Agender People: Individuals who identify as genderless or gender-neutral.

Asexual People or Aces: Individuals who do not experience sexual attraction.

Bisexual or Bi People: Individuals who are romantically and physically attracted to people of more than one gender.

Cisgender or Cis People: Individuals who identify with the gender they were assigned at birth (i.e., non-trans people).

Demigender People: Individuals who identify somewhere between being agender and having a gender.

Gender: A complex combination of roles, expressions, identities, performances, and more that are assigned gendered meaning by a society. Gender is both self-defined and society-defined. How gender is embodied and defined varies from culture to culture and from person to person.

Genderqueer People: Individuals who identify as neither male nor female (but as a third gender or as gender fluid) as both male and female, or as somewhere in between. It is a particularly common identity among trans youth.

Heterosexism: The societal, institutional, and individual beliefs and practices that privilege heterosexuals and subordinate and disparage lesbians, gay men, and bisexuals.

Intersex: Biological variations in which development of chromosomal, gonadal, or anatomical sex does not fit the standard of male or female bodies. About one in 1,500-2,000 children are born with an intersex variation.

Queer: Traditionally a pejorative term for LGBT people, the word has been reclaimed today by some LGBT people, particularly younger people, to describe themselves. If used by heterosexuals who are not allies, it is still considered derogatory.

Trans, Trans*, or Transgender People: Most commonly used as an umbrella term for individuals whose gender identity and/or expression is different from the gender assigned to them at birth. Trans people include transsexuals; individuals who cross-dress or who present androgynously; agender, demigender, and genderqueer individuals; and others who cross or go beyond traditional gender categories.

Trans Men: Female-to-male transsexual people or FTMs—individuals assigned female at birth who identify as male.

Trans Women: Male-to-female transsexual people or MTFs—individuals assigned male at birth who identify as female.

Transsexual People: Individuals who identify with the “opposite” gender extreme. Transsexual people often undergo hormone treatments and gender-affirming surgeries to align their anatomy with their core identity, but not all desire or are able to do so.
Helpful Campus Offices

The Stonewall Center  
(413) 545-4824  
www.umass.edu/stonewall  
stonewall@stuaf.umass.edu

Center for Counseling and Psychological Health (CCPH)  
(413) 545-2337  
UHS Crisis line: (413) 577-5000  
www.umass.edu/counseling

Center for Multicultural Advancement and Student Success (CMASS)  
(413) 545-2517  
www.umass.edu/multiculturalaffairs  
cmass@stuaf.umass.edu

Center for Men and Masculinities  
(413) 577-5133  
tschiff@umass.edu

Center for Women and Community (CWC)  
(413) 545-0883  
24-Hour Rape Crisis Hotline: (413) 545-0800  
www.umass.edu/ewc  
ewcmail@admin.umass.edu

Office of Religious and Spiritual Life  
(413) 545-9642  
www.umass.edu/religious_affairs  
goldbaum@umass.edu

Student Legal Services Office (SLSO)  
(413) 545-1995  
www.umass.edu/rso/slso  
slso@stuaf.umass.edu

Women of Color Leadership Network  
(413) 545-1671  
www.umass.edu/ewc/programs/wocln  
wocln@stuaf.umass.edu