College

Assistant Professor in Trans Studies

Description

The Program in Women's, Gender, & Sexuality Studies (WGSS) at Williams College seeks a tenure-track Assistant Professor in Trans Studies for a position beginning Fall 2026. The ideal candidate will do interdisciplinary and intersectional work in trans studies, with research on expressive cultures based in the United States. This research can include but is not limited to: performance, film, media, art, and/or narrative studies. Candidates must have experience teaching or demonstrate the capacity to teach courses in women's, gender, and sexuality studies though their PhD may come from WGSS or a related field. The teaching load is 2/2. Each AY the hire will be expected to offer two core courses (e.g., Intro to WGSS or Foundations in Sexuality Studies) and two electives in their field of expertise. It is expected that the hire will participate meaningfully in the Winter Study curriculum, which is during January. We seek a candidate who can contribute to program building and the vibrant intellectual life of the college.

WGSS is an interdisciplinary program designed to encourage students to focus critically on gender and sexuality, a study inherently threaded with other socio-political formations such as race, ethnicity, class, ability, nationality, and religion, among others. Our courses reflect interdisciplinary dynamism and encourage innovative teaching practices with particular interest in engaged and experiential learning. WGSS faculty provide undergraduate advising and mentorships inside and outside the classroom. WGSS has existed in some form at Williams for over 30 years. We have offered a major since 2002, and have graduated over 300 majors and concentrators since the program was established.

Williams College is a liberal arts institution located in the Berkshire Hills of western Massachusetts. The college has built its reputation on outstanding teaching and scholarship and on the academic excellence of its approximately 2,000 students. Please visit the Williams College website (<http://www.williams.edu>). Williams promotes equal opportunity and makes all employment decisions on a non-discriminatory basis. Williams College is

committed to building a diverse and inclusive community where members from individuals of all identities and backgrounds can live, learn, and thrive.

Qualifications

- Ph.D. in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies or related field by Fall 2026.
- Research expertise in trans expressive cultures in the US.
- Evidence of scholarly excellence through publications, grants, and/or research collaboration.
- Demonstrated teaching excellence or potential for teaching excellence in WGSS and capacity for undergraduate mentorship and program building.
- Demonstrated commitment to fostering diversity, equity, inclusion, and access on campus and more broadly.

Application Instructions

Review of applications will begin on October 15, 2025. All applications should be submitted through Interfolio at <https://apply.interfolio.com/169698>. In the first stage, application materials include a CV, writing sample, and cover letter. The cover letter should address current research and research trajectory, teaching approach and experience, and service interests. The cover letter should speak to the candidate's ability to work effectively with a student population that is diverse with regard to gender, race, ethnicity, nationality, sexuality, socioeconomic status, and religion. Cover letters should not exceed three pages. The candidate should excerpt a 15-page double-spaced writing sample from a dissertation or book chapter or an article. The committee will not read past 15 pages.

After an initial round of review, the committee will request additional materials and three recommendation letters from those applicants who advance in the search. Zoom interviews will be followed by campus visits with finalists, which will occur during Williams' Spring 26 term (begins Feb 2026). For questions, please contact the search committee chair, Prof. Mejdulene Shomali (mbs3@williams.edu).

All offers of employment are contingent upon the completion of a background check. Further information is available here: <http://faculty.williams.edu/prospective-faculty/background-check-policy/>