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## The Feminist to the Core Essay Prize

### *Information and application*

The Institute for the Study of Sexuality and Gender (ISSG) at Columbia University is proud to present The Feminist to the Core Essay Prize. This prize is awarded annually to an undergraduate student who is judged to have written the best essay on any topic related to Feminist or Queer Studies in one of the following Core courses:

* Literature Humanities
* Contemporary Civilization
* Art Humanities
* Music Humanities

The Feminist to the Core Essay Prize Committee encourages undergraduates from a wide variety of backgrounds, experiences, and majors to submit a paper for consideration for the cash award. In keeping with the open spirit of investigation that characterizes interdisciplinary research, the committee sets no topical, ideological, or methodological requirements for submissions, and generally looks for papers that exhibit clarity, originality, ambition, and those that are informed by Feminist or Queer Studies approaches to the Core course subject.

# Eligibility

1. Award candidates must be ***undergraduate students*** currently enrolled in Barnard College, Columbia College, the School of General Studies (except post-Bac and MLA programs), or the School of Engineering and Applied Science.
2. Essays may not exceed 12 pages in length (excluding citations).
3. Essays must have been written in any one of the following Core courses taken in the current award year (Fall or Spring): Literature Humanities, Contemporary Civilization, Art Humanities, or Music Humanities.
4. No previously published work will be accepted
5. Only one entry per student will be accepted.
6. Students may enter all three ISSG award competitions (Women's and Gender Studies; Queer Studies; Feminist to the Core) but may not submit the same paper to more than one award competition.

# Submission and Prize Information

1. This year’s DEADLINE for submission is **11:59pm,** **Thursday, April 10, 2025**.  ***No late papers will be accepted.*** Papers must be emailed in PDF format to the Institute for the Study of Sexuality and Gender at [issg@columbia.edu](mailto:issg@columbia.edu), subject line “Feminist to the Core Essay Prize.”
2. All papers must be titled, typed, and double-spaced in standard paper format (12-point type, one-inch margins, page numbers, and full references and citations). Include any reprints of any art or visual aids if necessary.
3. Do not include your name anywhere on your paper. ***Papers will be judged anonymously. Your paper will be disqualified if your name appears anywhere on it.*** Your name should appear **only** on the Application Form. Please submit the completed form as a separate pdf file with your paper.

# Judging and prizes

1. While no formula is used to determine award winners, committee members look for clarity, originality, ambition, and how the paper is informed by or engaged in Feminist or Queer Studies approaches to the Core course subject.
2. The prize is $250.00. Winners will be contacted for any paperwork that is required by Columbia University to disburse the funds.
3. All decisions are final.

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## The Feminist to the Core Essay Prize

##### *Application Form*

Complete the following form and submit along with a **PDF copy of your essay by 11:59pm, Thursday, April 10, 2025** to the Institute for the Study of Sexuality and Gender, [issg@columbia.edu](mailto:issg@columbia.edu), subject line “Feminist to the Core Essay Prize.”

*Please make sure that your name appears on this sheet only. Essays with any identifying information will be disqualified*.

**Full name (please print):**

**Major/Concentration:**

**School:** BC CC SEAS GS **Graduation year:**

**Essay Title**

**Total # of pages**

**Current address:**

**Permanent address:**

**Email address:**

By signing below, I agree to abide by the rules and conditions for submissions to the Feminist to the Core Essay Prize, certify that I am the author of the attached papers, and that the above information is correct to the best of my knowledge. Confirmation by email along with the completed information in the form above may be submitted in lieu of a physical signature.

**Signature** \_\_     \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_     \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_