

Women's Center

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our Mission

The Women's Center offers programs and services designed to promote gender equity and address the unique challenges and opportunities female students encounter in the pursuit of higher education. Recognizing the critical role that both women and men play in promoting a safe environment free of gender bias, Center programs are designed to educate and inspire all students to achieve their personal, academic, and professional potential.

Get Involved

Volunteer to help plan or assist with events • **Attend events** and learn about issues impacting women and the community • Get trained as an **M-Power Peer Educator** and talk to peers about healthy relationships • Recieve advocacy through our **SAFE program** if you or a friend have experienced sexual assault, relationship violence, stalking, or harrassment • Have your organization **co-sponsor** an event with us related to women's issues • Participate in our Women's Institute for Leadership Development (**WILD**) • Apply for one of our **internship** opportunities

Issues we Address

women's leadership • self-esteem & empowerment • body image • women's health • pay equality • sexual or relationship violence • objectification of women in the media • women's history • feminist activism & social justice • support for adult women students & female military students

Feminism

Feminism is defined by Merriam-Webster as the theory of political, economic, and social equality of the sexes. It is not the hatred or oppression of men.

.....●● Men *are* Welcome ●●.....

We are designated as a Women's Center because our mission addresses the special challenges and opportunities women encounter. We also seek to create a world that is free of gender bias and empower all students to achieve their potential. We cannot achieve this goal without our male allies.

How to become a *Male Ally*

- Pick up one of our Man of Quality t-shirts and get involved with the movement
- Volunteer to help plan or assist with events addressing gender equality
- Participate in Walk a Mile in Her Shoes, Red Flag & White Ribbon campaigns
- Become an M-Power Peer Educator & talk to peers about ending violence against women
- Call out injustice when you see it and notify us of any inequality on campus

what about a Men's Center?

For the most part, men (particularly straight, white men) have not been discriminated against and have not had to continually fight for equal rights. History has focused primarily on the achievements and contributions of men, having largely ignored women. So, in essence, society and social, educational, political, and religious institutions have served as "Men's Centers." If you are interested in discussing healthy masculinity and gender equality contact our office.

L.G.B.T.Q. students

Everyone is welcome at the Women's Center! For our LGBTQ students we partner with the ODU Safe Space Committee, ODU Out, and the LGBT Center of Hampton Roads to provide support for victims of sexual or relationship violence. We also support programs promoting equality and social justice for members of the LGBTQ community.