

# WIA

## WOMEN IN ACTION



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## WOMEN – IN – ACTION

### PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Women-in-Action (WIA) Program introduces women-identified high school students to gender studies and feminism as a theoretical, academic discipline and as a practical, actionable way of life!

WIA gives students the tools to make their perspectives and voices heard through small group discussions on current topics in women's rights, 1:1 mentoring that helps students identify their personal values, and access to a speaker series to develop a supportive network of women who will help position them for future success in college and beyond.



# PROGRAM OVERVIEW

## WHAT YOU WILL FOCUS ON EACH WEEK

### Unit 1: Online Course (2 Months)

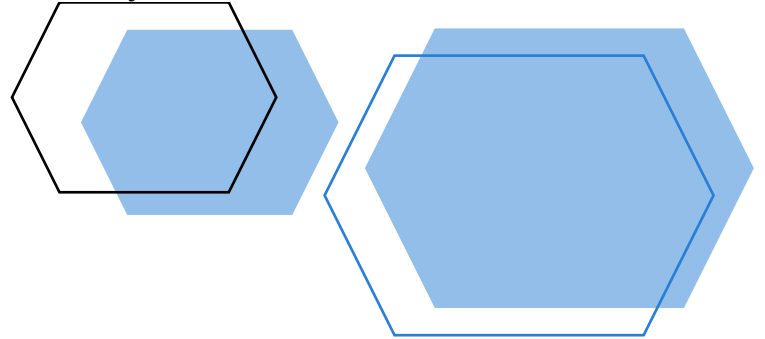
Meet once a week to explore topics in gender studies and feminist thought. (1.5 hours per class, 1-hour prep required outside of class.)

### Unit 2: Summer Mentoring

A WIA advisor will work 1:1 with you and your Interface Counselor to identify how you can turn your feminism into action over the summer through academic and cultural programs, internships or volunteer work.

### Unit 3: Share Your Voice

A professional writer will work 1:1 with you to brainstorm, draft, edit, and submit a piece for publication that is related to gender and social justice.

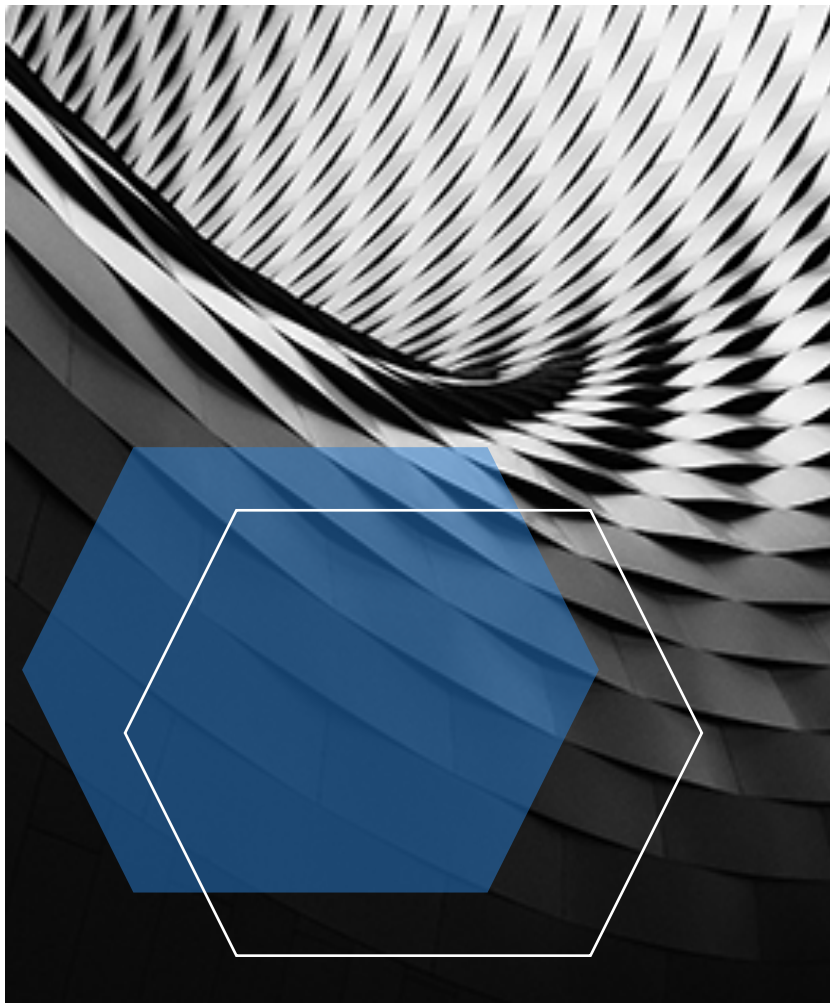


# WHEN YOU JOIN

## WHAT YOU WILL GET

- You will be part of a cohort of 4-8 girls, moving through the program together. NEW COHORTS BEGIN IN SEPTEMBER, MARCH & JUNE
- Exclusive WIA Workshops
- Summer Mentoring to find meaningful summer opportunities and build your network and gain first-hand experience in social justice
- Publish a creative work - fiction, personal essays, poetry, an op-ed, radio story/podcast, or an interview related to WIA topics





# UNIT I

## ONLINE WEEKLY COURSES

**Class #1:** Gender & Feminist Theory 101

**Class #2:** Intersectionality + Global Perspectives

**Class #3:** Gender & Sexuality

**Class #4:** Feminist Storytelling

**Class #5:** Body Politics, Art & Media

**Class #6:** Sexual Harassment & Assault

**Class #7 / Class #8:** Strength in Numbers + Activism: In preparation for your 1:1 advising in Part 2 of the program, we examine what it means to be 'an activist' and how activism fits into your current extracurricular life, personal values, and visions for the future. Discuss what colleges are looking for in applicants outside of your testing and coursework, and consider how you want to make an impact.

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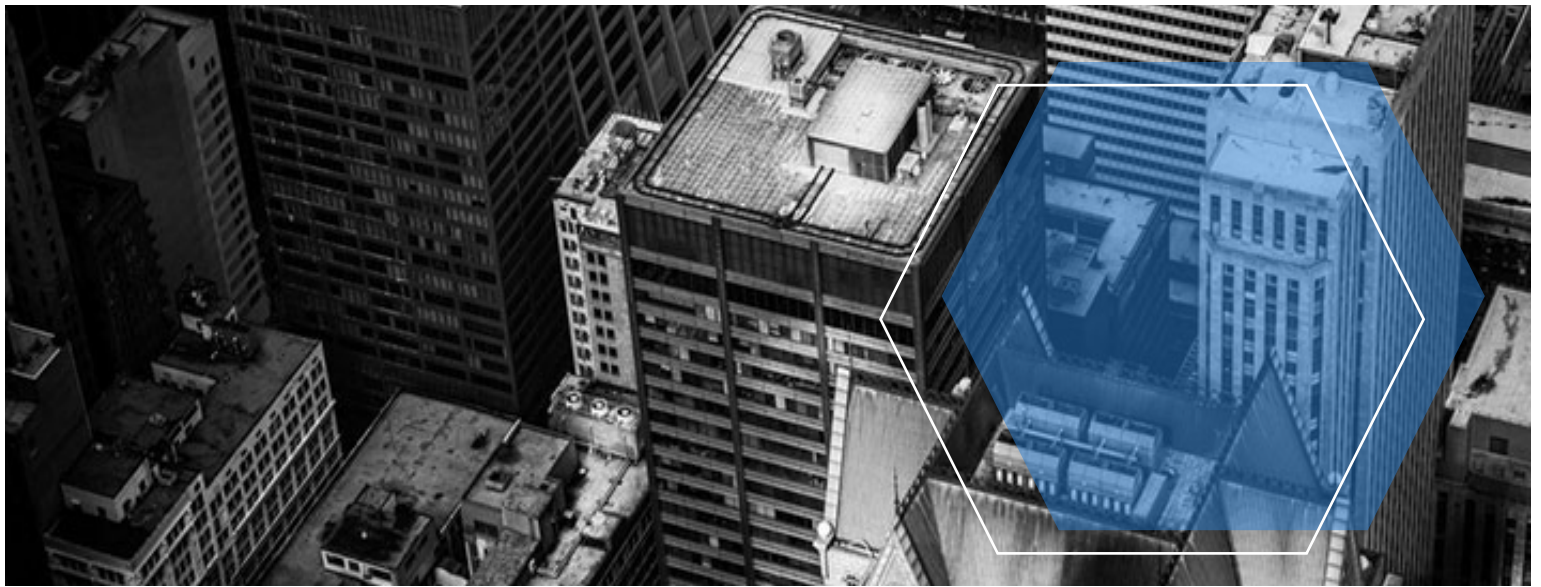
## SPECIAL WIA WORKSHOPS

**Real Talk, Women's Colleges:** Discuss the pros and cons of attending a women's college in the U.S. with an Admissions Officer. Past speakers: Senior Admission Directors from Bryn Mawr College and Mount Holyoke College.

**Like a Boss:** Women Professionals Across Industry. We invite women leaders in YOUR specific field(s) of interest to come share their stories, offer advice about making the most of your time in high school/college, and what women's leadership looks like within their respective fields. Past speakers have included: Debra Siegel-Levine (Clinical Psychologist), Michelle Lipchin (Senior Manager at Google), Bulbul Chakraborty (Professor of Physics at Brandeis/MIT), Julie Chen (Vice-Chancellor of Research at UMass), Emily Foley (Senior Engineer at Omega Health), Darlene Cayacabab (Director of Operations at the Counter Extremism Project), Jean Bae (Director of Human Rights Clinic, HealthRight International), Ming-Yi Smith (Federal Reserve.)

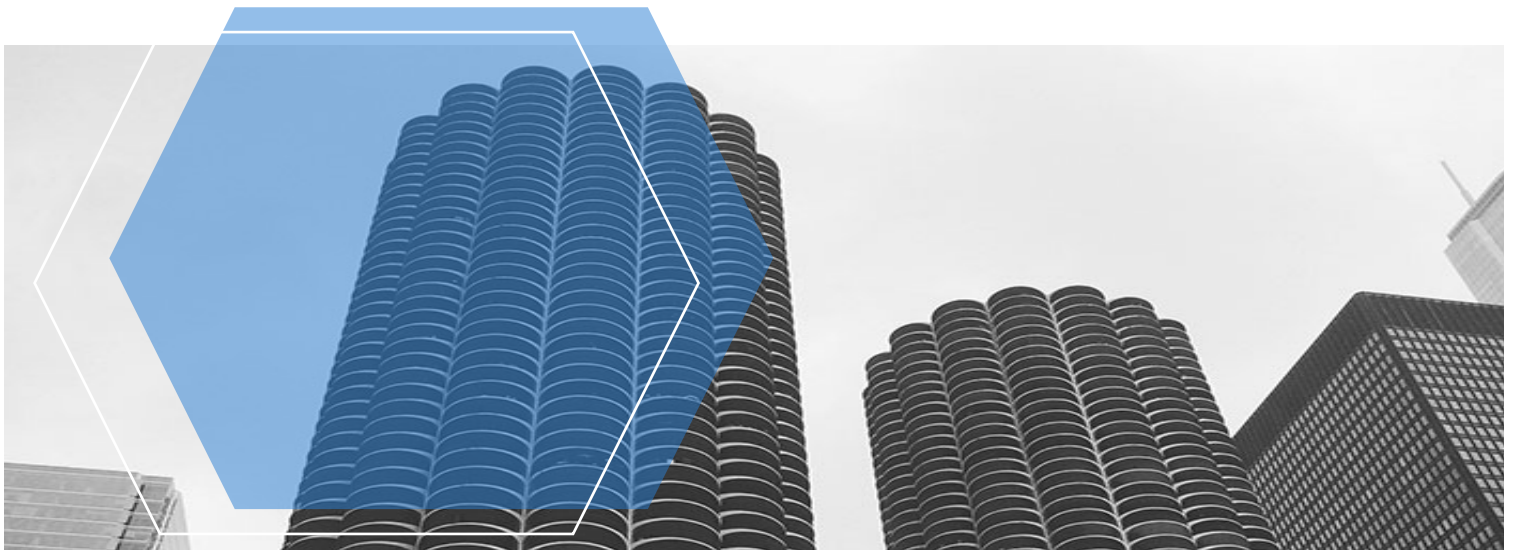
**Practice Your Lines:** Assertive Responses to Sexual Harassment special workshop for WIA:

A follower comments on your Instagram photos and starts to dm you unwanted images; a gross series of gifs being shared in a group chat; a classmate who seems to continually talk over you or is a little handsy. We're partnering with Break the Cycle and their End Tech Abuse project to deliver a workshop on processing, preparing and practicing how to respond to these difficult situations of harassment. Part learning, part community listening circle, and part practice & performance, we want students to leave the workshop with their lines, ready to respond!



## UNIT II – SUMMER MENTORING

- **What is it?**
  - Work 1:1 with a WIA advisor and your Interface Counselor to find a meaningful summer opportunity that shows you what women’s rights and social justice movements look like in real life. Build your network and gain first-hand experience in fields that interest you.
- **Sample Programs:**
  - **Summer Programs** worldwide related to gender equality & women’s empowerment (e.g., Girls Who Code, Young Women’s Leadership Institute or Entrepreneurs-in-Training at Barnard College/Columbia University, Girls Leadership Camp, The Concord Review Summer Program for Women in Science, Google's Made w/ Code, Stanford's Clayman Institute for Gender Research's High School Internship.)
  - **Summer Programs** at women’s colleges (e.g., Summer @ Smith, Summer @ Wellesley.)
  - **Summer placement** at organizations or divisions within larger companies advocating for women’s equality and interests (e.g., 92Y, Foundation for a Just Society, Brooklyn Museum Sackler Center for Feminism Art, UN’s Summer Youth Assembly, etc.)
  - \*Note we cannot guarantee placement at any specific organization. \*

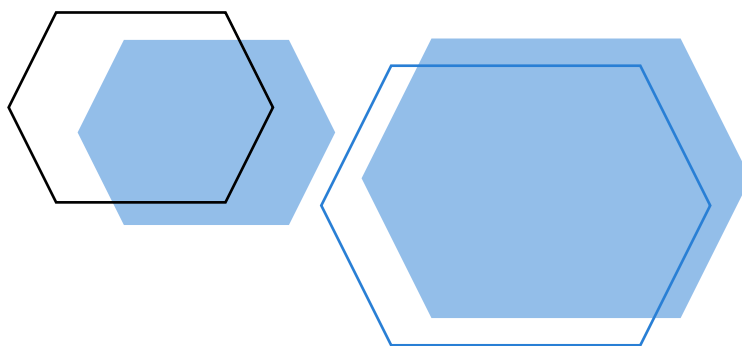




## UNIT III – SHARE YOUR VOICE

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- **What is it?**
  - Anytime after you finish the online course, work 1:1 with a professional writer to publish work based on an idea or experience you had during the year. Whether it's a research paper, fiction, personal essays, poetry, an op-ed, radio story/podcast, or an interview, we will help you develop your idea and find the appropriate media outlet.



## OPTIONAL- YOUNG WOMEN'S COLLEGE TOUR

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Students will visit some of the very best women's & co-ed colleges in the U.S., learn about the college admissions process from former admission officers, participate in a gender studies workshop led by a college professor, and meet outstanding women leaders across different industries during a private speaker panel and cultural events (e.g., Private tour of the MET focusing on women artists, performance and Q&A for 'Waitress,' the only Broadway show with all-women producers!)