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Office Hours: T 1:00-2:00 PM
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and by apt.

WGS 275

Constructing Sexualities: LGBTIQ Theory, Life and Culture

In this team-taught course, faculty from the natural sciences (Psychology, BFB), social sciences (Law, BOS, Anthropology), and the humanities (Classics, Linguistics, Japanese, Comparative Literary Studies) will introduce students to issues surrounding sex, gender and sexual orientation that we encounter in academic discourse, popular culture, and everyday life. Since most departments and programs here do not have courses devoted to these issues, this course will also encourage students to investigate how what we study here relates to their majors, minors or other areas of academic interest.

Team-taught courses have their own special dynamic. Since different instructors will be coming to lecture and/or lead class discussion, class participants have a special responsibility to work actively to make connections between the different readings and class presentations. The concept or idea that the instructors have agreed upon will best help students to find the common thread running through their contributions to the course is the notion of “constructedness”: in our attempts to understand the world, whether in life or the academy, we construct categories that seem to organize our experience in a logical way. In some cases, however, these categories may not function exactly the way their creators think they function: they may not ‘fit’ observed phenomena as neatly as assumed, for example, or they may not take into account all of the observable data. The instructors in this course will be presenting evidence to suggest that the existence and experience of LGBTIQ issues challenge the notion that heterosexuality may seem ‘established’ or ‘natural’ or ‘normal’ but that it is itself in some sense problematic and ‘constructed.’

Instructors will give regular short quizzes and memo assignments on the readings. In addition, students will work in small groups to prepare in advance questions for instructors and provide a summary of that week’s class discussions. Students will also be asked to submit regularly questions they have about the readings for class discussion.

NB: The class is to some degree a work in progress, so the syllabus is not set in stone—class interest, instructors’ lives, and other factors may lead us to have to make modifications to the assignment schedule.

Most readings for the course will be available on Blackboard, but three books have been ordered for the course and are available in the Bookstore: Annamarie Jagose, *Queer Theory*, Joan Roughgarden, *Evolution’s Rainbow*, and Allison Bechdel, *Fun Home*.

Paper/Project: Each student will complete a 12 to 15 page semester paper, due Friday April 16th, on a topic of his/her choosing. Students may choose to write about a topic in their major or minor, or another field of interest to them. Due dates for the various stages of the paper are indicated on the syllabus.

Attendance: In addition to illness or serious family and personal problems, sports competitions or academic field trips for which I have received advance notification from the coach or professor are the only acceptable reasons for not attending class or handing in a written assignment on time. The coach or professor should notify me if you need to miss class for these reasons. **Please note:** Classes missed without excuse will result in a depreciation of the class participation grade **by one increment per absence**.

Grades: Your participation in class comprises an important part of your grade, as do regular quizzes and memo assignments. Each student will submit a final paper, composed in stages, and there will be a final exam. **NB: All assignments must be completed to pass the course!** The grading components for the class will be weighted as follows:

Class participation/question submission: 15%	Group questions/summary: 10%
Quizzes/memos: 25%	Final exam: 25%
	Semester paper: 25%

SYLLABUS

W Introduction
20 Jan

M Eve Sedgwick, "Epistemology of the Closet"
25 Jan Jonathan Katz, *The Construction of Heterosexuality*, (Chaps. 1-3)

W Jagose, *Queer Theory*
27 Jan Chapters 1-3

M Instructor: Professor Alison Kibler, American Studies; WGS
1 Feb George Chauncey, "Christian Brotherhood or Sexual Perversion"
Social History (Winter 1985).
Lillian Faderman, *Odd Girls and Twilight Lovers* (excerpt)

W Instructor: Professor Roger Thompson, BFB; Psychology
3 Feb Kate Douglas, "Homosexual Selection," *New Scientist*
Joan Roughgarden, *Evolution's Rainbow*

M Instructor: Dr. Sam Wyman
8 Feb *True Selves*, Chapter 1

W Instructor: Professor Roger Thompson
10 Feb Roughgarden, *Evolution's Rainbow*, cont'd

M Jagose, *Queer Theory*
15 Feb Chapters 4-6

W
17 Feb Instructor: Professor Alison Kibler,
Radicalesbians, "The Woman-Identified Woman"
(<http://scriptorium.lib.duke.edu/wlm/womid/>)
Carl Wittman, Gay Manifesto (1969-1970)
David Allyn, "Fomenting a Sexual Revolution"
Marc Stein, "Sexual Politics"

M
22 Feb Instructor: Professor Laurie Baulig: BOS
U. S. Supreme Court decisions:
Bowers v. Hardwick
Lawrence v. Texas

W
24 Feb Instructor: Professor Laurie Baulig
Iowa Supreme Court decision:
Varnum v. Brien

F
26 Feb Semester paper proposal (memo)

M
1 Mar Instructor: Professor Jeff Podoshen, BOS
Lisa Penalozza, "We're Here, We're Queer, We're Going Shopping"

W
3 Mar Instructor: Professor Jeff Podoshen
Luca Visconti, "Gays' market and social behaviors in (de)constructing social boundaries," *Consumption Markets & Culture*, 11:2, (June 2008), 113-135

March 4-6: Emerging Scholars Conference

Presentation: Alison Guenther-Pal (Lawrence University): "A Queer Eye for *Papa's Kino* The Perils and Possibilities of Cross-Dressing" [Exact date/time/location TBA]

M
8 Mar Instructor: Uri Horesh, Linguistics; Arabic
Deborah Cameron and Don Kulick. 2003. *Language and Sexuality*.
Chapters 2-5

W
10 Mar Instructor: Uri Horesh
Cameron/Kulick, *Language and Sexuality*, cont'd

M
22 Mar Alison Bechdel, *Fun Home*

W
24 Mar Foucault, *History of Sexuality* (excerpt)
Jagose, Chapters 6.7

F
26 Mar Annotated Bibliography for semester paper

F 26 Mar	FILM: "There Will Be Glitter: A Glimpse of Queer Life @ Gettysburg College," Director: James Burkhalter CPC Women's Studies Conference, F&M College 8 PM, Location TBA	
M 29 Mar	Instructor: Professor Gretchen Meyers, Classics Plato, <i>Symposium</i> 189D-194E	
W 31 Mar	Instructor: Professor Gretchen Meyers J. Clarke, <i>Looking at Lovemaking. Constructions of Sexuality in Roman Art 100-BC-AD 250</i> . (Berkeley 1998), introduction and ch. 3, "Representations of Male to Male Lovemaking" (pp. 1-6; 59-90) G. Steinem, "Erotica and Pornography: A Clear and Present Difference," in L. Lederer, ed. <i>Take Back the Night. Women on Pornography</i> (New York 1980), pp. 35-39..	
M 5 Apr	Instructor: Professor Simon Hawkins Anthropology Donald Donham, "Freeing South Africa: The 'Modernization' of Male-Male Sexuality in Soweto" <i>Cultural Anthropology</i> 13(1) 3-21	
W 7 Apr	Instructor: Professor Simon Hawkins Joseph Massad, "Re-Orienting Desire: The Gay International and the Arab World" <i>Public Culture</i> 14(2)	
M 12 Apr	Instructor: Professor Ken-ichi Miura, Japanese "Androgyny and Its Discontents," in: Marjorie Garber. <i>Vice Versa: Bisexuality and the Eroticism of Everyday Life.</i> , pp.207-236	
W 14 Apr	Instructor: Professor Ken-ichi Miura, Japanese Ito Hiromi "Lest You Misshape Them"	
F 16 Apr	Semester paper due	
M 19 Apr	Jagose, Chapter 8	Assignment for Monday 1/25: Read the Sedgwick and Katz assignments on Blackboard. 1) Send me a discussion question by noon Monday 2) Write a short memo (a page and a half, double-spaced, Times font) <u>briefly</u> summarizing the main argument of each essay and considering whether there is anything on which the two authors would <u>disagree</u>. Bring this memo to class!
W 21 Apr	TBA	
M 26 Apr	TBA	
W 28 Apr	Review	